

# **Bulldog Parent Guidelines**

**If you have a concern to discuss with a coach, the procedure you should follow is below:**

1. Call the Coach directly to set up an appointment to address your concerns.
2. 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 usually do not promote positive resolutions.

## **The Next Step**

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

1. Fill out a Formal Grievance Procedure Form that can be obtained in the Athletic Director's office.
2. After the Formal Grievance Procedure Form is returned to an Athletic Director, a meeting with the parent and coach will be scheduled
3. At this meeting, the appropriate next step can be determined.

## **Parent Code of Conduct**

1. Make sure your child understands that win or lose, you love him or her.
2. Be realistic about your child's physical ability.
3. Help your child set realistic goals.
4. Emphasize "improved" performance, not winning.
5. Provide a safe environment for training and competition.
6. Don't relive your own athletic past through your child.
7. Control your emotions at games and events. Let the coach do the coaching.
8. Be a "cheerleader" for your child and children on the team.
9. Respect your child's coaches. Communicate with them in a positive way. Encourage others to do the same.
10. Be a positive role model.

Be sensible, responsible and keep your priorities in order. Remain respectful to the officials even when you don't agree with them. You, as well as your child, are a reflection of what the Skiatook Bulldogs stand for. There is a lot more at stake than a winning record. Spectators and Parents may be removed from the sporting event if these rules are not followed. Repeated offenses may result in spectators and parents not being able to attend school events.

## **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 a greater benefit to children. As parents, when your children become involved in our program, you have the right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's program.

## **Communications you should expect from your child's coach**

1. Philosophy of the coach.
2. Expectations and goals the coach has for your child as well as for the team/season.
3. Team requirements, special equipment, strength and conditioning programs.
4. Procedure if your child is injured during participation.
5. Team rules, guidelines and consequences for infractions.

## Communication coaches expect from athletes/parents

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts in advance.
3. Notification of illness or injury as soon as possible.

As your child becomes involved in the programs at Skiatook Public Schools, he or she will experience some of the most rewarding moments of his or her life. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you and your child wish. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged. It is the first and most integral step to understanding and resolution.

### Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:

1. The treatment of your child.
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 hope. Coaches are professionals. They make decisions based on what they believe to be the best for all student athletes involved. As you have seen from the list on the preceding page, certain things can be and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as those listed below, must be left to the discretion of the coach:

1. Playing time.
2. Team strategy
3. Play calling.
4. Other student athletes.

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and player, or coach and parent. These conferences are encouraged. It is important that all parties involved have a clear understanding of the other persons' position. When a conference is necessary, the procedure listed at the beginning of this form should be used to help resolve any concerns.

We appreciate your support!

I have read these Guidelines and understand appropriate conduct for a Bulldog athlete.

Parent or Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Print Name)