

STUDENT-ATHLETIC HANDBOOK



2023-2024

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STUDENT-ATHLETE HANDBOOK

The establishment of a uniform athletic handbook reflects the district's concern for the safety, well-being, and conduct of its athletes participating in all athletics. Since extracurricular athletics are optional, those who choose to participate will be held to higher standards of behavior and performance in and out of school. This handbook is neither a contract nor a substitute for the official district policy manual. CBISD policies and procedures can change at any time. Additionally, **athletes and parents are reminded that participation in interscholastic athletics is a privilege, not a right.** In addition to obeying rules set forth in the CBISD Student Code of Conduct, all athletes in grades 7 through 12 participating in CBISD athletics will be required to comply with the following guidelines and disciplinary regulations.

ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

Athletics is not a requirement for graduation and participation is strictly voluntary. Athletics, as a discipline, stresses work ethic, teamwork, sportsmanship, integrity and sacrifice. Should the actions of an athlete fail to exhibit these same characteristics, the privilege of participating in athletics may be revoked. All coaches will work within the guidelines of the athletic department to help every athlete succeed. However, when an athlete violates the guidelines it is up to the appropriate coach to address the situation. Because participation in athletics is a privilege and not a right, CBISD is authorized to set higher standards for athletic activities than it would for those who choose not to participate. Therefore, this Athletic Code of Conduct extends beyond the CBISD Student Code of Conduct not only in types of behavior prohibited, but also in corresponding consequences and jurisdiction for imposing discipline.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the CBISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Act of 1975, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. No provision of an extracurricular behavior standard shall have the effect of discriminating on the basis of the athlete's sex, race, disability, religion, or ethnicity.

STUDENT-ATHLETE EXPECTATIONS

As representatives of CBISD, athletes in grades 7 through 12 who participate in extracurricular activities are expected to demonstrate exemplary behavior and dedication, whether at school or away. Nothing in the Extracurricular Code limits or otherwise restricts the authority of the coach or administrator to limit or restrict participation, or assign consequences for offenses included and not included in this handbook. Before an athlete is suspended or removed from participation in an extracurricular activity, and before

any other consequence is imposed as provided in this handbook, the alleged infraction will be documented and a reasonable investigation of the allegation shall occur. The coach shall then schedule a conference with the athlete and the athlete's parent/guardian to explain the reasons for which the action is being taken and to offer the athlete an opportunity to discuss the matter.

An athlete in grades 7 through 12 participating in any CBISD extracurricular activity shall comply with the following rules of conduct 24 hours a day, 7 days per week, and 52 weeks per year in addition to obeying the rules set forth in the CBISD Student Code of Conduct, the particular extracurricular activity's constitution, handbook, rule book, and/or regulations, if any, or rules otherwise communicated to the athlete by the activity's coach. Athletes who participate in extracurricular activities shall comply with the following rules at all times, on or off campus, regardless of whether school is in session:

1. Demonstrate respect for all CBISD employees and staff;
2. Participate in every practice, competition and event required by the coach, unless the coach has granted an excused absence;
3. Arrive promptly and properly attired to every practice, competition, etc., unless the coach has granted an excused absence;
4. Do not possess or use any tobacco or tobacco-related products, this includes e-cigarettes/vaping;
5. Demonstrate sportsmanlike behavior at all sporting events;
6. Demonstrate a positive attitude;
7. Be courteous and polite to others;
8. Respect possessions of others;
9. Display academic integrity.

Dress and Grooming

Athletes who participate in any sport shall comply with the district's policy on dress and grooming and the coach's specific requirements for the activity in-season.

Attendance

An athlete must be in attendance as a full-time student at a CBISD school in order to participate in any sport, including tryouts, at their CBISD campus of enrollment or in the case of an 8th grade athlete being promoted to high school.

