

The Watertown Athletic Department realizes the importance of communication between parents, coaches and student-athletes. The outline below helps explain the process and aids in developing a positive relationship with all stakeholders.

**Communication to be expected from the coach:**

1. Philosophy of the coach and the program.
2. Expectations the coach has for your child and the team.
3. Locations of all practices and games.
4. Team requirements, i.e. equipment.
5. Disciplinary action(s) that may result in the denial of your child's participation

**Communication/Appropriate Concerns to discuss between Coaches and Parents:**

Typically, each student-athlete should speak with the coach first if any problems exist. However, there are times when you the parent may need to discuss certain things about your child with the coach. They include:

1. The treatment of an athlete, mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your child improve.
3. Notification of any schedule conflicts.
4. Specific concern in regards to a coach's criteria and/or expectations
5. Concerns about your child's behavior.

As your child becomes more involved in programs at Watertown City Schools, he/she will experience many rewarding moments. However, there will be times when your child's experiences may not be to your liking . At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

When these conferences are necessary, the following procedures should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.

**Procedures to Follow in Order to discuss a Concern with a Coach**

1. Student-athlete should contact the coach first in an attempt to resolve any situations.
2. If a resolution can't be reached, the parent is to contact the coach to set up an appointment. Please do not attempt to meet with a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for the parent, athlete and coach. Please call or email to set up an appointment.
3. If the coach can't be reached, call the Athletic Office at 785-3833 to assist in arranging a meeting.
4. If a resolution can't be made, call to set up an appointment with the Athletic Director. The parent(s), coach, and Athletic Director will meet to discuss the problem.

**Issues not Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches**

1. Playing time .
2. Selection of team captain(s).
3. Other student –athletes.