

Parent/Coach Relationship

Both parenting and coaching are extremely challenging vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions, providing 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.

Research indicates that students involved in co-curricular activities have a greater chance for success during adulthood. 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 within this pamphlet makes both your child's and your experience with the Coldwater Community Schools Athletic programs more enjoyable!



Department of Athletics
Todd Farmer, Director
Coldwater High School
275 N. Fremont St.
Coldwater, MI 49036

Phone: 517-279-5931

www.coldwaterschools.org/athletics

MISSION STATEMENT: Coldwater Community Schools provides a supportive and challenging learning environment where every student is prepared to succeed in a global community.



**PARENT/COACH
RELATIONSHIPS:
WHAT ARE THE
EXPECTATIONS?**



Communication You Should Expect From Your Son/Daughter's Coach

1. Philosophy of the coach
2. Expectations the coach has for your child and team
3. Locations/times of all practices and contests
4. Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, off season conditioning
5. Injury protocol and procedures
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 concerns regarding a coach's philosophy and/or expectations

As your children become involved in the Coldwater Community Schools Athletic program, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there may also be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach is strongly encouraged.

There are situations that may require a conference between the parent and the coach. These are to be encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position.

Appropriate Concerns To Discuss With Coaches

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 very difficult to accept your child not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professionals. They make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be the best for all students involved.

While there are certain things which can and should be discussed with your child's coach, there are other things which must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues Not Appropriate To Discuss With Coaches

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

When parent-coach conferences are necessary, the following procedures should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.

If You Have A Concern To Discuss With A Coach, The Procedure You Should Follow:

1. Contact the coach and set up a meeting to discuss your concerns.
2. If a coach can't be reached, contact the Athletic Office so that we can make contact with the coach to set up an appointment.
3. 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. This does not promote resolution. Please utilize the "24 hour" rule of thumb (contact with coach only after 24-hour period).

The 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 Athletic Director to discuss the situation.
2. At this meeting, the appropriate next step can be determined.