Practice regulations

Athletes are responsible for:

- Informing his/her coach of any anticipated absence prior to any practice or games. Failure to do so may result in suspension from the team. Unexcused absences and/or failure to communicate with a coach about any absence may result in the loss of playing time or consequences will be at the discretion of the head coach.
- Following all expectations given by the coach.
- Refraining from the use of profanity, vulgar or disrespectful language.
- Contributing their best at all times.

Athletes engaged in extracurricular activities are expected to participate in all practices, competitions, and other events identified by the coach. Academically ineligible athletes can practice with other athletes, but are restricted to travel and participate in a competition.

Athletes' absences from extracurricular activities shall be excused only for those reasons set forth in the student handbook. Excessive unexcused absences may result in suspension or dismissal from the activity. Such decisions shall be made in consultation with the campus principal.

Athletes with injuries will be allowed to attend any practice, competition, or other events relating to the activity and allowed to participate only to the extent authorized by written order of the athlete's physician. All documentation from a physician must be given to the athletic trainer or the coach at the particular campus.

Athletes will be excused from participation in any practice or competition if they are observing holy days, including days of travel to or from a site where the athlete will observe holy days. Excused days for travel shall be limited to not more than one day for travel to and one day for travel from the site where the athlete will observe the religious holy days. Athletes are responsible for notifying the coach of any need to be absent for religious reasons prior to the absence.

Athletes should make every effort to schedule health care appointments at times that will not interfere with school or activity participation. If a conflict is unavoidable, the athlete shall inform the coach prior to the appointment.

Travel

Athletes who have the opportunity to travel in connection with the CBISD athletic event are representatives of the district and must exhibit exemplary behavior at all times. Athletes who dress or act inappropriately while traveling to or from a CBISD activity may be suspended or removed from the event, depending upon the nature.

All athletes who participate in school-sponsored trips are required to ride in transportation provided by the school to and from the event. An exception can be granted if a parent makes arrangements for their student to ride with the parent. Athletes are not allowed to drive themselves to out-of-district events.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

An athlete who is involved in **Serious Misconduct** is subject to disciplinary consequences in accordance with the **Student Code of Conduct** and **may also receive consequences or experience loss of privileges in athlete organization(s)**. Athletes who are removed from the home campus for disciplinary reasons are not eligible to represent their home campus during the period of removal. Athletes who are placed in In-School Suspension (ISS) may practice and may participate in extracurricular activities until the

completion of their ISS placement. However, an athlete may lose the privilege to participate at the discretion of the Head Coach. A student with an ISS placement for the third time, and any subsequent assignments following, will not be able to participate until the assignment has been completed.

An athlete in grades 7 through 12 shall lose the privilege of participation in extracurricular activities during any period of suspension, placement in a disciplinary Alternative Education Program, or Expulsion.

In order for an athlete to be considered in violation, one or more of the following must occur:

- Athlete admits to the violation
- Parent of the athlete admits to the violation
- A CBISD staff member witnesses the athlete in violation
- A CBISD administrator has reason to believe that an athlete has committed an offense
- A local agency report or violation is filed
- A local agency of the law makes a verbal report of a violation

Theft (on campus)

Taking things from other players, students, school, etc. will not be tolerated. The Head Coach and Athletic Director will handle individual consequences, in addition to school consequences received.

Arrests

Citations or arrests on and off campus may result in suspension or dismissal from the program. The head coach must be notified immediately upon any arrest or citation.

Suspensions

The following infractions are strictly prohibited:

1. Using, possessing, or being under the influence of marijuana, a controlled substance, a dangerous drug, abusable glue, aerosol paint, steroids, or any other mood-changing, mind-altering, or behavior-affecting drug;
2. Using, possessing, or being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage;
3. Engaging in lewd, disruptive, or other offensive conduct that affronts school district standards of propriety;

Upon the administration's determination that a CBISD athlete in grades 7 through 12 has violated any one of the three infractions enumerated above, the athlete shall be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct and shall lose the privilege of further participation in that activity as provided below:

- 1st Offense in athlete's attendance at CBISD (measured from Grade 7): 30 hours of school/community service approved by the Athletic Director.
****Note: On a first offense only, at the discretion of the coach and/or administration, the school/community service may be reduced to 15 hours.**

- 2nd Offense in athlete’s attendance at CBISD (measured from Grade 7): 100 hours of school/community service approved by the campus coordinator
- 3rd Offense in athlete’s attendance at CBISD (measured from Grade 7): the athlete shall be suspended from further participation for one calendar year. An athlete may be referred to counselors, and/or drug and alcohol education programs, as appropriate.

