

Lick Creek School Athletic Program

Welcome from the LC Athletic Department! We are excited to have you join a program that carries such a great tradition of excellence. Athletic success is the direct result of the combination of effort, teamwork, commitment, and sportsmanship. These traits have long been the building blocks of Lick Creek's athletic success.

Your participation in athletics is a privilege. Any time you wear a Lick Creek uniform, you are representing yourself, your family, your school. Your behavior should be above reproach in all areas. Other students, staff, parents and the community will closely observe your conduct.

The rules outlined are not designed to describe punishment; rather a guide to successful participation. As student-athletes, you will be expected to understand and follow these rules and your coaches' rules. It is your responsibility to follow them.

MISSION/BELIEF STATEMENT

The purpose of Middle School Athletics is to provide opportunities for all participating students to learn life-long values in a safe environment. These values include: Cooperation, Sportsmanship, Pride, Respect and Leadership Skills.

The athletes, and coaches believe:

1. Student athletes will develop leadership characteristics through athletic competition that carry into the classroom and the future.
2. Student athletes serve as role models within the school community and are expected to act in a manner that reinforces that role.
3. Self-discipline and sportsmanship are essential to a sound athletic foundation.
4. Pride builds respect, which helps create strong and lasting friendships through competition.
5. Participation in athletics is a privilege; with that privilege, comes responsibility.
6. Strong commitment is an important ingredient to the success of Middle School Athletics.
7. Athletics should be fun as well as character building.

SPORTSMANSHIP

As an athlete and as parents, you can help us establish an outstanding reputation for good sportsmanship. We must all work hard in conducting ourselves in a worthy manner. A display of unsportsmanlike conduct can result in consequences against the offending athlete, parent, and/or school. Always observe the following guidelines for good sportsmanship.

1. The reputation of our school is more important than any contest won by unfair play.
2. Be supportive of all athletes, coaches, and officials before, during and after all contests.
3. Accept decisions of officials without dispute. They are seldom responsible for your success, so do not blame them for your circumstances.

Parent/Coach Relations

Both parenting and coaching are extremely important and difficult jobs. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of others and provide greater benefit to the student. As parents, when your student-athlete becomes involved in our programs, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on them. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your student-athlete program.

Communication You Should Expect from your Athlete's Coach

1. Expectations of the coaches for your student-athlete and the team.
2. Locations and time of all practices and contests.
3. Team requirements, i.e., fees, special equipment.
4. Procedure, should your student-athlete become injured during participation.
5. Team rules and guidelines.

Communication Coaches expect from Student-Athletes

1. Notification of any schedule conflicts in advance.
2. Special concerns in regards to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.
3. Injury or circumstances that may endanger the athlete when participating.

As your student-athlete becomes involved in the athletic program, they will make memories for life. It is important to understand that there may also be times when things do not go the way you or your student-athlete wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

Appropriate Concerns to discuss with Coaches

1. The treatment of your student athlete, mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your son/daughter to improve.
3. Concerns about your student-athlete's behavior.

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are encouraged. It is important that both parties included have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure assists to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.

If you have a concern, you may want to discuss it with your student-athlete first. You may find through this communication an answer, resolution, or understanding of the situation before contacting others.

If you have a concern to discuss with a coach, here is the procedure you should follow.

1. There is a "24 hour cooling off period". You are not to contact the coach within this time period. You should not be discussing this issue in the group chat with parents.
2. Call the coach to set up an appointment.
3. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director, and the meeting will be set up for you.

Please give yourself time to understand your concern before approaching the coach. Attempting to confront the coach before or after a contest or practice is not an appropriate time. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meeting of this nature does not promote resolution.

What Can a Parent Do If the Meeting with The Coach Did Not Provide a Satisfactory Resolution?

1. If the concern is not satisfactorily resolved after a meeting with the coach, the athlete and/or parent(s) should discuss the situation with the Athletic Director informally in an attempt to resolve the situation.
2. If the athlete and/or parent(s) wish to make a formal complaint to the Athletic Director about the coach, it should be put in writing, with a copy provided to the coach.
3. The Athletic Director will investigate the complaint and discuss the concern with the coach. The investigation may include observation of practice sessions by the Athletic Director, if necessary. The Athletic Director will document the results of the investigation and take action to resolve the complaint in writing.
4. If the formal complaint is not satisfactorily resolved by the Athletic Director, the athlete and/or parent(s) may appeal in writing to the Principal/Superintendent. The Principal/Superintendent will meet with the parties involved in a further attempt to resolve the situation.
5. If the complaint is not resolved at this level, the athlete and/or parents(s) may appeal to the Board in writing.
6. A conference that is set up with a coach and a parent shall not result in disciplinary action against the student- athlete because of this meeting.

_____	_____
Athletic Director	Date
_____	_____
Coach	Date
_____	_____
Parent	Date
_____	_____
Student-Athlete	Date