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

1. Call and schedule an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation. (203) 453-2741 X4104
2. At this meeting the appropriate next step can be determined.

Research indicates a student involved in extra-curricular activities has a greater chance for success during adulthood. Many of the character traits required to be a successful participant in our athletic program are exactly those that will promote a successful life after high school. We hope the information provided within this pamphlet makes both your student’s and your experience with the Guilford High School Athletic program less stressful and more enjoyable.

MISSION STATEMENT

Guilford High School challenges students to be lifelong learners who aspire to academic excellence, cultural awareness, and social responsibility in an environment that is safe and respectful. Our community nurtures students’ creative and critical thinking skills while developing their personal, intellectual, and physical capabilities. Students are encouraged to be internationally-minded as they blend their curiosity, effort, and integrity with creativity, collaboration, and compassion. In doing so, students can reach their highest potential for success and become active, civic-minded citizens.

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE

SPECTATOR EXPECTATIONS

1. Respect decisions made by contest officials.
2. Refrain from taunting, booing, heckling and the use of profanity in any manner.
3. Sit in the designated area assigned to each school.
4. Leaving a contest prior to its conclusion, with expectations of returning, may not be permitted.
5. Admission to this contest is not a license to verbally assault others or to be generally obnoxious.
6. Respect athletes, coaches and fans.

BE A FAN … NOT A FANATIC!
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 students. When your student becomes involved in our athletic program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed upon your student. This begins with clear communication from the coach about your student’s program.

COMMUNICATION YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM YOUR STUDENT’S COACH

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

COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM PARENTS

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

As our students become involved in the athletic programs at Guilford High School, 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 student wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

ATHLETE/COACH RELATIONSHIP

If an athlete has any concerns about his/her experiences on a team, the first step is for the athlete to discuss these concerns with the coach. Coaches and athletes must develop a mutual respect for one another by discussing all issues honestly while working together to gain a better understanding of the concerns.

APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES

- treatment of your student, mentally and physically.
- ways to help your student improve.
- concerns about your student’s behavior.

It may be difficult to accept your student’s lack of playing time. Coaches are professionals. They make decisions based on what they believe to be best for all students involved. Certain topics can be and should be discussed with your student’s coach. Other topics, such as the following list must be left to the discretion of the coach.

ISSUES NOT APPROPRIATE FOR PARENTS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES

- playing time.
- team strategy.
- play calling.
- other student-athletes.
- selection of Team Captains

There are issues that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. We encourage this. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of each other’s position. When these conferences occur, 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, PLEASE FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE:

1. Call to schedule an appointment with the coach.
2. The Guilford High School phone number is (203) 453-2741.
3. If the coach cannot be reached, please call the Athletic Director, Mr. Jake Jarvis. He will schedule a meeting for you.
4. Please do not 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.