

# Avon Lake Athletics – Parent Information

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF WARNING FOR PARENTS AND STUDENT ATHLETES**

We/I, the parent(s)/guardian(s) do hereby acknowledge that we/I have been fully advised, cautioned and warned by the proper administrative and coaching personnel of the Avon Lake City School District that our/my child may suffer serious injury, including but not limited to sprains, fractures, brain damage, paralysis or even death, by participating in the sports at Avon Lake High School.

Notwithstanding such warnings, and with full knowledge and understanding of the risk of serious injury to our/my child and injuries which may result, we/I give our consent to our/my son/daughter to participate in the sports at Avon Lake High School.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF INSURANCE PLAN AND/OR WAIVER**

As a Parent of a student/athlete who desires to participate in an Athletic Program this year at Learwood Middle School, I certify that I shall assume full financial responsibility for any athletic injury of my child requiring treatment beyond the facilities of the school, and that I shall not expect or request any financial aid from the school or any agency of it, in case of such injury.

If you are interested in taking the School Accident Benefit Plan, through **Insurance Specialists Group DBA Love Insurance Agency**, applications are available on our website at [www.avonlakecityschools.org](http://www.avonlakecityschools.org) on the Athletic page or contact the Athletic Department for an application at 440-933-5164.

## **PARENT COACH COMMUNICATION**

**Parent-Coach Relationship** - Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult tasks. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide an even greater benefit to the student athletes. As parents, when your child(ren) becomes involved in our program, you have the right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of that program.

### **Communication a Parent Should Expect From the Coach –**

1. Philosophy of the coach.
2. Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all the players on the team.
3. Locations and times of both practices and games.
4. Team requirements (i.e. fees, off-season conditioning and special equipment).

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5. Procedure if your child becomes injured during participation.
6. Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation.
7. An overview of the Athletic Code.

### **Communication a Coach Should Expect From Parents –**

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

As your child(ren) becomes involved in the Athletic Program at Avon Lake High School, they will experience some of the most rewarding times in their lives. It is important to understand that there may be times when things do not go the way you or your child had hoped. At these times discussion with the coach is encouraged.

### **Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches –**

1. The treatment of your child: both mentally and /or physically.
2. Concerns and /or questions of your child's behavior.
3. Ways to assist your child to improve.

It is very difficult to accept your child not playing as much as you may have hoped. Coaches make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be best for all student athletes involved. As you have read from the list above, certain concerns can and should be discussed with the coach. Other issues, such as those on the following list, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

### **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 are to be encouraged. It is important that both the parent(s) and coach have clear understanding of the others position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to assist in promoting a resolution to the issue of concern.

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## **If You Have a Concern to Discuss with a Coach, the Procedure You Should Follow –**

1. Call to set up an appointment. (Learwood Middle School-440-933-8142)
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Director of Athletics, Tom Barone, ALCS Athletic Department telephone number is 440-933-5164, he will set up the meeting for you.
3. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent(s) and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote a resolution.

## **The Next Step - What Can the Parents Do if the Meeting with the Coach Did Not Provide a Satisfactory Resolution**

1. Call and set up an appointment with the Director of Athletics and the coach to discuss the situation.
2. At this meeting the appropriate next step can be determined.

## **Statement of Philosophy**

The Avon Lake City Schools Athletic Program is built around the philosophy that dynamic athletic programs are vital to the educational, social, and emotional development of the student. We believe that the athletic program should provide a variety of experiences to aid in the development of favorable habits and attitudes in students that would prepare them for adult life in our society.

Athletics plays an important role in the life of the Learwood Middle School as the young people involved learn lessons in sportsmanship, teamwork, competition and how to lose gracefully.

The athletic program shall be conducted in accordance with existing Board of Education policies, rules, and regulations. Such participation is a privilege that carries with it the responsibilities to the school, to the sport, to the student body, to the community, and to the students themselves. At all times, the athletic program must be conducted in such a way so as to justify it as an educational activity.

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