

Crossfire Oregon Fall Youth Soccer Coach Education

Everything you need to know about a parent meeting - From a coach's perspective

Purposes of a parent meeting:

- Enables parents to understand objectives and goals of the season
- Enables parents to become acquainted with you, the coach
- Informs parents about the sport
- Informs parents of your expectations of them and their child
- Enables you to address any concerns of parents
- Establish clear line of communication between you, parent, and players
- Enables you to obtain parental support (assistant coach, first aid volunteer etc.)

Things to consider when organizing a parent meeting:

- Hold it EARLY in the season
- Having players present is optional
- Handing out a game schedule - Or have parents check it on-line
- Be prepared

Things to cover in your meeting:

- Introduce yourself and give a little background
- Introduce assistant coaches
- State the importance of the kids having fun
- State the important of winning and losing (should be minimal)
- Discuss rules and guidelines (When to show up before a game?)
- Give them the practices schedule
- 50% minimum playing time (depending on effort and attendance)
- Equipment required (e.g. NIKE Shirts, shorts, and socks. Shin guards, cleats, water bottle, and most importantly, A SOCCER BALL)
- Inherent risks (Soccer is a contact sport)
- Ask for volunteers
 - Assistant coach, Team Parent, Phone Tree Coordinator, E-Mail Coordinator, Field Prep Coordinator, Parent Referee, Parent Linesman, End of Season Party Coordinator, Refreshment Coordinator

Talk about COACH'S responsibilities, for example:

- Demonstrate leadership and good sportsmanship at all times
- Treat each player fairly



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- Have fun and organized practices and teach age appropriate skills
- Provide a safe environment
- Contribute positively to the development of each players self-esteem
- Give parents a schedule of practices in a timely fashion
- Allow each player 50% playing time
- **RESPECT REFEREES, KNOW THE RULES, AND CONDUCT YOURSELF IN A CONTROLLED MANNER ON THE FIELD**

Talk about a PLAYER'S responsibilities, for example:

- Attend practices and games regularly, and arrive on time
- Bring proper equipment to each practice and game
- Inform the coach in advance if it is necessary to miss a practice or game
- Make each practice a challenge to improve
- Work towards good sportsmanship and teamwork
- RESPECT THE REFEREES
- Be supportive of all teammates all of the time

Discuss Parental Responsibilities, for example:

- Transport your child to and from games/practices on time
- Be supportive of all players
- Help your child understand he/she is part of a collective team effort
- Focus on mastering skills, individual development, and having fun - NOT ON WINNING
- Attend games and cheer the team
- Refrain from criticizing opponents and be positive with all players
- RESPECT REFEREES (They will make mistakes but they are doing their best. If you feel you are better qualified then contact the ref coordinator as they could use you). If you have a particular problem with any referee then address it with Travis Schoonover (travis@losc.org).
- Refrain from coaching your child during the game (try to respect and understand the difference between the roles of the coach and the parent)

