

PARENTS' CODE OF CONDUCT

Parents should remember:

Children have more need of example than criticism.

To make athletic participation for your child and others a positive experience.

To attempt to relieve the pressure of competition, not increase it. A child is easily affected by outside influences.

To be kind to your child's manager, coach, and the officials. They are volunteers giving of their personal time and money to provide a recreational activity for your child. They are providing a valuable community service, often without reward other than the personal satisfaction of having served the community.

That opponents are necessary friends. Without them, your child could not participate.

To applaud good plays by your team and by members of the opposing team.

Between the exuberance of the winner and the disappointment of the loser we find a person called an umpire. All of them follow the same creed to watch every move of every player and to call the game to the best of their ability.

REMEMBER:

Try to refrain from openly questioning his judgment, and never his honesty. He is a symbol of fair play, integrity and sportsmanship.

PARENTS' CODE OF CONDUCT (cont)

To accept the results of each game. Encourage the child to be gracious in victory, and turn defeat into victory by working toward improvement.

Parental evaluation carries a great deal of weight with all of us, especially children. The attitude shown by parents at games toward their child, the opposing team, the officials and the coach influence the child's values and behavior in sports as well as other endeavors in life.

Criticism, disrespect for officials and opponents by overanxious and overprotective parents bent of immediate success rather than long-range benefits undermine the purpose of sport and brings into the game stresses beyond those of competition. When the adolescent can't cope effectively with such stresses, it contributes to behavior not in keeping with the spirit of the game.

Remember, on the field as in life's game, it's not so much whether you win or lose; it's the way you play the game.