



HAMBURG BULLDOGS PARENT/COACH COMMUNICATION PLAN

Expectation of Parent/Guardian

- Support your student athlete's efforts toward success
- Work to promote a positive environment that is conducive to the development of the student-athlete
- Exhibit appropriate conduct during team events
- Communicate any concerns in a timely manner according to school protocol
- Treat all coaching personnel with courtesy and respect and insist your student-athlete do the same

Parent/Coach Communication Plan

Parent and coaches have extremely important and difficult roles in helping to shape student-athletes into responsible and contributing members of their teams and their school communities. Both parents and coaches approach their roles with unique perspective and expectations. When parents and coaches understand each other's positions and expectations, they are able to:

- Work together
- Support the student-athlete through the high school experience

Key to this mutual understanding and respect is communication. At Hamburg Central, parents have a right to know what expectations are placed on their son/daughter. This begins with clear and concise communication from their child's coach. Reciprocal communications is expected from the parents as well.

General Communication Parents Should Expect From Coaches

- The expectations placed upon their son/daughter which include attendance, out-of-season conditioning, special equipment, out-of-season expectations and other team requirements
- Locations and times of all practices, games and special events
- Disciplinary actions that may result in the student not participating in an athletic event

General Communication Coaches Should Expect From Parents

- Advance notice of any situation that may interfere with participation in practices and/or games
- Appropriate concerns expressed directly to the coach concerning individual injury, health issues, academic or discipline problems

Other Communication

As your child becomes involved in the athletic programs at Hamburg Central, they will hopefully experience moments that will last a lifetime. It is important to understand that there may also be times when things do not go as planned or expected for your child. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

Appropriate Concerns To Discuss With Coaches

- The treatment of your child
- Improving your child's athletic performance

At times it may be difficult for parents to accept the limited playing opportunities for their child. Please remember that coaches are hired and trained to coach all students. They make decisions based on what they believe to be the best for ALL students involved. As noted above, certain things can and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, noted below, should and WILL NOT be discussed.

Issues Not To Be Discussed With Coaches

- Playing time
- Other student-athletes
- Team strategy
- Coach's philosophy

Dealing With Unresolved Situations

When general communication and informal discussions fail to address a concern, the situation may require a conference between the coach and the parent(s). To schedule such a conference, the following procedures MUST be adhered to:

- First, your child must ask to speak directly to the coach about the situation. This is the student-athlete's responsibility
- Second, the parent can contact the coach to set up an appointment for a meeting. Please also note your child WILL BE PRESENT for this meeting
- Third, if an issue still persists, the Director of Athletics will run a meeting involving the student, the parent(s) and the coaches.
- Please DO NOT confront or contact a coach before a practice. Also, do not contact them up to 24 hours following a sporting event (unless there is a health issue with the student). These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach.

As a parent, please realize that your child's participation in athletics at Hamburg Central is a privilege, it is not a right. It is also based on the adherence to the general guidelines of the school and the specific rules of each individual sport.