

COMBS COYOTES FOOTBALL PLAYER, PARENT AND COACHES CONTRACT

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Combs Football Program is to provide the student-athlete an instructional, competitive and enjoyable high school football experience. Our goal is to establish a program that is an “extension” of Combs High School. Consequently, we will consistently follow all of the educational standards, beliefs and philosophies set by Combs High School. We hope to make this a very positive and special learning experience.

RULES, EXPECTATIONS AND PHILOSOPHIES

1. **Any use of alcohol, tobacco or drugs** will result in IMMEDIATE suspension from the football team. As a result, the individual will be restricted from practice and game participation. The student-athlete will be required to seek help (counselor, police officer, etc.), and obtain signed documentation that help was received. At this point, administration and the coaching staff will decide upon reinstatement to the football program. On the second offense, the athlete will be DISMISSED from the football team.
2. **Playing time** and positions are NOT negotiable issues. Every athlete will have the opportunity to compete for playing time, but NO ONE is guaranteed a set amount of time on the field. The coaching staff is not obligated to play every player during the course of a game. Consequently, being a member of the team does not guarantee playing time.
3. **Grades** are extremely important to the future of a student-athlete. Student-athletes are expected to remain eligible through the season and the remainder of the school year. A player can be cut based on grades. The coaches also reserve the right to suspend, dismiss, limit playing time and/or discipline any student-athlete who does not maintain and succeed in the classroom. By signing this contract, you give the Combs Coaches the opportunity to review grades and help athletes remain eligible. Help may include: tutoring and mandatory study hall.
4. **Discipline** may be administered on the field for behavior that occurs during the school day. This discipline is consistent with our purpose because we are an “extension” of Combs High School. What happens during the school day does matter to the Combs Football Program.
5. At no time is **profanity** consistent with the Combs Football Program. If a player cannot control his tongue, we will question his ability to control his emotions during the game. Profanity is NOT part of a CLASS PROGRAM.
6. **Consistent with AIA policy, abusive language** toward opponents and/or referees such as “trash talk” or taunting will not be tolerated. The coaching staff does not believe these behaviors are appropriate and they are not consistent with a winning program. We want your athletes to be quality people.
7. **Attendance and Tardy Policies (Evaluated on a Week to Week Basis)**
Missing a game for any reason will result in future game suspensions. (Exception: Family emergencies)
8. If there is a legitimate reason for being late or missing a practice/game, the coaches need to be notified prior to that event. **This also includes any holidays or breaks during the football season.** Otherwise, missing or being late to required team functions is unacceptable. **Exceptions include: family emergency or a death in the family.** **The varsity football team will be required to attend practice and films on SATURDAY MORNINGS.** Remember, you are part of a team and your actions have a direct effect on the success of the team. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS RULE MAY RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION, LOSS OF PLAYING TIME, SUSPENSION OR DISMISSAL FROM THE TEAM.

9. Football players are expected to dress in a neat and professional manner (shirts tucked in, no sagging pants or shorts) when representing the Combs Football Team. Dressing for road trips and game days (during school) will require *dress/clean* shoes, *slacks/nice* jeans, *collared* shirts (under jersey) and ties on certain occasions.
10. Consistent with AIA policy, there will be no jewelry worn during practice or games. Bandanas, hairnets or hats will not be worn while representing the Combs Football Program at home or away games.
11. On game days, student-athletes (football players) **MUST** attend school in order to play in that evening's game. There are extenuating circumstances that may require a student-athlete to miss school. These circumstances must be approved (in advance) by the Head Football Coach, Athletic Director and Principal. It is essential to notify all three individuals. This will be the **ONLY EXCEPTION TO THE RULE**. Suspension or dismissal can occur if athletes are absent (on a regular basis) and/or failing one or more classes. **Success starts in the classroom.**
12. All football players are required to ride the team bus (to and from the game). Exceptions include: approval (**a week in advance**) from the Athletic Director AND Head Football Coach. Combs High School is not responsible for athletes that are approved to ride with their parent/legal guardian.
13. In order to provide our athletes with an effective football program, coaching is limited to **THE COMBS FOOTBALL COACHING STAFF**. Parental contact is not accepted during practices or games. The player-coach relationship is delicate; therefore the parents should allow this relationship to operate at its highest level.
14. Hard work and commitment are expected from every member of the Combs Football Program. **ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING!** *Student-athletes (football players) are expected to maintain and demonstrate a positive, team oriented attitude throughout the football season. Players need to be coachable and understand that they are PART OF A TEAM. Consequently, overall success depends on accepting roles within the concept of the team. Any attitude contrary to these ideals may result in disciplinary action, less playing time, suspension or dismissal from the team.*

The intent of this contract is to communicate clearly and effectively the purpose, goals, expectations and philosophies of the Combs Football Program. The contract is designed to promote and help insure a positive atmosphere for everyone involved. We want your student-athlete to be a great football player, but more importantly we want them to be outstanding individuals. A successful 2009 season relies on your commitment to these philosophies. We ask that each player and parent sign below stating that you are willing to make this commitment with Combs FOOTBALL. **Please return by August 3RD.**

Player Signature _____

Date _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____

Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you in the Fall.

Respectfully,

Michael Vezzosi
 Head Football Coach
 Combs High School

