

# SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS



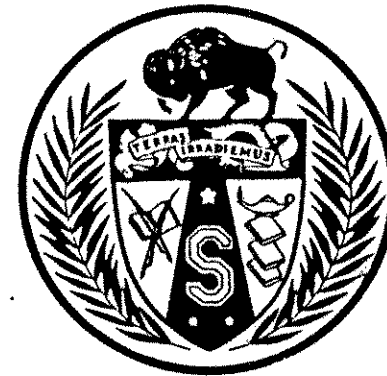
*Sportsmanship*  
*Ethics*  
*Integrity*

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# SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL

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## BISON



**STUDENT/PARENT/COACH  
COMMUNICATION**

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## STUDENT'S ROLE

As students become involved in programs at Shaker 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 athletes wish. At these times, it is critical that the athletes speak with their coach. Athletes need to inform coaches, well ahead of time, of scheduling conflicts or absences from practices/games. Our hope is for athletes to develop into mature and responsible young adults through their participation.

## COMMUNICATION YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM YOUR CHILD'S COACH

1. Expectations the coach has for all the players on the squad.
2. Locations and times of all practices and contests (may be posted in school).
3. Team requirements, i.e., special equipment/apparel.
4. Procedure should your child be injured during participation.
5. Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation.

## 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 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 a clear communication from the coach of your child's program. Parents need to encourage their children to see the coach to discuss any concerns.

## APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES

1. Ways to help your child improve.
2. Concerns about your child's behavior.
3. Your child's physical fitness/health.

It is very difficult to accept your child's 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. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can be and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as playing time, team strategy and play calling, are the responsibility of the coach.

## Procedures To Follow To Discuss A Concern With A Coach

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are to be encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the others' position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedures should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.

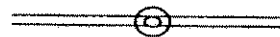
1. Call the Coach to set up an appointment.
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call David Herman, Athletic Director. He will arrange the meeting for you.
3. **Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.**

## THE NEXT STEP

### *What Can A Parent Do If The Meeting With The Coach Did Not Provide A Satisfactory Resolution?*

1. Call the Athletic Secretary, to set up an appointment with the Athletic Director, David Herman. The parent/guardian, coach and Athletic Director will meet to discuss the problem.
2. At this meeting, the appropriate next step can be determined.

Parents are encouraged to discuss issues and problems with the Athletic Director. However, if a parent has specific complaints regarding a coach, then the coach needs to have the opportunity to be present to meet with the parent.



**We** hope the information provided will help to make you and your child's experience with the Shaker High School Athletic Program less stressful, more enjoyable, as well as rewarding.  
**We** look forward to working with parents as partners.