

# Louisville duPont Manual High School

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TO: Manual Athletes and Parents  
FR: David Zuberer, Athletic Director  
DT: 2009-10 School Year  
RE: Parental Communication Agreement

I would like to welcome you to the upcoming Manual athletic season. The coaching staff and I are delighted to be working with such fine young people. We have great expectations for them both as players and student-athletes. Over the course of this year, situations may arise that need to be addressed by the coaching staff, player, and/or parent(s) according to a definite procedure. This document explains the procedure that will be used to address these situations.

Because emotions are high directly after a game or related event, it is important to avoid any potentially volatile situations between parents and the coaching staff. Often a cooling off period allows all parties to gain perspective on the situation. Our athletic department 24-hour policy is not to discuss with parents game results or decisions within 24 hours of the event. If a parent needs to voice a concern, the parent should schedule a meeting with the head coach that will occur after 24 hours have passed. If a parent cannot wait and must voice their issue prior to the passage of 24 hours, then his/her son/daughter will be given an automatic one-game suspension.

The anticipated situations are playing time, role on the team, and development. These are situations that must be handled between the player and the coaching staff. Although we appreciate your interest and support of the Manual athletic program, the coach must make the decisions in these areas. In order for proper communication, the following procedures must be followed to address any of the noted situations or other problems that may arise.

- STEP 1: The player and coaching staff member will have a meeting to address and discuss the player's questions or concerns. The player must request the meeting, preferably before the beginning of a practice session. The staff will respond to the athlete's inquiries and concerns. Most situations should be resolved at this stage.
- STEP 2: If the athlete continues to have questions concerning the situation addressed in Step 1, the player must request a Step 2 meeting. The player and a coaching staff member will meet again. At this meeting, they will discuss the problem, questions, and previous issues to assess if further action is necessary. The coach will determine if parental participation at this meeting would be productive.
- STEP 3: If the athlete remains dissatisfied with the coaching staff's response after Steps 1 & 2, the player will need to request a Step 3 meeting via the head coach. The player, parent, coach, and athletic director will meet at an agreeable time. The coaching staff and athletic director will address and respond to the inquiries as soon as possible.

All parents and players must sign this document agreeing to the above procedures. Hopefully, by adopting and implementing this procedure, it will help to promote a clear and fair resolution to issues of concern.

Player Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Player's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_