

**Oroville School District  
PARENT – COACH COMMUNICATION**

***Parent – Coach Relationship***

We are pleased that your son/daughter has chosen to participate in the Oroville School District athletic program. We will do all we can to provide a positive experience for him/her. A very important ingredient in achieving this outcome is to insure that lines of communication are developed to allow for free and easy resolution of questions before they become issues. As a parent, you have a right to know what expectations are placed on your son/daughter. This document is intended to spell out all levels of communications so that parents, coaches and athletes are aware of the steps they have available to resolve anything they think is or might become an issue.

**Communication You Should Expect from Your Athlete's Coach**

1. Philosophy of the coach
2. Expectations the coach has for your son/daughter
3. Locations and times of all practices and contests.
4. Team requirements: equipment, off season training, etc.
5. Procedure to follow should your son/daughter become injured during participation.
6. Participant conduct code and consequences for not following these guidelines.
7. Requirements to earn a letter.
8. Disposition of lost/outstanding equipment at the end of the season.
9. Communication concerning your athlete's role on the team and how he/she fits into the future of the program.

**Communication Coaches Expect From Parents**

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

**Appropriate Concerns to Discuss With Coaches**

1. The treatment of your son/daughter, psychologically and physically, when appropriate;

*Matters regarding treatment of your son/daughter, psychologically, physically and or matters of safety that may involve the coach shall be referred to school administration.*

2. Ways to help your son/daughter improve.
3. Concerns about your son/daughter's behavior.

At times it may be difficult to accept the fact that your son/daughter is not playing as much as you or he/she would like. Coaches are professionals who make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be the best for the team and all involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can be and should be discussed with your son/daughter's coach. We ask that other things, such as those below, be left to the discretion of the coach.

### **Coaches Decisions**

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Play calling
4. Matters concern other student athletes.

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

### **If you or your son/daughter has a concern to discuss with a coach, the procedure listed below should be followed:**

- | First, have your son/daughter speak with the coach.
- | If the issue has not been resolved, make an appointment to meet with the coach.
- | 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.

### **What can a parent do if the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution?**

- | Call and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation.

Since research indicates a student involved in athletics has a greater chance for success during adulthood, Oroville School District strongly supports the athletic program. Many of the character traits required to be a successful student-athlete are exactly those that will promote a rewarding life after high school. We trust the information provided within this document makes both your child's and your experience with Oroville's athletic program more enjoyable and less stressful.

## THE DEFINITION OF SPORTSMANSHIP

Sportsmanship is character displayed through athletic competition. People of character live by the “Six Pillars of Character,” universal values that can be used to define a good person: ***trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship***. This code applies to the parents and all student-athletes involved in interscholastic sports.

### CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE PARENTS OF INTERSCHOLASTIC STUDENT-ATHLETES

*We believe that interscholastic athletic competition should demonstrate high standards of ethics and sportsmanship and promote the development of good character and other important life skills. We also believe that the highest potential of sports is achieved when participants are committed to pursuing victory with honor.*

#### TRUSTWORTHINESS

*Trustworthiness* – be worthy of trust in all you do.

*Integrity* – live up to high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship; do what’s right even when it’s unpopular or personally costly.

*Honesty* – live and act honorable; don’t allow your children to lie, cheat, steal or engage in any other dishonest or unsportsmanlike conduct.

*Reliability* – fulfill commitments; do what you say you will do; be on time; when you tell your children you will attend an event, be sure to do so.

#### RESPECT

*Respect* – treat people with respect all the time and require the same of your children.

*Class* – live and cheer with class; be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity; compliment extraordinary performance; and show respect for all competitors.

*Disrespectful Conduct* – don’t engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks of a sexual nature, trash-talking, taunting, boastful celebrations, or other actions that demean individuals or the sport.

*Respect Officials* – treat contest officials with respect; don’t complain about or argue with official calls or decisions during or after an athletic event.

*Respect Coaches* – treat coaches with respect at all times; recognize that they have team goals beyond those of your child. Don’t shout instructions to players from the stands; let the coaches’ coach.

#### RESPONSIBILITY

*Importance of Education* – stress that student-athletes are students first. Be honest with your children about the likelihood of getting an athletic scholarship or playing on a professional level. Place the academic, emotional, physical and moral well-being of your children above desires and pressures to win.

*Role-modeling* – Consistently exhibit good character and conduct yourself as a role model for your children.

*Self-Control* – exercise self-control; don't fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration; have the strength to overcome the temptation to demean others.

*Integrity of the game* – Protect the integrity of the game; don't gamble on your children's games.

*Privilege to Compete* – assure that you and your child understand that participation in interscholastic sports is a privilege, not a right, and that they are expected to represent their team, school and family with honor, on and off the field.

## **FAIRNESS**

*Be Fair* – treat all competitors fairly; be open-minded; always be willing to listen and learn.

## **CARING**

*Encouragement* – encourage your children regardless of their play; offer positive reinforcement. Demonstrate sincere interest in your child's play.

*Concern for Others* – demonstrate concern for others; never encourage the injury of any player, officials or follow spectator.

*Empathy* – consider the needs and desires of your child's teammates in addition to your own; help promote the team concept by encouraging all team members, understanding that the coach is responsible for determining playing time.

## **CITIZENSHIP**

Do your part for the common good, making Oroville and Oroville School District work well, serving the community, and obeying the laws. Citizenship through athletic participation occurs both on and off the playing surface, both in and out of season. Developing good citizen-athletes involves defining and developing the relationship from athlete to athlete, from athlete to team and from athlete to community.

## **BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF 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. A ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others or be generally obnoxious.

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.

Refrain from the use of any controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, etc.) before, during, and after the game on or near the site of the event (i.e. tailgating).

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. There is no such thing as a “right” to attend interscholastic athletics. Interscholastic athletics are considered a “privilege” and the spectator who avails themselves of it is expected to conduct him or herself accordingly. Keep in mind that you are a guest of the school, and that while winning is certainly an admirable goal; it is hollow if it comes at the expense of morals, ethics, and just plain common sense.

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 WIAA standards and rules.

**Adoption Date:** 05/30/17  
**Oroville School District**  
**Revised/Adoption Date:**