

PRESEASON MEETINGS



Goals of the Parent Meeting

Develop Partnerships

The preseason meeting is a great opportunity to involve the family and the school in a conscientious effort to be partners. Through such involvement, the opportunity for optimal growth and development of your students is enhanced. Preseason meetings provide a forum for students and their parents, school activities staff and other adult leaders to openly discuss a variety of issues, such as sportsmanship, school policy, risk of injury and healthy lifestyles.

Share a Consistent Message

Everyone should leave your meeting with a better understanding of your athletic department philosophy, a better understanding of what is expected of them, and their role. The content of preseason meetings should be collaboration between school administration and the coaching staff that conveys a consistent message.

Sample Materials Available

Sample preseason meeting agendas are available on the IESA website. You will need to log-in to the IESA Member Center using your school or AD password. Once you have logged-in, click on the "Resources" link located above your Activity Tracker. On the lower left-hand side of the screen is an area called AD Resources & Workshop Notes. You will find the link for "Sample Preseason Meeting Agenda" under the Important Resources heading. Customize this information to reflect the philosophy of your school and athletic department.



PRE-SEASON MEETING EXPECTATIONS

The pre-season meeting is a chance for families and schools to partner together for a positive student experience. It covers the school's athletic philosophy, expectations for all parties, time commitments, communication methods, healthy lifestyles, and injury prevention - plus any school-specific topics.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE COACHING STAFF

- Clearly articulate coaching philosophy, team rules, consequences, and expectations
- Prompt notification of schedules, changes, fees, and equipment needed
- Knowledge of injury prevention and risk minimization
- Model respectful communication; clarify the chain-of-command for student and parent concerns
- Identify ways to support the program

IESA RULES TO ADDRESS

- School policy regarding a student participating on a school team and a non-school team at the same time
- Academic eligibility and weekly grade checks
- Residency, transfers and age/grade in school eligibility
- Sportsmanship expectations [VIDEO](#)

EXPECTATIONS OF FAMILY MEMBERS

- Early notification of schedule conflicts; missed practices/games may have consequences
- Support your student in communicating directly with the coach - they need practice developing these skills
- Model respectful behavior at games: cheer for our school, avoid sideline coaching, and never verbally assault others - a game ticket is a privilege to observe
- Have realistic expectations; activities are an extension of the classroom - praise effort, learn the rules, and appreciate the experience

INAPPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS WITH COACH:

- Playing time, team strategy, specific plays, other students

APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS WITH COACH:

- Concern about treatment of child
- Tips on how your child best learns
- Information about your student's behavior

EXPECTATIONS OF THE STUDENT

- Commit to being a positive team member; understand the privilege and responsibility it carries
- Be a role model in words (in person and on social media) and actions - you never know who you're influencing
- Respect officials and opponents; no taunting or trash talk - wish them good luck and congratulate them after

PRESEASON MEETING



STUDENT/FAMILY AGREEMENT

As a student participating on my school's _____ team, I have attended the pre-season meeting conducted by my coach and/or school administration. In this meeting, information was shared about the following expectations of me as a student:

- What I can expect from the coaching staff
- What is expected of my family when attending matches/contests/meets for our school
- Additional school-specific and IESA rules
- What it means to be on a team at our school
- The expectations of my behavior inside and outside of the classroom
- The different ways in which I must meet eligibility requirements
- Our school's drug and alcohol policy
- The team's attendance policies and consequences for practice and competition

By signing below, I am agreeing that I have been informed of and understand the requirements I am expected to follow as a representative of our school on this team.

Printed Name _____ Date _____

Signature _____

As a family member for the student listed above, I understand the following are the expectations of parents/guardians of student-athletes:

- Understand the purpose of educational athletics
- School sports are about students learning and having fun
- School sports are not about attempting to earn a college athletic scholarship
- Don't live my life through my child's activities - this is their time
- Accept all decisions of officials
- Applaud during the introduction of players, coaches, and officials
- Make my cheers supportive and not instructions as to how to play
- Be a positive role model through my actions by remaining calm/composed during games
- There is enough pressure on students to perform as it is and I can add pressure from reacting to mistakes they make and being critical and negative. Heightened emotions create unneeded stress and take away from the fun of the game.

By signing below, I acknowledge I am aware of the information shared regarding the school's expectations of me as a partner with them in promoting my student's interscholastic experience.

Printed Name _____ Date _____

Signature _____

