

Communication: From Coaches to Parents

sportsmanship

- Locations & times of all practices & contests
- Team-specific expectations: special equipment needs, off-season conditioning, practice attendance
- Immediate follow-up in case of injury
- Actions that would result in your child's inability to participate: academic eligibility, disciplinary interventions, school trips



Vermont Principals' Association



National Federation of State High School Associations



**Communication
Guidelines per NFHS**

Randolph Union Athletics



**Parent & Coach
Communication:
Best Practices**

**Together, building
better programs for
student athletes**

Welcome to Randolph Union's Athletics Program

The goal of our athletics program is that extracurricular participation supports students' educational, cultural, physical, social, emotional, and moral development. Activities are intended to provide for the development of a wholesome, competitive spirit, sense of pride, confidence, and accomplishment.

Our definitions of teamwork and character place value on the OSSU Habits of Heart; including Integrity, Self-Respect and Respect for Others.

From our amazing fans to our generous community supporters, to our dynamic booster groups – the RU athletics program is truly a collaborative effort.

Thank you for your involvement!

The Parent and Coach Relationship

Parenting and coaching are both challenging roles that adults play in the lives of adolescents. It is important that we strive to understand and empathize with each other – and to do this well we need solid communication.

As parents, you have the right to understand what expectations are placed on your children. This begins with clear communication from the coach.

As your child becomes involved in the programs at RU, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. However, there may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times, athletes should discuss issues with their coach directly.

If unsatisfied with the response from coaches, athletes and parents are encouraged to continue the discussion by connecting with the Athletic Director for guidance on next steps.

Voicing Concern – Dos & Don'ts

We pride ourselves in the efforts we make to resolve issues that arise in practices and games. **If a parent or athlete is feeling frustrated**, please find an appropriate time to meet with the coach. Please also take into account the following best practices:

- Please **do not** bring up important concerns with a coach **before or after a contest/practice**. This is not the best timing.
- Please consider playing time and game tactics to be areas where coaches are doing their professional best to meet program & Athletics Department expectations. Playing time and tactics are **generally not something to be negotiated** between parents and coaches.
- Avoid discussing **other student-athletes**, and remain focused on your own situation.

Thank you! Please feel free to seek out the Athletic Director for assistance.

Athletic Director - 802.728.3397 x 104