Loss of privilege-selling or delivering

Selling or delivering marijuana, alcohol, a controlled substance, a dangerous drug, abusable glue, aerosol paint, steroids, or any other mood-changing, mind-altering, or behavior affecting drug is strictly prohibited and will result in consequences as outlined in the CBISD Student Code of Conduct and an athlete’s elimination from further participation in all extracurricular activities for:

- 1st Offense, one calendar year
- 2nd Offense, for the remainder of the athlete’s school career

Loss of privilege-Deferred Adjudication, Felony or Class A Misdemeanor

An athlete in grades 7 through 12 shall lose the privilege of participation in extracurricular activities during any period of:

- deferred adjudication in connection with either a felony or any offense punishable as a Class A Misdemeanor, whether the felony or offense was committed on or off campus.
- while under indictment for a felony, or while awaiting a final determination of guilt or innocence in connection with either a felony or any offense punishable as a Class A Misdemeanor, whether the felony or offense was committed on or off campus.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR DAEP PLACEMENT RETURN POLICY

- I. Complete assigned period of placement in DAEP
- II. Cases involving a felony or Class A Misdemeanor:
 - A. In incidents involving felony or Class A Misdemeanor cases extracurricular privileges will be lost from the time the athlete is charged until all legal obligations are fulfilled (e.g. released from incarceration, fines and restitution paid; probationary periods completed; deferred adjudication completed)
 - B. Where tryouts are applicable – Meet the requirements of (A) above as well as:
 1. The athlete must complete the required days of suspension and required number of school approved school/community service hours before they can participate in inter-school competition.
 2. If the athlete is back on campus before tryouts begin, they can participate in tryouts while completing their suspension and school approved school/community service, but they cannot participate in inter-school competition including scrimmages.
 - C. Where tryouts are not required – Meet the requirements of (A) above as well as:

1. Athletes may participate in practices and intra-school competition during the time they are completing their suspension and school approved school/community service hours.
2. Athletes will regain the privilege of participating in inter-school competition when they have completed their suspension and school approved school/community service hours.

HAZING

Hazing is defined as an act that subjects a student to potential harm and is affiliated with initiation into a student organization or team. Hazing may involve an act committed against a student or a situation in which a student is coerced into committing an act. These acts run counter to the educational mission of athletics, regardless of the victim's willingness to participate. The list below provides examples of some types of hazing. This list is not meant to be comprehensive.

- Being yelled, cursed or sworn at;
- Being publicly harassed;
- Being expected to act as a personal servant to an older group member;
- Being coerced/forced to eat certain foods;
- Being thrown or forced to go into a pond, ocean, toilet or other body of water;
- Being pressured to be tattooed, pierced or shaven
- Being coerced/forced to participate in drinking contests to the point of intoxication;
- Being forced/coerced to participate in any physical or illicit activity that causes the victim to pass out;
- Being forced/coerced to destroy or vandalize property;
- Being forced/coerced to inflict pain on yourself or others

UIL ELIGIBILITY (HIGH SCHOOL)

The University Interscholastic League (UIL) is the governing body for public school interscholastic athletics in Texas. The following guidelines are from the University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rule Manual.

First 6 Weeks

UIL participants are eligible to participate in contests during the first 6 weeks of the school year provided the following standards have been met:

- Students beginning grade 9 and below, must have been promoted from the previous grade prior to the beginning of the current school year.
- Students beginning their second year of high school must have earned 5 credits which count toward state high school graduation requirements.

