

PARENT/COACH RELATIONSHIP

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefit to children. As parents, when your child becomes involved in our programs, you have earned the right to understand what expectations are placed on him/her. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's program.

COMMUNICATIONS YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM YOUR CHILD'S COACH

1. Philosophy of the coach.
2. Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all the players on the squad.
3. Locations and times of all practices and contests.
4. Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning.
5. Procedure should your child be injured during participation.
6. Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation.

COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM PARENTS

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.
3. Specific concern in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.

As your child becomes involved in the programs at Deer River High School, he/she will experience some of the most rewarding moments of his/her life. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES

1. The mental and physical treatment of your child.
2. Ways to help your child improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior.

All parents want their child to play as much as possible and it can be very difficult to accept when your child does not play as much as you had hoped. Coaches are professionals. They make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be best for **all** students involved. It is important to remember that your child's coach sees your child's participation and effort everyday, so the coach will often have a different perspective than you. Sometimes this leads to a difference of opinion and handling these differences in a positive and proactive way is important. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as those in the following column, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

ISSUES NOT APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES

1. Playing time.
2. Team Strategy.
3. Play calling.
4. Other student athletes.

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are to be encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.

IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN TO DISCUSS WITH A COACH, THIS IS THE PROCEDURE YOU SHOULD FOLLOW

1. Encourage athlete to talk to coach.
2. Parent call coach to discuss athlete/coach meeting.
3. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Activities Director, Mr. Brent Schimek at 218.246.3410. He will set up the meeting for you.
4. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.

NEXT STEP

WHAT CAN A PARENT DO IF THE MEETING WITH THE COACH DID NOT PROVIDE A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION?

1. Call and set up an appointment with the Activities Director, Mr. Brent Schimek, at 218.246.3410.
2. At this meeting, the appropriate next step can be determined.

Since research indicates a student involved in extra-curricular activities has a great chance for success during adulthood, extra-curricular programs have been established. Many of the character traits required to be successful in life after high school are developed in extra-curricular activities. We hope the information provided within this pamphlet makes both your child's and your experience with the Deer River High School program less stressful and more enjoyable.

Minnesota State

Interscholastic

Athletics

Sport A *Winning* Attitude

Sportsmanship

Ethics

Integrity

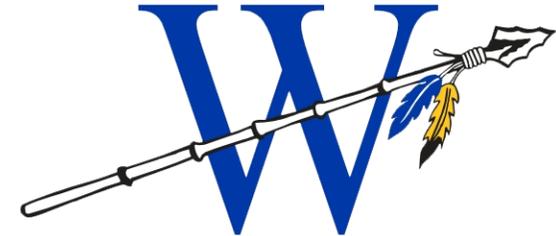
**Deer River High School
playing time philosophy:**

**Middle School— Playing
time/Participation will be balanced**

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**High School—Playing time is
determined by coaches' evaluation
of skill level.**

**Deer River
High School**



**Parent/Coach
Communication**