

TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Athletics and Activities Office

ATHLETIC PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY AND GUIDELINES

PHILOSOPHY - athletics is a vital part of the total school program.

GUIDELINES

1. The program should be challenging and stimulating for those students who are participating.
2. The program should offer as much participation as is feasible within available resources.
3. Coaches should attempt to develop among their players a sense of the value of clean hard, yet friendly competition.
4. The coach must teach the proper reactions toward winning and losing and most importantly, to assist the athlete in developing a positive self-image.
5. Situations requiring additional coaches, teams or quarters and/or games will be treated on a case by case basis with final approval granted by the Tacoma School District Athletic Office.
6. Coaches are to ensure that **all** eligible athletes participate in contests. Individual sport guidelines will regulate playing time.
7. Students will ride home on the bus when transportation has been provided by the district to the contest or practice. Athletes will be released only to a parent or legal guardian or designated adult provided previous arrangements have been made with the athletic director or coach. Each situation will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS FOR COACHES

1. Coaches will be assigned by the building principal and athletic director.
2. Coaches must maintain proper first aid, CPR and AED credentials as well as attending training and rules meetings.
3. Coaches must make every effort to maintain direct supervision for his/her student athletes.
4. Coaches found in dereliction of guidelines or duties are subject to a warning, reprimand, probation and or suspension.

INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS FOR COACHES

TURNOUT

1. Practice sessions may be up to 1.5 hours of continuous practice time. Practices will be four days a week for "A" and "B" teams and two days a week for "C" teams. If space is limited, the coach and athletic director will work together to schedule practices. Exceptions can be arranged through the District Athletic Director.
2. Turnouts shall be limited to school days after school.
3. Coaches may have additional requirements which must be approved by the building administration.
4. Attendance will be recorded on a roster sheet.

EQUIPMENT

1. Issued equipment belongs to the school's ASB.
2. Loss of issued equipment is the student's financial responsibility. Until that obligation is filled, the student will not be allowed further competition and will not receive his/her grades or awards.
3. Equipment issued to coaches is their responsibility.

SUPERVISION

1. The building principal and the building athletic director are responsible for coordinating supervision of contests at their school.
2. A school representative, other than the coach, will be in attendance at jamborees.
3. Visiting schools **will not** encourage their students to attend away contests.
4. No transportation will be provided for non-participants.
5. Athletes will be under direct supervision of their coach at all times before, during and after a contest both at home and away.

TRANSPORTATION

1. Coaches and players will be made aware of early dismissal times and bus pickup locations for away games by the athletic director. Teachers will be made aware of student dismissal times by memos the day before the contest. This will be the responsibility of the coach.
2. Bus loading and having players ready to load the bus is the responsibility of the coach.
3. Building level athletic directors coordinate supervision of students waiting to ride the ASA buses.
4. A roster of team members shall be on file in the main office as well as in the coaches' possession for each trip. Please be prepared to show roster to bus driver on request.

INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS FOR COACHES

COACH EXPECTATIONS

- Always set a good example for participants and fans to follow, exemplifying the highest moral and ethical behavior.
- Instruct participants in proper sportsmanship responsibilities and demand that they make sportsmanship the number one priority.
- Respect judgment of contest officials and abide by rules of the event. Coaches shall not argue with the officials' calls.
- Treat opposing coaches, participants, fans and media members with respect. Shake hands with officials and opposing coach in public. Arrange for player handshakes after each contest.
- Develop and enforce penalties for participants who do not abide by sportsmanship standards.
- Develop a method to publicly recognize good sportsmanship at each event.
- Supervise student athletes on the bus, before, during and after the contest. Students must remain under the direct supervision of the coach when visiting other schools. Use good common sense.

Do's and Don'ts

Do: Supervise players in locker rooms, restrooms, in the stands, waiting for the next game on the bench, waiting for the ASA bus, etc.

Require athletes to remain in the contest area.

Don'ts Allow players to warm up outside of your supervision.

Allow players to get sodas, food, visit friends, etc. at game sites.

Allow players to roam around the building.

Allow lopsided scoring that would embarrass an opposing team.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTSMANSHIP STATEMENT

We the participants of the Tacoma School District will demonstrate excellent sportsmanship by respecting our opponents and playing fair during competition. We will strive to be positive role models by showing great spirit and pride in our school and communities. During competition home or away, win or lose we will have fun, play hard, and play fair.

INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS FOR COACHES

SPORTSMANSHIP EXPECTATIONS FOR COACHES AND PARTICIPANTS

Acceptable Behavior

- Applauding during the introduction of players and officials.
- Shaking hands with opponents who foul out while both sets of fans recognize player's performance with applause.
- Accepting all decisions of officials.
- Positive cheering for your school.
- Treating competition as a game, not a war.
- Coaches/players seeking out opposing coaches and participants to recognize them for their performance during and after each contest.
- Applauding at the end of contest for performances of all participants.
- Showing concern and respect for injured player, regardless of team.
- Encouraging surrounding people to display positive sportsmanlike conduct.

Unacceptable Behavior

- Using disrespectful or derogatory yells, chants, songs, gestures, signage, appliques or body markings paintings.
- Criticizing officials in any way, such as displaying bad temper following an official's call.
- Refusing to shake hands or giving recognition for good performances.
- Blaming loss of game on officials, coaches, or participants.
- Displaying negative attitude toward opponents, teammates or officials outside the contest.
- Mocking opponents, booing of any kind.
- Taunting opponents and other participants on basis of ethnic background, gender, handicap, religion, sexual orientation, physical appearance, economic status, special needs or personal matters.
- Using profanity or displaying anger that draws attention away from the game.

INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS FOR COACHES

STUDENT ATHLETE EXPECTATIONS

1. Be drug, tobacco, and alcohol free.
2. Adhere to school-based academic and behavior expectations. Student athletes must be passing all classes at time of the athletic event.
3. Follow team rules.
4. Attend school for a full day on game days. The rule can be waived only by the administration for reasons such as verified medical appointments.
5. Stay with the team at all times unless accompanied by a school district employee.
6. Be an ASB member by purchasing an ASB card.
7. Use positive sportsmanship at all times (i.e. no unkind language, or swearing, no booing, taunting, no intentional physical contact with teammates, other school athletes, coaches, officials, or chaperons).
5. Participation in games is dependent upon maintaining good bus behavior.
6. Be responsible for the equipment and uniform issued. It must be returned after the season, or purchased.
7. Drink only liquids from athletic bottles.