

Meridian Athletics

Assistant Coach Job Description

Meridian Assistant Coaches are adult volunteers. (Assistant Coaching positions are generally unpaid positions.)

Assistant Coaches are required to get a background check and be current on their first aid, CPR and concussion certifications. Proofs of certifications must be provided to the Athletics Department. The costs of the background checks and necessary certifications is the responsibility of the Assistant Coach. Like Coaches, Assistant Coaches must also read and sign the *Minimum Standards* for Meridian Coaches.

At Meridian, the Assistant Coach's primary objective is to support the team's Coach. Therefore, the specific duties of the role vary depending on the needs of the Coach.

The Assistant Coach:

- Reports to and takes directives from the team's Coach.
- Equipment Manager - collects, transports and returns equipment as needed.
- Runs warm-ups or practices as needed.
- Keeps the Coach up-to-speed on student athlete injuries and absences.
- Is available to discuss strategy with the Coach, if the Coach initiates this discussion.
- Supports the team with encouragement.
- Helps with minor first aid for student athletes on the team.
- Steps in as Coach for competitions and practices when the Coach is unable to attend. This must first be cleared by the Athletics Department and should be initiated by the Coach.
- Follows *Minimum Standards* as established for Meridian Coaches.

The Assistant Coach Does Not:

- Decide playing time, positions or line-ups in team sports.*
- Set competition strategy.*
- Decide practice regime.*
- Speak to student athletes about team or sport-level concerns.* Instead, the Assistant Coach politely ends such conversations and requests that student athlete follow the *Athletics Grievance Protocol* (as outlined in the "Terms for Participation" and on the Athletics website).
- Speak to parents about team or sport-level concerns.* Instead, the Assistant Coach politely ends such conversations and requests that parents follow the *Athletics Grievance Protocol* (as outlined in the "Terms for Participation" and on the Athletics website).

*Unless the Assistant Coach is authorized by the Athletics Department to stand in for the Coach in the Coach's absence.

Assistant Coaches Who Are Also Parents of an Athlete on the Team

Sometimes, parents of student athletes serve as an Assistant Coach for their child's team. It is essential that the Assistant Coach remember they are a representative of Meridian at all times while they are a Meridian Assistant Coach. This extends to social settings beyond the sport but that still include members of the Meridian community.