

## **Fall Creek Athletic Department** **Parent/Athlete/Coach Expectations**

Parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each other's expectations, we are better able to accept the actions of both parties and provide greater benefits to the student/athlete. When a child becomes involved in a co-curricular activity, parents have a right to understand what EXPECTATIONS are going to be placed on the athlete. *This begins with clear communication from the athlete, parent, coach, and athletic department.*

### **Communications/Expectations Parents/Athletes** **Should Expect FROM The Coaches:**

1. The expectations the coaches have for their children and all team members.
2. Location and times of all practices.
3. Team requirements, fees, special equipment, game dress, off-season opportunities.
4. The policy dealing with excused and unexcused absences. What will the consequence be for missing a game/practice (vacation, appointments, sickness, etc.)?
5. The Fall Creek Schools and WIAA requirements for eligibility.
6. Team rules beyond the Fall Creek Athletic Code.
7. The lettering requirements per activity involved.
8. The coaches' act as a role model for good sportsmanship, use of appropriate language, promoting a healthy environment and safe teaching techniques.
9. Well-planned practices.

### **Communications/Expectations Coaches** **Should Expect FROM the Athlete and Parents:**

1. Notification of any schedule conflicts that may occur, well in advance of the season (vacations, etc).
2. Special concerns regarding the athlete (medications, health concerns, etc.).
3. Support for the Athletic Code and all team rules.
4. If the athlete has a concern, the parents should encourage their son/daughter to speak with the coach or coaching staff.
5. Support for all team members and the coaching staff.
6. Positive support at games for their son/daughter, their teammates, the coaching staff and officials.
7. Exhibit good sportsmanship and appropriate language by the athlete and parents at games and/or practices.
8. A great work ethic at practices and in games.

**Appropriate Concerns Athlete/Parent  
May Address with Coaching Staff:**

1. The treatment of the athlete mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help the athlete improve his/her performance and skill level.
3. Concerns about the athletes' behavior in school/practices/games.

**The Proper Method to Address a Concern:**

**Step One:**

- a. The athlete speaks with the coach.

**Step Two:**

- a. The parent asks for a conference with the coach (staff) and the athlete. The athlete must be present if a meeting is to take place. If the coach cannot be reached, the parent should contact the athletic director and he/she will arrange for the coach to contact the parent.

**Step Three:**

- a. If the conference between the parent/athlete and coach does not resolve the concern, there will be a meeting set up by the athletic director. The AD will moderate the conference.
- b. The conference will deal with the specific issues that the parent/athlete has. Both parties will be allowed to speak in an uninterrupted manner. The conference will be in a non-threatening environment.