

What Kids Want from a Coach!



Respect and Encouragement

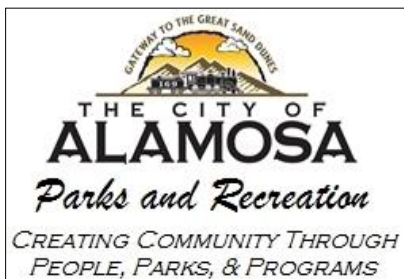
A Positive Role-Model

Clear, Consistent Communication

Knowledge of the Sport

Someone who listens

-- Adults who work with kids should know these fundamentals --



Coaching Policies

Communication: Make contact with your team members as soon as possible after getting your roster, and maintain good communication regarding important dates and times.

Playing Time: Please make your best effort to allow every player to participate at least 50% of every game, regardless of attendance to practice.

Game Schedules: Game schedules are fixed and will only be altered under extraordinary circumstances (adverse weather or compromised facility or equipment). If you are unable to attend a game, an assistant coach or another parent can assume your role that day. If you are unable to find a substitute, notify Rec Staff and we will assist you.

Rosters: The coach's roster is not to be shared with anyone else as it contains personal, and possibly sensitive, participant information. Roster additions, changes, and drops come directly from Rec Staff. Children who are not registered program participants are not eligible to practice or play in games with your team due to liability concerns.

Conflicts/Comments/Concerns:

If a conflict occurs between you and a parent or another coach, notify Recreation Staff after a reasonable attempt has been made to resolve the matter. If you have any comments or concerns- about a game official, another coach, children on your team, parents of children on your team, the field/court conditions, etc... please contact Recreation Staff immediately. We strive to address and resolve these issues as they arise. Please assist us by keeping us informed.

Drop Off/Pick Up/Transportation: Ask parents to be timely when dropping off/picking up their children from practice and games. If a child is waiting on a ride, stay in a public and visible place until the child is claimed. We do not recommend that you transport children, other than your own, to or from practices or games.

Traits of Good Youth Coaches (Adapted from NFL Youth Football)

A coach should be **enthusiastic** without being intimidating. He/she should be **sensitive** to children's feelings and should enjoy spending time with them. A coach should be dedicated to serving children and understand that sports provide physical and emotional growth for its participants.

A coach needs to realize their role is as a **teacher**, not a drill sergeant. They should help children learn and work to improve their skills, keeping the best interest of the child. Winning and score is de-emphasized.

The **safety** and welfare of the child can never be compromised. A coach must consider this above all else.

Be **patient**. Don't push children beyond their limits in regards to practice. Children have many daily pressures and the sports experience should not be one of them. Playing should be fun.

Care more about the players as people than as athletes.

It is important to remain **positive** and refrain from making discouraging remarks. Negative comments are remembered far more often than positive affirmations.

Remember that the **rules of the game** are designed to protect the participants, as well as to set a standard for competition. Never take advantage of the rules by teaching deliberate misconduct. A coach who puts the opposing team at risk should not be involved with children.

Be the first person to **demonstrate good sportsmanship**. Respect the game official. Take a low profile during the game and allow the kids to be the center of attention.

Parents and players place a lot of **trust and confidence** in the coach. The coach has an important role in molding the athletic experience of the child.

A coach can **measure success** by the respect he gets from his or her players, regardless of victories or defeats. Children who mature socially and physically while participating in sports are the best indication of good coaching.

Recreation Staff:

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