



## EDISON BOYS WATER POLO PLAYER EXPECTATIONS



**One:** Athletes are one hundred percent on time and one hundred percent honest.

Honesty saves time in addition to building trust. If an individual is not honest, then he spends the time to lie, then to cover up the lie, etc; eventually, when the lie is discovered, more time is lost in undoing the damage. A relevant example occurs when a coach asks a player, “How are you doing in your classes?” If he honestly responds that he is having difficulty, then he and the coach can work out a solution. If, however, he dishonestly responds that he is doing fine, the coach may not discover the problem until after the “F” has been earned. At that time it may be too late to help, and/or it will require a great deal of time and effort to undo the potential damage.

**Two:** Athletes are planning and looking ahead, as well as developing responsibility.

*Planning* – Edison Water Polo will teach the athletes to look ahead to what is next using a planner (calendar) as a tool.

*Responsibility* – All athletes are expected to accept responsibility for their actions. Excuses and/or blaming are discouraged and will not be accepted. Instead of allowing an individual to explain his lateness or absence, the coaching staff will simply respond with “you had something more important to do.” If being late or missing practice is a continual problem, suspension or removal from the program will occur.

**Three:** Athletes take responsibility for the team, in addition to oneself.

It is assumed that everyone will attain Expectations One and Two, because I believe a person can only be good to others if he has taken care of himself. An example of someone living at Expectation Three is one who, without being asked, offers to help a teammate who is struggling in class or who offers food to share if a teammate forgets lunch. Student athletes look out for their teammates and take care of everything and everyone. A good student athlete is an upbeat, encouraging teammate even when they’re not doing well themselves.

**Four:** Athletes act as leaders both in and out of the pool.

A team is a group of individuals moving together in one direction towards a common goal. Leadership is displayed in actions, not words. In order for this to occur, the individuals of the team need to be clear on the team goals. True leaders adhere to the expectations above in all aspects of life. A leader’s first priority is the success of the team, before the accolades of oneself.

*Character is what you do or say when no one else is looking.*