- Students beginning their third year of high school either must have earned a total of 10 credits which count toward state high school graduation credits or have earned a total of 5 credits which count toward state high school graduation requirements during the 12 months preceding the first day of the current school year.
- Students beginning their fourth year of high school either must have earned a total of 15 credits which count toward state high school graduation credits or have earned a total of 5 credits which count toward state high school graduation requirements during the 12 months preceding the first day of the current school year.

Exceptions:

- When a migrant student enrolls for the first time during a school year, all criteria cited above applies. All other students who enroll too late to earn a passing grade for a grading period are ineligible.
- High school students transferring from out-of-state may be eligible the first six weeks of school if they meet the criteria cited above or school officials are able to determine that they would have been eligible if they had remained in the out-of-state school from which they are transferring. Students who are not in compliance with these provisions may request a hardship appeal of their academic eligibility through the UIL state office. Local school boards may elect to adopt these standards for all activities in order to avoid having different standards for student participants (e.g., football, drill team, cheerleading, and all other extracurricular activities as defined by Commissioner of Education rule [19 TAC Chapter §76]).

After First 6 Weeks

A student who receives, at the end of any grading period (after the first six weeks of the school year), a grade below 70 in any class (other than an identified class eligible for exemption) or a student with disabilities who fails to meet the standards in the Individual Education Plan (IEP) may not participate in extracurricular activities for 3 school weeks. An ineligible student may practice, however. The student regains eligibility after the 7 calendar day waiting period has ended following a grading period or the 3 school week evaluation period when the principal and teachers determine that he or she has earned a passing grade (70 or above) in all classes, other than those that are exempted.

Additional UIL rules and regulations may be found in the [TEA-UIL Side by Side](#)

Advanced Courses for Possible Waivers

High School students who fail a Pre-AP/AP course with a grade between 60 and 69 may apply for a waiver, once a semester, which will allow them to continue to participate in extracurricular activities. Waiver requests require parent and teacher signatures. The principal may approve the waiver and communicate with the appropriate coach. Courses for which a waiver may be requested are as follows:
Per UIL

- **Languages other than English:** high school/college concurrent enrollment classes that are included in the “Community College General Academic Course Guide Manual (Part One),” and languages other than English courses Levels IV-VII;
- **Mathematics:** high school/college concurrent enrollment classes that are included in the “Community College General Academic Course Guide Manual (Part One)” and Pre Calculus;
- **Science:** high school/college concurrent enrollment classes that are included in the “Community College General Academic Course Guide Manual (Part One)”;
- **Social studies:** Social Studies Advanced Studies, Economics Advanced Studies, and high school/college concurrent enrollment classes that are included in the “Community College General Academic Course Guide Manual (Part One).”

Extracurricular Absences

CBISD Board Policy provides that no distinction shall be made between absences for UIL activities and absences for other extracurricular activities. A student shall be allowed, in a school year, no more than ten extracurricular absences not related to post-district competition, five absences for post-district competition prior to state, and two absences for state competition.

****This section on eligibility does not include all eligibility standards. Additional explanation of eligibility requirements can be found in the UIL Side By Side publication, or the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules.****

UIL ELIGIBILITY (MIDDLE SCHOOL)

- Students are eligible so long as they have been in attendance and are passing all classes in accordance with state law and rules of the State Board of Education and the Texas Education Agency.
- Eighth grade students who are over-age for eighth grade athletics may participate on the freshman team at the high school in their attendance zone.
- A player on the eighth-grade team may not have reached his/her fifteenth birthday on or before September 1 of the current school year.
- A player on the seventh-grade team may not have reached his/her fourteenth birthday on or before September 1 of the current school year. Only over-age seventh grade students may compete on the eighth-grade team. In addition, a student must meet the following academic requirements:
 - Beginning at the seventh-grade year, has been promoted from the sixth grade to the seventh.
 - Beginning at the eighth-grade year, has been promoted from the seventh grade to the eighth.

