

# Spectator Behavior

## *Please do*

- Positive & encouraging cheering
- Show respect for opposing team and spectators
- Wait 24 hours after an event to address issues with the coach

## *Refrain from*

- Coaching from the sidelines
- Disparaging comments to opposing team, coaches or referees

*Unacceptable behavior may result in being asked to leave the premises. Repeat offenses could result in banning for the season.*

# Actionable Offenses

- Not meeting academic standard
- Drug use
- Alcohol use
- Criminal offense
- Disrespectful, unsafe or irresponsible behavior toward coach, team member(s), referee or opposing team
- Athletic code violations

# Disciplinary & Grievance Procedure

## Athlete

- The coach will set up a meeting with the athlete and set forth in writing a description of the problem and the potential disciplinary action that will take place
- The parent and athletic director will be notified of the meeting and given a copy of the document provided to the athlete
- The athletic director will notify the principal of the meeting

## Parent

- Request an appointment in writing to meet with the coach, if this meeting does not provide a satisfactory resolution
- Request in writing to meet with the athletic director of the school, if this meeting does not provide a satisfactory resolution
- Request to meet with the school principal, if this does not provide resolution
- The superintendent of schools and the school board may then be solicited for a meeting.

**Complete policy & procedure  
text can be found @**

**[www.merrimack.k12.nh.us/athleticpolicy](http://www.merrimack.k12.nh.us/athleticpolicy)**

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Merrimack School District



# Communication & Behavior Guidelines

# Parent Athlete Coach

## **Mission Statement**

*The mission of the Merrimack School District's Athletic program is the development of a community of responsible student athletes, coaches and parents that balances academic achievement and a safe competitive environment, upholding the attributes of sportsmanship, integrity, and leadership while promoting emotional physical and social well being.*

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**High School 603-424-6204**

[www.merrimack.k12.nh.us](http://www.merrimack.k12.nh.us)

Reference & additional information: [www.NHIAA.org](http://www.NHIAA.org)

# Merrimack School District Athletic Department Philosophy

## Benefits of Interscholastic Athletics

# We Believe

- An athletic program plays an integral role beyond athletic performance, providing an opportunity to learn commitment, personal responsibility, compassion, teamwork, respect and leadership-attributes that prepare student athletes to become contributing members of society.
- Academic success and behavioral accountability is a prerequisite for athletic participation.
- The development of the student athlete is progressive. It builds on commitment to practice, acquisition of skills, knowledge of the game, and the display of positive attitude. The culmination of this process drives healthy competition at all levels.
- Student athletes, parents and coaches each have respective roles and responsibilities to achieve a successful athletic program.
- Athletic participation will not be hindered by gender, religion, race or financial status.

# Athletics

- **Support the academic mission of schools**– It is not a diversion but rather an extension of a good educational program. Students who participate in athletic programs tend to have higher grade-point averages, better attendance records, and less discipline problems than those students who do not participate.
- **Is inherently educational** – Lessons are learned on many fronts – teamwork, sportsmanship, winning, losing, hard work, self discipline, building self confidence and skills to handle competitive situations. These qualities help to produce responsible and productive citizens.
- **Fosters success later in life** – Participation in school athletics is often a predictor of later success in college, career and becoming a contributing member of society

## Communication Guidelines for Parents, Athletes and Coaches

### Parents:

- Wait 24 hours after an event before communicating with the coach
- If you wish to meet directly with the coach please submit your request by phone, email or written note to the athletic administrative office

### *Examples of acceptable reasons to communicate with the coach*

- To discuss ways to help your child improve and develop
- Treatment of your child mentally or physically
- To inform of schedule conflicts

### Athletes:

Communicate directly with your coach to discuss any of the following:

- Play time
- Game strategy
- Play calling
- Other athletes
- Academic concerns
- Practice schedules
- Unacceptable behavior

### **Coaches will provide the athlete and the parents with:**

- program philosophy
- individual & team expectations
- practice & game schedules
- team requirements for off season conditioning &/or special equipment
- procedure to follow if your child is injured during practice or at a game
- a roster of the team members
- actions which will result in disciplinary action &/or removal from the team