

Guyer High School Cheer/Silvo

~ PARENT / COACH RELATIONSHIPS ~

Both parenting and coaching are very 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.

Extra-curricular activities such as cheer and dance organizations are based on the premise that members are students first and that participation is a privilege rather than a right. Participation is voluntary, not mandatory. Just as other extra-curricular activities on campus such as football, band or track, students or parents who have philosophical differences with the program or the coaches should choose not to participate. Students who do participate learn teamwork and group responsibility. They also learn to deal with success and to overcome adversity. Research shows those who participate in extra-curricular activities tend to make better grades and have better attendance in school.

Communication parents should expect from their child's coach:

- 1) Coach's philosophy.
- 2) Expectations the coach has for your son or daughter, as well as other members of the organization.
- 3) Locations and times of mandatory meetings, practices and contests.
- 4) Team requirements, i.e., fees, special equipment needed, school & team rules, off-season expectations.
- 5) Procedures that will be followed if your child becomes injured during participation.

Communication coaches expect from parents:

- 1) Concerns regarding their son or daughter expressed directly to the coach at the appropriate time and place. This is determined by the coach and communicated to the parent(s) just before or just after tryouts.
- 2) Specific concerns in regard to the coach's philosophy and/or expectations.
- 3) Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.

As your child becomes involved in extracurricular activities, they will experience some of the 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 discussion with the coach is encouraged.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with a coach:

- 1) The mental and physical treatment of your child.
- 2) What your child needs to do to improve.
- 3) Concerns about your child's behavior.

It is very difficult to accept your child is not performing as much, or on the piece of the performance which you may have preferred. Know that these are coaches' decisions. Coaches make decisions based on what they believe is in the best interests of all students participating. As you can see from the list above, certain things can and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as those listed next, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues NOT appropriate for discussion with your child's coach:

- 1) How much performing time or which piece of the performance each member is involved in.
- 2) Team strategy.
- 3) Performance selection.
- 4) Any situation that deals with other team members.

Coaches wish for only the best for each team member and must consider how their decisions affect the entire team. If parents have a concern, request a meeting with the coach first..... always.

Required Forms for Student Participation.

It shall be the responsibility of each school to keep on file the following required annual forms for each student who participates in any practice or performance.

• Pre Participation Physical Examination Form

As a minimum requirement, a Physical Examination Form must be completed prior to each tryout in the spring for each year of high school participation. The form must be filled in and signed by either a Physician, a Physician Assistant licensed by a State Board of Physician Assistant

• Medical History Form

Each year prior to any practice or participation a UIL Medical History Form signed by both a student and a parent or guardian is required. A Medical History Form shall accompany each physical examination and shall be signed by both a student and a parent or guardian.

• Parent or Guardian Permit

Annual participation permit signed by the student's parent or guardian.

- **Rules Acknowledgment.**

Annual UIL Rules Acknowledgment Form signed by the student and the student's parent or guardian.

- **Concussion Acknowledgement Form**

Annual UIL Concussion Acknowledgment Form signed by the student and the student's parent or guardian.

- **Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Form**

Annual UIL Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Form signed by the student and the student's parent or guardian.

~ BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF SPECTATORS ~

(paraphrased from the UIL website)

Remember that you are at the contest to support and yell for your team, and to enjoy the skill and competition not to intimidate or ridicule the other team or its fans.

Remember that school athletics, band members, cheerleaders, and dance team members are continuously in a learning experience for students and that mistakes are sometimes made.

Praise student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes, as performance organization members and as people, just as you would praise a student working in the classroom.

A ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others or be generally obnoxious.

Learn the rules of the game, so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.

Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups.

Respect the integrity and judgement of game officials. Understand that they are doing their best to help promote the student-athlete, and admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public.

Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team, as well as opposing team support performances (Band, Cheer, Dance Teams)

Refrain from the use of any controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, etc.) before, during, and after the game on or near the site of the event (i.e. tailgating).

Use only cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.

Be a positive role model at events through your own actions and by censuring those around you whose behavior is unbecoming.

Parents and spectators should be aware that the school can (and should) remove them from the premises and can prohibit them from attending future contests due to undesirable behaviors.

Game officials can ask that school administrators have unruly fans removed from a contest facility.

There is no such thing as a “right” to attend interscholastic athletics. Interscholastic athletics are considered a “privilege” and the spectator who avails themselves of it is expected to conduct himself or herself accordingly.

Keep in mind that you are a guest of the school, and that while winning is certainly an admirable goal, it is hollow if it comes at the expense of morals, ethics, and just plain common sense.

The school is responsible for the behavior of their spectators. The school district can be and will be punished for actions of patrons in violation of UIL standards and rules.