

PARENT/COACH/ADVISOR COMMUNICATION

A. Parent/Coach/Advisor Relationship

Both parenting, coaching and advising 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 children become involved in our program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's program.

B. Communication you should expect from your son/daughter's coach/advisor.

1. Philosophy of the coach/advisor.
2. Expectations the coach/advisor has for your child as well as all the participants.
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 could result in the denial of your child's participation.

C. Communication coaches/advisors expect from parents.

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach/advisors.
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.
3. Specific concern in regard to a coach's/advisor's philosophy and/or expectations. As your children become involved in the programs at Germantown High School, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach/advisor is encouraged.

D. Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches/advisors.

1. The treatment of your child, mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your child improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior. It is difficult to accept your child not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches/advisors 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 be and should be discussed with your child's coach/advisor. Other things should be left to the discretion of the coach/advisor.

E. There are situations that may require a conference between the coach/advisor 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 would be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.

1. Call to set up an appointment. The GHS phone number is 253-3400.
2. If the coach/advisor cannot be reached, call the Activities Director at 253-3415; he will set up the meeting for you.

- 3. Please do not attempt to confront the coach/advisor before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both parents and coaches/advisors. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.**

F. The next step...what can a parent do if the meeting with the coach/advisor did not provide a satisfactory resolution?

1. Call and set up an appointment with the Activities Director to discuss the situation.
2. At this meeting the appropriate next step can be determined.