

Molalla Youth Sports

We're All in This Together!

Coaches, Parents & Referees: Role Models for Life

COACHES: *What can they do to make the game more enjoyable for the players and easier for the referee to manage?*

1. Take a course on the rules of the game and be knowledgeable about appropriate league rules.
2. Be accepting of the referee's decisions.
3. Remain calm.
4. Do not make loud, offensive remarks.
5. Concentrate on coaching, rather than on the accuracy of referee's decisions.
6. Be a role model of fair play.
7. Be positive; avoid confrontation with any official.
8. During games, leave the decisions to the players.
9. Attend coaching classes to learn the most effective ways to conduct practices.
10. Give good guidelines to parents.
11. Set high standards.
12. Be firm with parents at games.
13. Teach skills and fair tactics.
14. Discourage unfair sportsmanship.
15. Communicate with parents often in meetings and social gatherings.
16. Play the game and encourage parents to play and to referee.
17. Referee games.
18. Delegate responsibilities.

PARENTS: *What can parents do to make the game more enjoyable for their children and other people's kids, too?*

1. Be knowledgeable of the game.
2. Encourage fair play at home.
3. Be supportive; i.e. be sure the player attends practices; pick him/her up on time.
4. Attend games.
5. Be positive or quiet at games.
6. Be respectful; expect your own children to be respectful.
7. Focus on good nutrition.
8. Volunteer to help the coach.
9. Become a referee.
10. Play the game yourself.
11. Be calm and have good manners.
12. Support the coach's and referee's decisions.
13. Encourage communication between coach and parent.
14. Ask your own children to describe his/her role, what new skills have been learned.
15. Watch practices; focus on new strategies.
16. Find videos on the sport being played, watch them with children.
17. Concentrate on praising other people's children during games.

18. Read newspaper articles about older player's successes in the sport being played; provide models for your own children. A good example is attending local high school and college sporting events. The youth can relate to the high school and college players and they will often have events where the youth can meet the players and interact with them.

REFEREES: *What can they do to make the game better for the players?*

1. Know the rules of the game and the appropriate league rules.
2. Be professional; ie. on time, in proper uniform, prepared, fit, etc.
3. Study the game and the spirit of the game.
4. Attend meetings, clinics, seminars.
5. Show respect to players, coaches, parents and spectators.
6. Explain rules, when needed.
7. Help less experienced referees.
8. Play the game to better understand it.
9. Seek evaluation from coaches/players.
10. Be assessed regularly.
11. Smile, enjoy the game.
12. Be firm, fair and honest.
13. Be consistent.
14. Accept only the number and level of assignments that can be done well, as applicable (varies by sport).
15. Be neutral.
16. Know and use proper procedures.
17. Always remain calm.
18. Take each game seriously.
19. Implement good management techniques.
20. Show courage and confidence; avoid arrogance.

Youth Sports ... the games are about the kids and for kids!

What role should the referee, coach and parents play? *REFEREES, COACHES and PARENTS together have an enormous impact on the lives of thousands of youth players in the United States. How can we best serve the interest of these players?*

As "adults" and leaders in our community youth sports programs we can positively impact players. While each parent must be accountable for his/her actions and teach his/her own son or daughter to do the same, referees, coaches and parents form a trio of role models from which many of our young men and women learn behaviors that they will carry into adulthood. Cooperation, respect and maturity among the adults in programs will encourage those qualities in the players. All adults are the role models for our youth. Our youth are always watching even when we may not know it. We must set high standards and lead by example at all times and in all circumstances. We must encourage fair play and sportsmanship at all times, regardless if we agree with the officiating or outcome of the game. There are proper channels of reporting protests and filing complaints which should be followed at all times.

Our motto at MYS is "**We're all in this together**" and we all need to work together to make our programs effective and to successfully lead our youth!