TESTING

STAAR Testing – State Board of Education

A school may not schedule an extracurricular activity or a public performance to occur on the day immediately preceding or evening immediately preceding the day on which the administration of the State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR) test is scheduled for Grades 3-12.

CBISD policy regarding practice during the STAAR testing period; all athletic practices will end by 6:00 p.m. and students must be off the campus by 6:30 p.m. on the day prior to a STAAR testing day. Practice during the week of final exams shall be limited to teams whose sport is in season and must conclude by 6:00 p.m. the day before an exam.

Extracurricular Activities during Final Exams

For grades 7-12 there shall be no school-sponsored extracurricular activities scheduled the day before or during final examination days in the fall and spring semesters, except those of advancing state playoff teams. Care and consideration should be taken to avoid conflicts whenever possible.

PHYSICAL GUIDELINES

Each athlete must be cleared by the athletic trainer prior to participation at the high school level. Each athlete must be cleared by one of the coordinators prior to participation at the junior high level.

- All required forms must be completed in their entirety and returned to the athlete's head coach or athletic trainer before a student participates in any try-out, practice, athletic competition, travels, etc. with an athletic team for any purpose.
- All Physicals with a Date of Examination PRIOR to April 15, 2022 will EXPIRE at the end of the 2022-2023 school year.
- All Physicals with a Date of Examination after April 15, 2023 will cover the athlete for the FULL 2023-2024 school year.

The required forms include:

High School

- UIL Pre-Participation Physical
- Steroid Acknowledgement Form
- UIL Cardiac Awareness Form
- Concussion Acknowledgement Form
- UIL Acknowledgement of Rules
- Athletic Student Handbook Signature Page
- Medical Records Release
- Emergency Release Form

Middle School

- UIL Pre-Participation Physical

- UIL Cardiac Awareness Form
- Concussion Acknowledgement Form
- Athletic Student Handbook Signature Page

TRAINING ROOM GUIDELINES

1. Treatments are to be administered only to athletes from a CBISD high school or middle school that are injured during certain school sponsored activities.
2. Only athletes who are involved in a UIL activity will be treated.
3. Any athlete who is under the care of a physician must provide written documentation of treatment protocol, restrictions, and/or release for return to play.
4. Athletes who are members of a school sponsored activity who are injured in non-UIL activities will only receive first aid care until they are evaluated by a physician. The physician must provide, in writing, a treatment protocol for the athletic trainer to follow.

Non-Athletic Injuries

Non-athletic injuries will be seen in the athletic training room under the following guidelines:

1. Due to liability concerns, the athlete must first see a medical doctor prior to being treated by the athletic training staff.
2. The athlete must provide a prescription for treatment/rehabilitation from the medical doctor. The information must be specific as to what type of rehabilitation is to be done.
3. No injuries that are the result of a motor vehicle accident will be seen.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Every athlete involved in extracurricular athletics must have a medical emergency information sheet on file with the coach. All athletes must obtain an annual physical, recorded on the UIL designated form, before practicing or participating in any sport. All injuries should be reported immediately to the coach. Doctor's notes should also be made available to the coach.

HEAT AND HYDRATION GUIDELINES

Practice or competition in hot and humid environmental conditions poses special problems for student-athletes, heat stress and resulting heat illness is a primary concern in these conditions. Although deaths from heat illness are rare, constant surveillance and education are necessary to prevent heat-related problems. The following practices should be observed.

General Considerations for Risk Reductions

1. Encourage proper education regarding heat illnesses (for athletes, coaches, parents, medical staff, etc.) Education about risk factors should focus on hydration needs; acclimatization,

work/rest ratio, signs and symptoms of exertion related heat illnesses, treatment, dietary supplements, nutritional issues, and fitness status.

