



The Role of the Parents

The role of parents is critical to the team. They are responsible for transportation, the uniforms and all other details for the young athlete. Communication with the parents is essential to the success of the team.

Expectation for Parents

1. Have a parent meeting before the season begins discuss the plans for the season, This is the time to explain to the parent your thoughts on playing time for each child, your philosophies of the game and any other policies you might have concerning practice or anything else. Encourage questions and let your parents know you've given a lot of thought to the upcoming season.
2. Have your rules, regulations, your philosophy, practice dates and times, etc. Printed on a sheet of paper you can pass out to all parents.
3. Express appreciation for their interest and concern, this will make them more open and at ease with you.
4. Always listen to their ideas and feelings. Remember they are interest and concerned because it is their children that are involved. Encourage parental involvement.
5. Know what your objectives are and do what you believe to be of value to the team, not the parents.
6. **No coach can please everyone, Don't Try.**
7. Handle and confrontation one-on-one and not in a crowd situation. Try not to be defensive. Let the parent talk while you listen. Often times a parent will talk the problem off their chest. Listen to their viewpoint, and then thank them for it.
8. Resist unfair pressure. You are the coach and it's your responsibility to make the final decision. This doesn't mean you still can't listen to parents.
9. Don't discuss individual players with other parent. The grapevine will hang you every time. Show the same respect to each player and your team that you want the parents to show towards you.
10. Ask your parent not to criticize their children during practice or games. Don't let your players be humiliated, even by their own parent. Explain that you must be in complete control of your team when there are on your "TURF"
11. Try not to blame the players for their parents' actions. Maintain as fair an attitude as possible