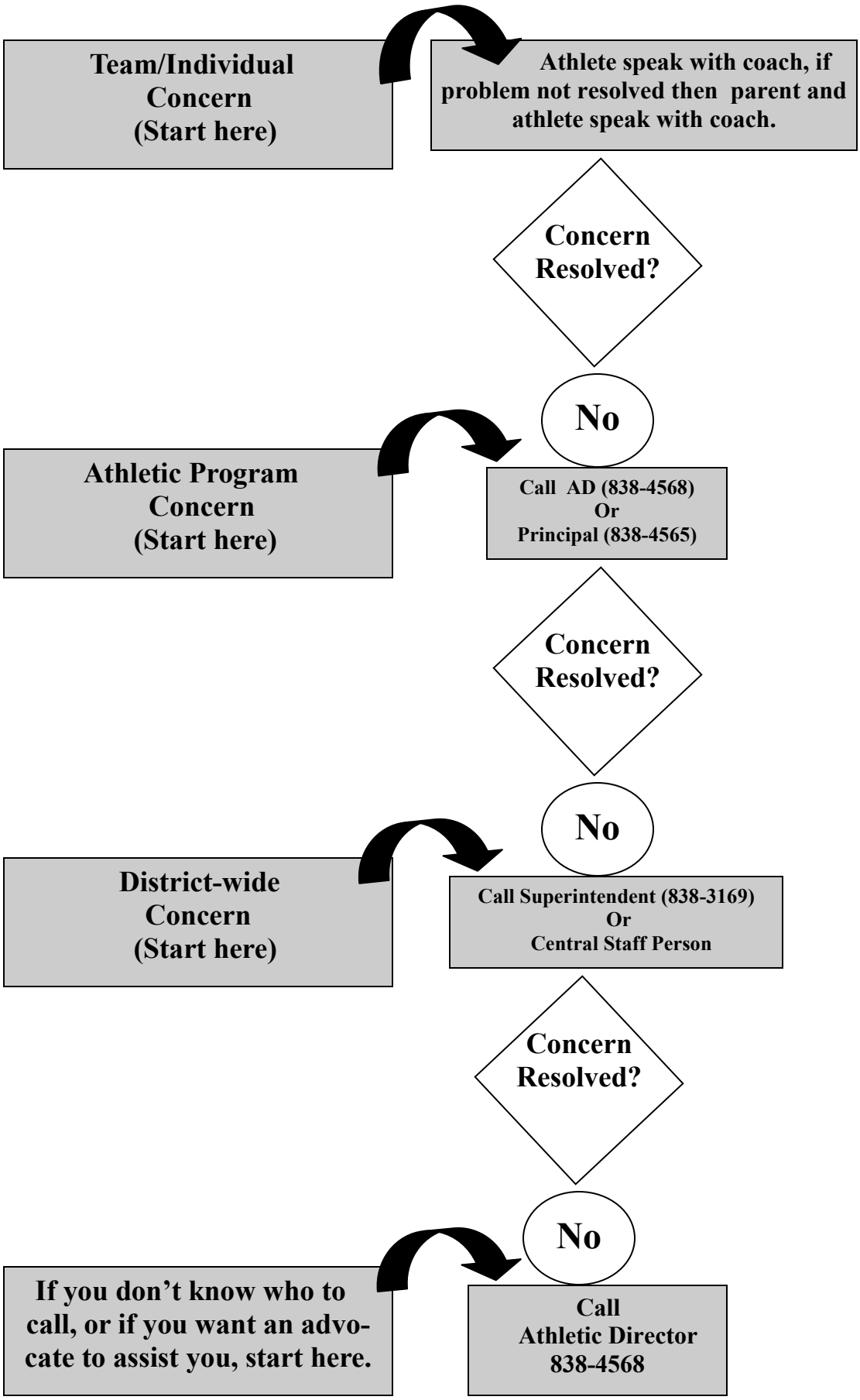COMMUNICATION PROCEDURE