

The most frequent issues players and parents express about coaches are playing (starting) time and cuts. Here are some guidelines in order to understand how and why these are determined.

Please keep in mind that:

- Coaches are solely responsible for determining playing time and cuts.
- The administration will not intervene.
- The Ohio High School Athletic Association will not intervene.
- A coach can determine these issues utilizing a combination of objective and subjective procedures.

### Starting and/or Playing Time

Starting and/or playing time depend on three things. They are:

- **RESPECT** The student must show respect to all factions of the sport or activity. That includes teammates, coaches/advisors, officials, administration, fans, the other team and the other team's coaches/advisors.

**AND**

- **FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS** The student must do what he is told when he is told. Instructions will come from coaches/advisors, administration, teachers, or captains.

**AND**

- **SKILL** The student must have better skill levels than the next student sitting on the bench.

Starting and/or playing time are **NOT** determined by:

- Previously earned varsity letter
- Previous playing time
- Seniority

### Cuts (Making a team)

The coach determines criteria and procedures for making the team. They include the same areas of determining playing time while being equitable (not necessarily fair). The following are guidelines for coaches.

- All students are informed of specifics using the same methods and time frames.
- All students are given the same material and information.
- All students are given the same opportunity.