2. Assure that onsite medical staff has authority to alter work/rest ratios, practice schedules, amount of equipment, and withdrawal of individuals from participation based on environment and/or athlete's medical condition.

MULTIPLE SPORT PARTICIPATION

Participation in multiple sports is encouraged as it creates cross-training and increases the ability for the athlete to be more coachable. In cases where a sport overlaps, an athlete must complete that season's sport before entering the next sport unless agreed on by both head coaches. **No coach shall discourage any athlete from participating in multiple sports.**

SEPARATION FROM TEAM (QUITTING)

There will be times when an athlete finds it necessary to quit playing a sport before, during, or after the season. The following steps should be taken in order to quit a sport:

- The athlete should meet with the coach. If needed, the coach should also have a face to face conversation with the athlete's parents regarding this decision.
- The student may need to be placed into a Physical Education class in order to complete the credit begun in athletics or stay in the athletic period until such time as a schedule change can occur, which could be the next semester.
- All equipment issued must be returned or paid for.
- It shall be the coach's decision whether to allow that student to return to the sport in the future.
- An athlete shall not join another sport until the end of the season of the sport he/she has quit.
 - If an athlete chooses to begin a new sport during the next season, there must be a mutual decision between both sport's coaches.

EQUIPMENT

Any district equipment issued to an athlete is the financial responsibility of the athlete and for the athlete's use while participating in a school-related activity. At no time is district equipment for personal use.

Athletes must care for district-issued equipment as if it were their own. Equipment must be stored in a proper location and shall be kept clean and maintained. Athletes who lose or damage district equipment due to negligence will be required to pay for the cost of replacement.

All district equipment must be returned at the end of the season or school year, as directed by the coach.

Individually owned equipment is the sole responsibility of the athlete; CBISD will not be responsible for any loss or damage that occurs to athlete-owned equipment.

As uniforms are required for all sports, the athlete shall be required to ensure that the uniform is worn only at appropriate times and is neat and clean for practice, performance, and/or competition.

AWARDS/LETTERING

All awards to athletes for participation in any sport must meet criteria set forth in the individual activity guidelines, as established by the coach leading the activity and approved by the appropriate district level official. Awards must be in accordance with UIL guidelines for those activities governed by the UIL. This information will be distributed to athletes and parents before the season begins.

If at any time an athlete quits or is eliminated from athletics in or out of season, he/she gives up all rights to any honors/awards which he/she has earned, but not yet received. Any athlete may receive a letter in any one of the four years in high school if they fulfill the lettering requirement for that sport. A participant may letter at the coach's discretion if the participant is considered to have been of exceptional value to the team.

General requirements for lettering:

- Must complete season and school year at the Varsity level following all school and athletic procedures and policies.
- All issued equipment must be accounted for.
- Severe disciplinary action can forfeit letter awards.
- Special consideration will be given to injured players and seniors not receiving proper playing time.
- Head coaches may add additional requirements if necessary.

Middle School Program

A participation certificate may be awarded to each athlete for every sport he/she participates in. Criteria for these awards will be set by each campus coordinator.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Everything posted in social media is public information – any text or photo placed online is completely out of your control the moment it is placed online – even if security settings are listed as “private”. Information (including pictures, videos, and comments) may be accessible even after removal. Once a photo or comment on a social networking site has been posted, that photo or comment becomes the property of the site and may be searchable even after being removed.

Similar to comments made in person, CBISD will not tolerate disrespectful comments and behavior online, such as:

- Derogatory language or remarks that may harm other teammates, coaches, athletes, or representatives of other schools, including comments that may disrespect opponents.
- Incriminating photos or statements depicting violence; hazing; sexual harassment, full or partial nudity; inappropriate gestures; vandalism, stalking; underage drinking, selling, possessing, or using controlled substances; or any other inappropriate behaviors.
- Creating a serious danger to the safety of another person or making a credible threat of serious physical or emotional injury to another person.
- Indicating knowledge of an unreported school or team violation—regardless if the violation was unintentional or intentional.

