

EXTENDED DEADLINES

TRANSLATING A CLASSROOM ACCOMMODATION TO THE FIELD

Extended deadlines give a student more time to complete an assignment without penalty.

For coaches, think extended timelines.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

In the classroom:

A student may be given:

- More time to finish an assignment
- A flexible due date
- Reduced penalty for late work
- Time to revise or redo work

On the field:

The same principle applies.

Some athletes need more time to learn a skill, adjust to a new position, or reach a benchmark, without being penalized for the pace.

COACH'S QUICK CHECK

Before deciding an athlete isn't ready, ask:

- Have they had enough reps?
- Have they had enough time?
- Am I comparing them to a timeline, or to their own progress?
- What would change if they had more time?

If it's about time, not ability... give them time.

5 WAYS TO USE EXTENDED TIMELINES

1

Separate speed from skill.

Being the last to master something doesn't mean an athlete isn't learning it.

Coach translation:

Don't rank effort by how fast an athlete "gets it."

Track progress, not pace.

2

Build in extra reps.

Some athletes need more repetitions to reach the same comfort level as their teammates.

More reps isn't remedial.

It's just what that athlete needs to get there.

3

Adjust the benchmark timeline.

Not every athlete hits a skill benchmark on the same practice.

Instead of:

"You should have this by now."

Try:

"Let's keep building until it clicks."

4

Avoid the penalty trap.

Falling behind schedule isn't the same as falling behind in effort.

Don't shame or exclude an athlete for needing more time.

Adjust the timeline. Not the athlete's worth.

5

Check in, don't cut off.

Extended timelines still need structure.

Check in regularly:

"Where are you at? What do you need next?"

Progress -> Timeline -> Adjust

The goal is mastery, not a deadline.

REMEMBER

An extended deadline isn't a lower standard.

It's the time an athlete needs to reach the same standard.

ACCOMMODATIONS TO THE FIELD

Every athlete learns differently. Every athlete deserves great coaching.