

ATHLETIC CONTRACT FOR STUDENT-ATHLETE AND PARENTS

I understand that representing the Lincoln School in athletics is a privilege that carries certain responsibilities. I understand that being part of the athletic program requires following rules set forth by the coach, the athletic department and the school principal.

Student-Athlete:

I agree to:

- Conduct myself in a manner that reflects good sportsmanship at all times.
- Refrain from hazing, taunting, or physical confrontations with opponents and teammates.
- Attend all practices and games as scheduled by the coaching staff and Athletic Supervisor.
- Practice hard and work to the best of my ability at all times.
- Refrain from drug, alcohol or tobacco use.
- Treat my coaches, teammates and opponents with respect.
- Follow all team rules and regulations.
- Refrain from actions which would bring discredit to me, my team, my family and my school.
- Maintain regular and consistent attendance and abide by all requirements of the school attendance policy.
- Maintain my academic eligibility.
- Have any form of visible demonstration approved in advance by the Athletic Supervisor and/or Principal.

I understand that failure to uphold this contract may result in failure of my varsity letter status or team status.

Parent/Guardian:

I agree to:

- Show respect and positive support for coaches and officials, prior, during and after the game.
- Demonstrate respect and support for all players prior, during and after the game.
- Be mindful of my role at all times, provide support, not openly instruct during the game or openly interpret the rules.
- Participate in cheers that support, encourage and uplift the teams involved.
- Understand that school athletics is an extension of the classroom, offering learning experiences for the student-athletes.
- Support the spirit of fair play and the good sportsmanship expected by our school

You are responsible for all information presented at seasonal parent/student meetings regardless of attendance.

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 a greater benefit to children. As parents, when your children become involved in our 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

- Philosophy of the coach
- Expectations the coach has for your child as well as the players on the squad
- Locations and times of all practices and contests
- Team requirements
- Procedure should your child be injured during practices or games
- Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation

COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM PARENTS

- Concerns expressed directly to the coach
- Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
- Specific concerns in regard to a coach's philosophy and or expectations

As your children becomes involved in the programs at the Lincoln School, 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 you or your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES

- Ways to help your child improve
- The treatment of your child, mentally and physically
- Concerns about your child's behavior

It is difficult to accept your child's not playing as much as you may hope. The coaches are professionals. They make decisions based on what they believe is 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, such as the items listed below must be left to the discretion of the coach.

ISSUES NOT APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES

- Playing time

- Team position
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- 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 procedure listed below should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issues of concern.

COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

- Student-athlete and coach should discuss the concern
- Parent should call to set up an appointment with coach
- Parent, student-athlete and coach meet
- Parent, student-athlete, coach and Athletic Supervisor meet
- Parent, student-athlete, coach, Athletic Supervisor and Principal meet
- Parent contact the Superintendent for appointment

Guidelines for Behavior of the Spectators

- Remember that you are at a contest to support and cheer for your team and to enjoy the skill and competition, not to intimidate or ridicule the other team and its fans.
- Athletics are a learning experience for students and that mistakes are sometimes made.

Praise students-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes and as people, just as you would praise a student working in the classroom.

- Learn the rules of the game so that you may understand and appreciate and support groups. Treat them as you would treat a guest in your home.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of contest officials. Understand that they are doing their best to help promote the student-athlete and admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public.
- Recognize and show appreciation for outstanding play by either team.
- Refrain from the use of any controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, tobacco, etc.) before, during and after contests, on or near the site of the event (e.g., no tailgating).
- Use only those cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.
- Recognize and compliment school and athletic administrators for their efforts in emphasizing the educational benefits of interscholastic athletics and the role of good sportsmanship.
- Be a positive role model through your own actions and by censuring those around you whose behavior is unbecoming.

Behavior Standards

Acceptable Behavior

- Applause during introductions of players, coaches and officials.
- Players shaking hands with opponent who fouls out while both sets of fans recognize player's performance with applause.
- Accept all decisions of officials.
- Handshakes between participants and coaches at end of contest, regardless of outcome.
- Treat competition as a game, not a war.
- Coaches/players search out opposing participants to recognize them for outstanding performance of coaching.
- Applause at end of contest for performances of all participants.
- Everyone showing concern for injured player regardless of team.
- Encourage surrounding people to display only sportsmanlike conduct.

Unacceptable Behavior

- Yelling or waving arms during opponent's free-throw attempt.
- Disrespectful or derogatory yells chants, songs or gestures.
- Booing or heckling an official's decision.
- Criticizing officials in any way; displays of temper with an official call.
- Yells that antagonize opponents.
- Refusing to shake hands or give recognition for good performances.
- Blaming loss of game on officials, coaches or participants.
- Laughing or name-calling to distract an opponent.
- Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game.