

Original

Many times either as a student or athlete or both we need to take initiative at some point and lead your group. Leadership in my opinion is a very necessary skill you need to have in order to succeed in what you are doing and I think I possess this skill. The reason for me knowing that I possess leadership qualities is that I've once had to lead a whole team for a year throughout our best and worst times. This all happened my senior year in high school at the waterpolo team. We started off a new season and we were desperate for a leader to guide us. At first we didn't have anyone and that caused a lot of conflict within our team. We did not play as a team and we would just play as an individual minding their own business, it was just selfish waterpolo. At this point I knew someone had to step up and do something so I decided to do exactly that. At first I was weary if the team would accept me as their captain but as the season went on I knew they accepted me. I was the one that brought order to the team. I taught my teammates how to run many plays I've learned from other people such as my past coaches and my brother. All of this only had good consequences because with me as their captain we started to truly play as a team and not be selfish, we played like brothers meaning we knew what every last one of us were thinking at the moment when we had the ball, we all knew what play to run and that lead us to something truly great. In the long run we knew that we have become something more than teammates. It was almost like we were brothers. It might be like an exaggeration but this is how I and the others felt. During the season we had our ups and downs. We've won plenty of games but we also lost plenty. To me losing was always the worst feeling in the world, knowing that you could've won that one game only if you had 10 more seconds on the shot clock or maybe if you could've just blocked the game winning goal from the opponent. All of this was a terrible feeling and makes you want to give up as a leader but at the end these are only mistakes that happened in the past and the only thing we could do is learn from those mistakes. At the end of it we as a team experience this together like brothers when they first fight over something it makes you feel like crap but experiencing it together makes you have a stronger connection with one another and as a leader you tend to learn from it and that's what makes us a better leader. With all these experiences I think I've become a good leader, one that is capable of leading many people and I think this showed in our last game of my high school career. When we knew we were about to play a team we knew we couldn't beat we all even put our heads down. We all rolled over like puppies giving up and just having this mentality that we've lost the game before it even started. At this point I knew I had to step up like I did before and do something. I just told my team "keep your heads up high and get ready for our last game of the season. I know that we all think we can't beat this team but we'll never know until we try. So let's go out there and play not only with our strength but with our pride and effort and even if we lose we know that we gave it our all." This is what I told them and they were motivated. We all entered the pool with our heads up high ready to play a team. We played our hearts out that day we left everything we had at the pool and we went down fighting. At the end we lost the game and I kind of expected the team to be sad knowing that they lost the last game of the season by more than 5 goals, but they didn't. They were all glad that the seniors played their last game of high school with everything they had and the under class men knowing they put all their pride and effort to their last game of the season. Overall at the end all of this was such a great

experience to me. I learned what it was like to lead a whole team through the tuff and fun times. This experience in general prepared me for college and now I feel like I'm ready for anything.

Concise writing

Leadership is an important trait for most to have and it is a very helpful skill to have too. It helps people open up to others and it makes you feel like you're really part of something great. All of this just mentioned, I've experienced for myself and it was marvelous. In high school I was part of a water polo team and I was always part of the starting line up ever since my freshman year. I was always the one listening to others and following orders from the team captain and coach. It was like this until my senior year when I decided to step up and lead the team. I was accepted by the team throughout the season due to the fact that I taught them new things like plays and offensive and defensive moves to gain the advantage. I lead the team with open mindedness and I think that lead us to most of our victories. During games I was the one who told the team what to do in order to perform good versus the opposing team. I also read the opposing team's weaknesses and I used that to my advantage. As a leader we experienced many things from good to bad but in general I believe that those times are the most important because that is when you learn the most and become a better leader in general. This really helped me in the long run because I got into the habit of knowing what to expect and I knew that helped not only to excel me up but also my team. Every single game I played I gained more and more experience and it made our team more successful because we learned how to play as an actual team almost to the point where we played like a team of brothers. As time went on we won and lost games and those wins and losses brought us to our final game. The team wasn't so confident that we could beat the team but neither was I and that was our lowest point in the whole season. But with a couple of motivational words we became more confident that we could do our best and win our final game. Our thoughts never came true because we lost that game but none of us were mad nor sad. We were pretty happy that we went in there and gave it our all and never gave up. We went home as losers to others but we the team felt like winners. At the end the leadership skills I gained from my senior year was the best thing that could have happened to me because it made me a better person and it got me ready for the long run starting with college.