



A Message to Parents from the Athletic Director

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As the athletic director at North Point, I am very proud of our athletic programs, staff and students and anticipate a great year. Because we want participation in these programs to be a positive experience for our young people, as well as their families and fans, I would like to say a few words to you. Although we would like a program that ensures satisfaction for all involved, the very nature of competitive sports renders that:

- ★ One athlete may 'shine' at a particular time while another may not
- ★ Ten different "experts" will have ten different ideas about who should play what positions and for how long. Each of us naturally wants to see our own child be "successful" and a star on the team
- ★ "Successful" coaches and programs come in all shapes and sizes with different beliefs and coaching styles
- ★ Because of sincere love and caring, most of us, as parents, are incapable of an objective, unbiased assessment of the team role given to our children
- ★ Realizing the nature of athletics, there are some things you can do as parents to help us provide quality athletic experiences for all our student athletes. Help us by:
 - ▶ Giving support to your child, as well as his/her teammates and the coaches
 - ▶ Looking for the positive when assessing any aspect of the program
 - ▶ When a spectator, striving for the highest standards of good sportsmanship
 - ▶ Recognizing it is the sole responsibility of the coach to select players, assign positions, and determine playing time

We know we are not perfect. We need to know when we make mistakes so we can improve. When your child has concerns, encourage him/her to discuss the issues with the coach. If you have concerns not related to playing time or positions played (these decisions rest solely with the coach), make an appointment and bring them to the attention of the coach or Athletic Director. Please do not approach coaches with concerns during or after contests as every player knows what is happening and carefully watches to see how the coach reacts. Many times this places the coach in a no-win situation because regardless of the issue, some team members will agree with what the coach does and some will not. Contention is bred and the team is weakened individually and collectively.

I cannot over stress the importance of positive parental support in the athletic arena. Even one parent who sets out to create dissention can raise havoc with an entire team and make a terrible experience for all involved, including that parent and his/her own child. We are asking for your positive support. If you do not feel you can make an honest attempt in supporting your child, as well as teammates and coaches, please consider seeking alternative activities for your child. Athletics are not for everyone and North Point offers a wide range of other extra-curricular activities for students.

Sincerely,

Aly K. Johnson, Athletic Director