Being an athlete is not an easy task for students, from the routine in the morning up to late evening, brain, and body will be train. They prepare for a war that is not seen by most of us. The battlefield start in the athlete’s thought, it a make or break period.

Mental preparation for athletes are very strict, they need to divide their time academically and in the field of sports they had chosen. Their training is not a week or a month, it’s a year round discipline. Sacrifices were made by our athletes, sometimes they need to wake up so early for physical training and sleep late due to tune up games.

Student athlete, hero or foe? It’s not a secret to everyone that one a learner become student athlete conflict between parents, teachers and players arises. When we send them in the battlefield, we already signed in their documents that we fully support them, financially, logistically and morally. But the sad scenario not all teachers understand the role of the student athletes in their chosen sports, discrimination and sometimes humiliation was given to them by few teachers for being excuse for a month or more.

When they won, heroes’ welcome followed, we tend to recognize them during awarding or flag ceremony but after the short hall of fame, conflict started to arise between subject teachers and student athletes.

After being recognized, we then penalized our athletes by giving them tons of cover up lectures instead of giving them remedial classes. In the giving of grades, it seems, few teachers had shut down their heart for our athletes by just giving them failed mark or just a passing mark without giving extra consideration.
The next thing, conflict arise between teachers and parents endless confrontation and explanation has to be followed. Dissatisfied parents soon will disallow their son or daughter to join the sports competition, potential next palarong pambansa athletes had been terminated.

Who shall be blame? No one must be blame, for real sense, consideration must be given for our heroes who banner the glory of our school outside academic but on the contrary, some athletes become abusive and use their “being athlete” to skip classes and use it as a reason for long absences not covered by their training period.

In conclusion, by virtue of student athlete’s protection act, consideration, remediation and advances classes must be administer to our school athletes and must have balance academic standing and had ability to cope up in their classes.

To our fellow teachers, please understand our athletes for their vigorous training that sometimes they got sleep in your classes, because they are physically tired.

Hero or foe will be on the perception and understanding of student athlete protector, that is our school administration or school head that will explain their importance.

At the end, the heart of an athlete to succeed in life will be the key factor for positive learning. Winning or losing, our student athletes remain our hero, the school banner carrier.

References:

Deped Order No. 8 s. 2018
Regional Memorandum no. 1 s. 2005