

Memorial Boys Lacrosse Parent Coach Agreement

Both parenting and coaching are difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding between coaches and parents, both are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide a more positive experience for everyone. Parents have the right to know and understand the expectations placed on them and their children. Coaches have the right to know that if parents have a concern, they will discuss it with the coach at the appropriate time and place.

As your child becomes involved in interscholastic athletics, they will experience some of most rewarding moments of their lives. It's important to understand there may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. These are the times a discussion with the coach is encouraged.

The Memorial Boys Lacrosse Team board has an expectation that the parents will conduct themselves in a manner that honors the game of lacrosse, and positively represents the Memorial Boys Lacrosse program and community. In order to meet these expectations, the board has adopted the following Parent Code of Conduct. This code provides a minimum standard of conduct, which should be followed by all parents. If a parent or other spectator is found to be in violation of appropriate behavior, they will be asked to vacate the premises of any MBL event. This includes but is not limited to yelling at the coaches, players or referees.

Do not confront the coach before, during or after a practice or contest. These can be emotional times for both the parent and coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution of the situation but often escalate it.

Discussions with officials concerning the game shall only involve the Head Coach, unless otherwise directed from the Head Coach.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES:

Memorial Boys Lacrosse coaches will:

- be expected to adhere to the same standard of behavior required of our athletes, and to follow all Texas High School Lacrosse League (THSLL) guidelines.
- strive to be proficient and knowledgeable in all aspects of the game of lacrosse in order to provide proper and skillful instruction to their athletes.
- be expected to enact non-partial disciplinary action on any athlete not abiding by the athletes' Code of Conduct.

Communication parents should expect from their student's coach:

- An explanation of his coaching philosophy.
- The coach's expectations for your son, as well as other players on the team.
- Team schedule, including locations and times, for practices and contests.
- Team requirements such as fees, special equipment needed, school and team rules, and off-season expectations.
- Procedures that will be followed if your son becomes injured during participation. MBL will follow SBISD guidelines regarding injuries and concussions.

Communication coaches expect from parents:

- Concerns about their son expressed directly to the coach at the appropriate time and place.
- Specific concerns about the coach's philosophy and/or expectations.
- Notification of any schedule conflicts in advance.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with a coach:

- The mental and physical treatment of your child.
- Actions your son can take to improve his lacrosse skills.
- Concerns about your child's behavior.

Issues NOT appropriate for discussion with a coach:

- Playing time for individual athletes. Coaches make these decisions based on what they believe is in the best interests of all students participating.
- Team strategy.
- Play calling.
- Any situation that deals with other student athletes.

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and parent. These are not discouraged, as it is important for each party to have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure is suggested to help promote resolution to the issue.

If a parent has a concern to discuss with the coach, the following procedure should be followed:

Talk with your son first. Encourage him to speak with his coach and make the effort to resolve the issue directly with his coach. Empower him to handle the situation himself. If the contact between your son and the coach does not resolve the concern, then follow the procedure below:

1. Allow a 24-hour cooling off period.
2. Call the Head Coach about the issue. When calling or emailing the coach to set up an appointment, think about what you expect to accomplish as a result of the meeting. Stick to discussing the facts, as you understand them.

If a parent has a problem reaching the coach by phone or email, he should contact the MBL Board president.

3. If the issue is still not solved and/or the Head Coach determines we need a sit-down meeting with the Coach/Parent or Coach/Parent and Player, a meeting will be arranged.
4. If the parent still has concerns after the meeting, the MBL Board president should be contacted about arranging a meeting with the Parent, Head Coach and/or other coaches involved and a MBL Board member(s).

Parent Signature

Date

As a parent/guardian of the player participating on the Memorial Boys Lacrosse team, I have read and understand the rules and expectations of the parents and coaches. I hereby give my consent for my child and myself to be held to these standards.