Violations of the Student Code of Conduct will also be handled by campus administration in conjunction with the CBISD athletic discipline process.

ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB

Booster clubs can be extremely important when managed correctly. Athletic booster clubs are under the supervision of the director of athletics. Booster clubs must operate within the guidelines and procedures as set forth by CBISD. Head coaches will be held responsible for UIL/CBISD compliance. UIL Rules and Regulations – UIL Website

PARENT/COACH RELATIONSHIP

Both parenting and coaching are very difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding between coaches and parents, both are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide a more positive experience for everyone. Parents have the right to know, and understand, the expectations placed on them and their children. Coaches have the right to know that if parents have a concern, they will discuss it with the coach at the appropriate time and place.

Communication parents should expect from their child's coach:

1. Coach's philosophy.
2. Expectations the coach has for your son or daughter, as well as other players on the team.
3. Locations and times of practices and contests.
4. Team requirements, i.e., fees, special equipment needed, school & team rules, off-season expectations.
5. Procedures that will be followed if your child becomes injured during participation.

Communication coaches expect from parents:

1. Concerns regarding their son or daughter expressed directly to the coach at the appropriate time and place.

2. Specific concerns in regard to the coach's philosophy and/or expectations.
3. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.

As your child becomes involved in interscholastic athletics, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It's important to understand there may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. These are the times discussion with the coach is encouraged.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with a coach:

1. The mental and physical treatment of your child.
2. What your child needs to do to improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior.

It is very difficult to accept that your child is not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches make decisions based on what they believe is in the best interests of all students participating. As you can see from the list above, certain things can and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as those listed next, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues NOT appropriate for discussion with your child's coach:

1. How much playing time each athlete is getting.
2. Team strategy.
3. Play calling.
4. Any situation that deals with other student-athletes.

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and parent. These are not discouraged, as it is important for each party to have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure is suggested to help promote resolution to the issue.

If a parent has a concern to discuss with the coach, the following procedure should be followed:

1. Call the coach to set up an appointment.
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the athletic director and ask him or her to set up a meeting with the coach for you.
3. Think about what you expect to accomplish as a result of the meeting.
4. Stick to discussing the facts, as you understand them.
5. Do not confront the coach before, during or after a practice or contest. These can be emotional times for both the parent and coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution of the situation, but often escalate it. **WAIT 24 HOURS BEFORE CONTACTING THE COACH.**

What should a parent do if the meeting with the coach didn't provide satisfactory resolution?

1. Schedule a meeting with the campus athletic director, coach, and parent present.
2. At this meeting, an appropriate next step can be determined, if necessary.

CHAIN OF COMMAND

High School

- BOYS: Assistant Coaches > Head Coaches > Athletic Director
- GIRLS: Assistant Coaches > Head Coaches > Girls Coordinator > Athletic Director

Middle School

- BOYS: JH Coaches > JH Coordinator > Athletic Director
- GIRLS: JH Coaches > Girls Coordinator > JH Coordinator > Athletic Director

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS FOR SPECTATORS

Remember that you are at the contest to support and yell for your team, and to enjoy the skill and competition-not to intimidate or ridicule the other team or its fans.

Remember that school athletics are a learning experience for students and that mistakes are sometimes made. Praise student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes, and as people, just as you would praise a student working in the classroom.

Learn the rules of the game, so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.

Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups.

Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Understand that they are doing their best to help promote the student-athlete, and admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public.

Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.

Use only cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.

Be a positive role model at events through your own actions and by censuring those around you whose behavior is unbecoming.

Parents and spectators should be aware that the school can (and should) remove them from the premises and can prohibit them from attending future contests due to undesirable behaviors.

Game officials can ask that school administrators have unruly fans removed from a contest facility. The school is responsible for the behavior of their spectators. The school district can be and will be punished for actions of patrons in violation of UIL standards and rules.

UIL:

<https://www.uiltexas.org/athletics>