

Parent Expectations and Code of Conduct

1. **Keep Proper Perspective:** This is about your **daughter/son** becoming a young **woman/man** first, and a great player second. If the latter happens without the former then the **(Chosen sports)** journey will have been in vain.

(Chosen sports) teaches many things naturally such as: handling adversity, communicating, selflessness. However, it will teach it to a greater extent if the parents enforce these teaching points.

Players did NOT sign up for minutes, shots or anything other than to be on a team. This needs to be understood and reinforced at home. That is the proper perspective.

2. **Support The Coaching staff**

Your **daughters/son's** ability to be coachable, which means being able to listen and respect the coach as **she/he** would a parent, is vital to the growth of your **daughter/son** as a **woman/man** and as a player. If you, as a parent, continually undermine the coach, then the player will never be "all in" and their growth will be stunted. This does not mean the coaching staff cannot be questioned (see below).

Practices are closed to parents and are not fully aware of the strategy of the team. For this reason, it is in the best interest of the team for the parents to encourage trust in the coaching staff while reaffirming the values of the program.

3. **Open Communication**

If there is an issue the player/family has with the coaching staff or ANYONE ELSE, the player should address the issue FIRST. Learning to coherently and eloquently speak to an adult authority figure is one of the more valuable lessons a young woman/man can learn. If the problem continues, then the player and parent should meet with the coach. If the problem continues, then the parent can choose to meet with the coach without the player to discuss the best course of action. If there is a continued challenge in communication, then the parent can meet with the Athletic Director and Coach. The more open communication that can take place, the fewer problems will arise.

4. **The 24-hour rule**

There will be NO PARENT TO COACH or parent to parent communication within 24 hours of the last game played in regards to any issues. No parent-to-parent communication regarding any issues can occur until that issue has been brought to me first and 24 Hours has passed. If there is a tournament then it has to be 24 hours since the game in question has ended.

The following items are prohibited from being discussed in any parent to coach communication:

Playing time*

Other Players

*If there is an issue of playing time, the issue MUST BE addressed by the player first. Remember always that your **daughter/son** signed up to BE ON A TEAM; **she/he** did not sign up for playing

time. Other players performance and treatment will not be discussed. Failure to comply with this code of conduct will result in varying consequences.

5. During Game Conduct

Parents are highly discouraged from communicating with the other team and officials. Parents are highly discouraged from communicating with our players on offense. Players must learn to make plays on their own, and any parent shouting “go”, “look up”, “Shoot”, is engaging with their **daughter/son** in a way that is detrimental to **her/his** development as a player and the team overall. Parents are HIGHLY encouraged to talk as much as they want on defense AND encourage the players on the team after a good/bad play. Mostly, you want your **daughter/son** to ONLY be focused on what is happening ON the court. Therefore, if he is paying attention to you **she/he** is not paying attention to the game. This includes halftime of games. If we see any player talking to anyone in the stands that player will immediately come out of the game. Failure to comply with these basic codes of conduct will force the coaching staff to limit your ability to come to games; Be it absence or sitting in a place where you can't be heard.

6. Post Game Conduct

SUGGESTION: Many parents want to be the “Coach in the Car”. Your relationship with your teenager will grow if you assume the role of **Dad/Mom**, and allow the Coach to assume the role as Coach. If you want the coach to address something to your **daughter/son**, then wait 24 hours and communicate to the coach, and trust the coach to communicate to your **daughter/son**. This is not meant to impugn your knowledge of **(Chosen sport)**. This is meant to establish roles in our community and the WDV family so that we can all flourish. Reinforcing negative narratives without consulting the coach in a conversation allows perception to become truth rather than facts to become truth. As always, if there is an issue you should tell your **daughter/son** to talk to the coach or you should ask the coach for clarity.

7. Reinforce The Values of the Program

At the end of the day, your **daughters/son's** are going to listen to you more than the coach. Impossible to ‘out coach the home’. If the parents and coaches are consistently aligned with their values and perspective (see above) then only positive gains will be made.

8. Enjoy The Moment

It might seem like your **daughter/son** will be playing basketball forever and these games are infinite. The reality is every player has a finite number of games, and it's CRUCIAL that you always take time to enjoy getting to watch your **daughter/son** be on a team, compete and be part of something **she/he** loves. Never lose sight of the pure joy and wonder that comes with getting to watch your **daughter/son** be on a basketball team. Not PLAY, but BE ON A TEAM