



Welcome to Seattle Prep Athletics

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ATHLETICS PHILOSOPHY

Seattle Prep's mission is to "embrace the Ignatian ideals that God may be found in all things, that each person is sacred and that we are created to serve others in community." It is our belief that athletics is part of the formation of young people and will help your son or daughter become a man or woman for others. It is intended that competitive athletics would develop within the student-athlete the qualities of leadership, initiative, and good judgment. This program must promote the physical, mental, moral, social, and emotional well being of the student-athlete so that he/she may be able to effectively perform and lead under stress and in competition. It is desired that the participants in this program, through individual hard work and self-sacrificing, discover their own self-identity and learn to respect other participants for their accomplishments. The student-athlete is not only responsible to self but also to his/her teammates.

Athletics would be slighted if only portrayed as a program for development of youth. Interscholastic athletics is the enjoyment of companionship and new friendships, the exhilaration of meeting and exceeding personal and team goals, and the development of personal skills and standards. Interscholastic athletics is the involvement of the whole student body in spirit and support beyond the academic sphere of the school. In short, athletics at Seattle Prep help guide the student towards becoming a "person for others".

PARENT/COACH RELATIONSHIP

We are very pleased that your son/daughter has chosen to participate in the Seattle Prep athletic program. We will do all we can to provide a positive experience for him/her. Possibly the most important ingredient to achieve this outcome is to insure that lines of communication are developed to allow for free and easy resolution of questions before they become issues. As a parent, you have a right to know what expectations are placed on your son/daughter. This leaflet is intended to spell out all levels of communications so that parents, coaches, and athletes are aware of the steps they have available to resolve anything they think is or might become an issue.

COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM PARENTS

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach first.
2. Specific concern in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.

As your son/daughter becomes involved in the various programs at Seattle Prep, he/she will experience some of the most rewarding moments of his/her life. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way your or your son/daughter wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach may be the quickest and most effective way to clear up the issue and avoid any misunderstanding.

APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES

1. Ways to help your son/daughter improve.
2. Concerns about your son/daughter's academic progress.

At times it may be difficult to accept the fact that your son/daughter is not playing as much as you or he/she would like. Coaches are professionals who make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be the best for the team and all involved.

COACHES' DECISIONS

1. Playing time.
2. Team strategy.
3. Play calling.
4. Matters concerning other student/athletes

Coaches will not discuss playing time with parents.

IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN TO DISCUSS WITH A COACH, PLEASE FOLLOW THE PROCEDURE BELOW:

1. Your son or daughter should first talk with the coach about his/her concerns.
2. Call to set up an appointment with the coach.
3. If the coach cannot be reached after a reasonable time, call Brian Elsner, Athletic Director (206-577-2118). He will arrange the appointment for you.

Please do not approach a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings at these times usually do not work well for the coach, the parent or the player

THE NEXT STEP

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

1. Call and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation
2. At this meeting the appropriate next step can be determined as necessary.

Whether or not this step is ever reached, please keep in mind the following protocol when you elect to pursue a concern you may have regarding your son or daughter's experience on one of Prep's sports teams. Please make contact as follows:

1. Head Coach.
2. Athletic Director. (577-2118)

Since research indicates a student involved in co-curricular activities has a greater chance for success during adulthood, these programs have been established and encouraged. Many of the character traits required to be a successful participant are exactly those that will promote a successful life after high school. We hope the information provided within this pamphlet helps to make the Seattle Prep Athletic Program as enjoyable and as positive as possible for both you and your son or daughter. Thank you for your support.

REMINDERS FOR PARENTS:

1. If an athlete visits a physician for illness or injury, he/she must bring a note from the doctor before being allowed to return to practice.
2. If an athlete misses any class, he/she will not be allowed to play in a contest that day unless the absence was approved in advance by the Attendance Office. Failure to follow this requirement will result in a contest forfeiture.
3. An athlete may not miss a team practice or contest to participate in a non-school sporting event.

