

If you have a concern to discuss with a coach, the procedure you should follow...

- Call to set up an appointment with the coach. The Portland High School telephone number is 647-2981.
- If the coach cannot be reached call the Athletic Director, 647-2983. He will set up the meeting for you.



- **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.
- **Use the 24 hour rule. Wait to discuss a situation with a coach until 24 hours after the contest.**

The Next Step

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.
- At the meeting, the appropriate next step can be determined.

Research indicates a student involved in co-curricular activities has a greater chance for succeeding in adulthood. Many of the character traits required to be a successful participant are exactly those that will promote a successful life after high school. Please do your part to promote this success by being a positive influence and by supporting your child's coaches.



Portland Athletics

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**Parent/Coach
Communication**

*Portland High
School Raiders*

Excellence in Action

Parent/Coach Relationship

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each role, we together are able to communicate the benefit of extracurricular activities 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.

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

- Philosophy of the coach
- Expectations the coach has for your child
- Locations and times of all practices and contests
- Team requirements ; i.e. fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning, etc.
- Procedure followed should your child be injured during participation
- Discipline that results in denial of your child's participation

Communication coaches expect from parents

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

As your children become involved in programs at Portland 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 you or your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches

- What the expectations are for you son/daughter during practices and games
- Ways to help your child improve
- Concerns about your child

It is very difficult to accept the situation if your child is not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches 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. Other things, however, such as those below must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches.

- Playing time
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Other student-athletes

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 other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.

