

Expectations of Parent/Guardian:

1. Support their student athlete's efforts toward success.
2. Work to promote a positive environment that is conducive to the development of the student athlete.
3. Become familiar with, and review the rules and regulations with their student athlete.
4. Communicate any concerns in a timely manner, according to the district protocol.
5. Treat all coaching personnel with courtesy and respect, and insist their student athletes do the same.

Coaches Expectations of Parents:

- .Concerns expressed directly to the coach
- .Proper chain of command
- .Do not approach a coach before or after a contest or practice.
- .Notification of schedule conflicts.
- .Be publicly supportive of team accomplishments and coaching philosophy.
- .Exhibit sportsmanship.

Sportsmanship Expectations of Parents:

- .Set a positive example for our young people
- .Cheer for a team, not against opponent.
- .No taunting, booing or yelling at opponents, coaches, or officials.
- .Profanity is not tolerated at any time.

Coaches' Responsibilities:

- .Encourage Academics
- .Exhibit Leadership
- .Model Behavior
- .Promote Sportsmanship
- .Supervise Athletes
- .Warn of Risks
- .Provide Instruction

Things parents do that their kids really appreciate:

- .Taking time out of your busy schedules to come to games and support what we do.
- .Supporting the whole team, not just me.
- .Cheering the team, win or lose.
- .Telling us we did a good job.
- .Being proud of us even when we do not win.
- .Being quiet unless cheering with everyone else.
- .Never yell at a coach or ref.

Things parents do to embarrass their kids:

- .Trying to teach me how to do something "correctly" after the game.
- .Coaching during games even though you are not the coach.
- .Telling me what I was doing wrong after every game.
- .Being asked to leave by an official.
- .Taunting other players, opponents, refs.
- .Yelling things at coaches and getting involved with something that was between the coach and player and it was none of your business.
- .Acting disappointed with what I am doing instead of reassuring me I will do better next time.

Informative Websites:

- www.piaa.org
- www.heritageconference.net
- www.piaad6.org
- www.mcasd.net

PARENT/COACH COMMUNICATION GUIDE

Marion Center Athletics



Parent Guide

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PARENT/COACH COMMUNICATION PLAN

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 others and provide greater benefits to children.

Communication you should expect from your child's coach:

- .Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all the players on the squad
- .Locations and times of all practices and contests
- .Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation

Communication coaches expect from parents:

- .Concerns expressed directly to the coach
- .Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance

When your child becomes involved in the programs of the Marion Center Area School District, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. 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 a discussion with the coach is encouraged.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:

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

It is very difficult to accept your child's not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professionals. They make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be best for all students involved. 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 following, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches:

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. 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 procedures should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue or concern.

1. Please encourage your child to speak directly with the coach. Many times the matter can be taken care of at that time.
2. Call to set up an appointment.
3. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director, Mr. Bomboy. 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.

5. If the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution, call and set up an appointment with the athletic director to discuss the situation.

Many of the character traits required to be a successful participant are exactly those that will promote a successful life after high school. We hope the information provided here makes both your child's and your experience with the Marion Center Area School District Athletic Program less stressful and more enjoyable.

Participation in Athletics:

- .Is an integral part of the total education process
- .Is a privilege
- .Is not a recreation league with guaranteed playing time
- .Promotes teamwork and camaraderie

Sportsmanship:

- .Show respect for opponents at all times.
- .Show respect for officials.
- .Know, understand, and appreciate the rules of the contest.
- .Maintain self-control at all times.
- .Recognize and appreciate skill performance regardless of affiliation.
- .Everyone has a role in a contest: the players play; the referees officiate; the coaches coach; and the parents "spectate." You can only do one - CHOOSE!

Pam Anderson, Director of Athletics