

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

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

1. Philosophy of the coach.
2. Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all the players on the squad.
3. Locations and times of all practices and contests.
4. Team requirements (i.e. fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning, etc.).
5. Procedure should your child be injured during participation.
6. Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation (refer to Coaches rules & the Athletic Handbook).

## **Communication coaches expect from parents**

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

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

## **Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches**

1. The treatment of your child, mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your child improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior.

It is very difficult to accept your child's 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, like those listed below, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

## **Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches**

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 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.

## **Procedure you should follow if you have a concern to discuss with a coach**

1. Call to set up an appointment.
2. The Mauldin High Athletic Department's telephone number is (864) 355-6530.
3. The Athletic Director, Steve Frady, will set up a meeting with the coach for you.
- 4. 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.**