

PARENT-COACH COMMUNICATION

EXPECTATIONS OF LCS ATHLETES

- Follow team rules, school & athletic code
- Make and keep commitments
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship
- Be coachable
- Always give 100% in all that you attempt



EXPECTATIONS OF LCS PARENTS

- **Be Responsible**-Read, understand, discuss, and monitor the Athletic Code of Conduct.
- **Be Supportive**-Reinforce the lessons taught by the coaching staff.
- **Be Accountable**-Attend required meetings.
- **Be Positive**-Encourage athletes, coaches & staff in good times & bad.
- **Be involved**-Join the LCS Varsity Club & come support your athlete at the athletic contests.

EXPECTATIONS OF LCS COACHES

- **Sportsmanship**-Promote & teach good sportsmanship.
- **Communicator**-Communicate with athletes & parents.
- **Teacher**-Fundamentals and skills of the game, help athletes establish goals for performance improvement.
- **Supporter**-Encourage athletes to strive for greatness in all that they attempt.
- **Leader**-Teach athletes how to deal with success & failure by example.
- **Enthusiasm**-Motivate through support & a positive attitude

LCS ATHLETIC CODE OF ETHICS

LCS STUDENT-ATHLETES/PARTICIPANTS WILL:

- Treat competitors, teammates, coaches, officials & fans with courtesy & respect.
- Continually strive to improve & excel both in the classroom & in athletic competition.
- Represent their team, school, & the coach in a positive & responsible manner.
- Maintain a healthy & productive lifestyle & refrain from the use of controlled substances, alcohol & tobacco products.
- Model & exhibit the principles of good sportsmanship in all contests & practices.

LCS COACHES WILL:

- Impart to their athletes not only a desire to win, but also respect for the game.
- Teach their athletes to succeed with humility & deal with adversity & dignity.
- Model integrity in all interactions with athletes, officials, peers & spectators.
- Exhibit the same positive behaviors & attitudes that they expect from their athletes.
- Keep the physical & emotional well-being of all athletes foremost in their minds in all decisions & actions.

LCS SPECTATORS WILL:

- Conduct self in a manner which brings pride to our school.
- Show support & encouragement for players & coaches in the form of positive & constructive comments.
- Demonstrate respect to opposing teams, fans & officials through sportsmanlike behavior.
- Exhibit the same good sportsmanship that Lyme Central School expects from its athletes & coaches.

PARENT/COACH RELATIONSHIP

Parenting and coaching are both extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of each other & provide greater benefit to the student-athletes of Lyme Central School. As parents, when your student-athlete becomes involved in our athletic program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the head coach of your athlete's team.

FORMS OF COMMUNICATION YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM THE COACH

- Philosophy of the coach and program
- Expectations the coach has for your athlete & the team.

- Location & times of all practices & contests.
- Team requirements: i.e. forms, fees, special equipment, off-season expectations.
- Procedures that will be taken if your athlete is injured during a practice or contest.
- Discipline that may result in the denial of your athlete's participation.

FORMS OF COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM PARENTS

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

As your student-athlete becomes involved in the athletic program at LCS, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there may also be times when your athlete is faced with adversity. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged, whether the adversity is athletic or personal reasons.

APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES:

1. The treatment of your athlete, mentally & physically.
2. Ways to help your athlete improve their fundamental skills.
3. Concerns about your athlete's behavior.
4. College scholarship opportunities or options.

It is extremely difficult to accept your athlete not playing as much as you may hope or think. Coaches are professionals who must place the interests of the team as a whole over the interests of the individual. When making decisions, our coaches must decide what they believe is best for the team. As you can see from the list above, there are certain issues that can be and should be discussed with your athlete's coach. Other issues, such as those listed below, must be left to the discretion of the coach and their staff.

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 meetings are to be encouraged. It is important that both the coach and the parent have a clear understanding of the other's position regarding the situation. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed **AT ALL TIMES** to help promote an agreed resolution to the situation.

IF YOU HAVE AN ISSUE TO DISCUSS WITH A COACH PLEASE FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE:

1. Call the school to set up an appointment. The school number is (315)-649-2417.
2. If the coach cannot be reached, please leave a message for the coach with the AD.
3. PLEASE do not attempt to confront a coach the day of a contest. These can be emotional times for the both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature generally do not promote an agreeable resolution.

THE NEXT STEP

WHAT ARE THE RIGHTS OF THE PARENT IF THE MEETING WITH THE COACH DID NOT PROVIDE A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION?

1. Call the school and set up an appointment with the AD to discuss the situation.
2. At this meeting, the appropriate next step can be determined.

Research indicates that a student involved in extra-curricular activities has a greater chance of success during adulthood; therefore, these programs have been established by the Lyme Central School District. Many of the character traits required to be a successful participant in athletes are exactly the same traits of those that will promote a successful life after high school. We hope the information provided within this pamphlet helps to make both your athlete's and your experience with the LCS Athletic Program less stressful and more enjoyable.

Superintendent-Mrs. Cammy J. Morrison
Principal/Athletic Director: Mr. Barry Davis
Director of Pupil Services: Ms. Patricia Gibbons