# Ernest Robertson, Jr. Director of Athletics



PALMER TRINITY SCHOOL MIAMI, FLORIDA

# Enhancing the Parent-Coach Relationship

We believe that parents have rights and their concerns are reasonable and important.

Gone are the days of dropping off the athlete and picking them up in two hours.

Parents want answers! Coaches want control!

### Should administrators be coaching?

Pro's



- Experience
- Leadership
- Organized
- On Campus
- Connect with Students

Con's



- Fairness Perception
- Parent Concerns
- Daily Responsibilities
- Winning/Losing
- Game Travel

#### Stay Grounded - a positive approach

- I believe we can be better. We may not be able to stop all the evil in the world, but I know that how we treat one another is entirely up to us, I believe that for all our imperfections, we are full of decency." ~Barack Obama
- "Your smile is your logo, your personality is your business card, how you leave others feeling after having an experience with you becomes your trademark." ~Jay Danzie
- "Attitude is a choice. Happiness is a choice. Optimism is a choice. Kindness is a choice. Giving is a choice. Respect is a choice. Whatever choice you make makes you. Choose wisely." Roy T. Bennett, The Light in the Heart

Words have power!

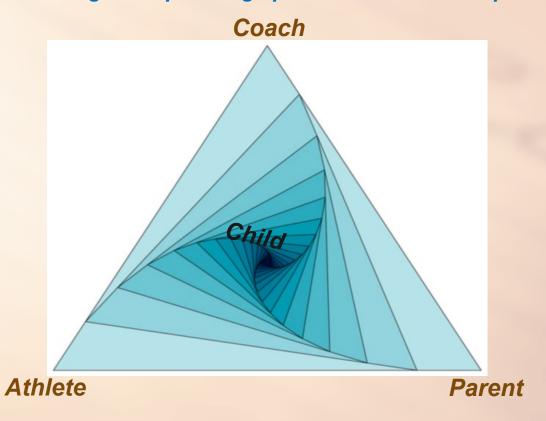
#### Let's listen to the athletes more often!

Count how many times you hear the word "win"!!
What's wrong with having fun?



# The Perfect Triangle!

Winning is not among the top 5 things parents want from a sports program.



#### A Healthy Learning Environment

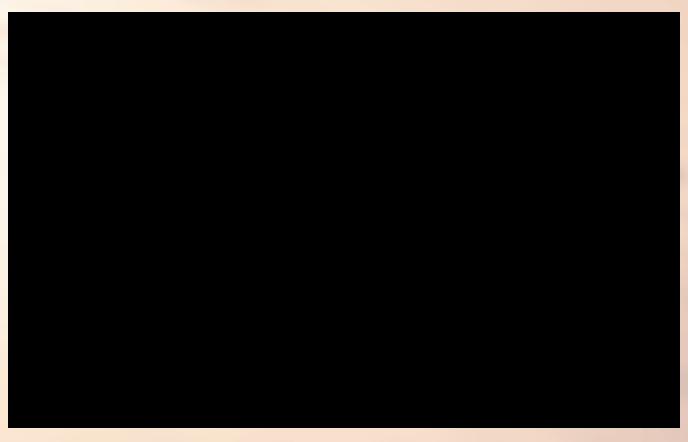
**Parents Rights** 

- Parents have the right to know that their child will be safe, both physically and emotionally.
- Parents have the right to know that their child will be treated fairly regardless of race, creed, national origin, economic status, gender, or age and that each child will be treated as an individual.
- Parents have the right to know that the staff is experienced and/or trained.
- Parents have the right to know that any negative or cruel behavior (bullying) among students or between students and staff will not be

tolerated.



# In 2019, 69% of girls have given up on youth sports.



#### Healthy Learning Environment continues...

### **Team Open Practice Night/Parent Meeting**

- \* Demo Drills
- \* Demo Offense / Defense Sets
- \* Demo Situations
- \* Allow Parents to Coach Teams
- \* Rule Quiz
- \* Have Parents Watch Other Kids
- \* Teach Parents to Speak from a Team Perspective
- \* Help Parents Understand Great Lessons are Learned in Good and Bad
- \* Only the Athlete can earn playing time or that Scholarship





# How kids feel when their parents watch their sporting events.



# **System of Communication**

- > Pre-Season
  - Parent Meeting (Not after a game)
  - Selecting Team Parents (Mix it up)
- ➤ In-Season
  - Mid-Season Evaluation
  - Mid-Season Communication Email or Letter
- > End of Season
  - Parent Evaluation
  - Senior/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Exit Interview







#### Clear, Courteous Communication

#### Parents' Rights

- Parents have the right to be treated with courtesy by all members of the coaching staff.
- Parents have the right to participate in meaningful parent-coach communication.
- Parents have the right to a pre-season parent meeting.
- Parents have the right to know that they can approach a member of the coaching staff (appropriate time and place) with a concern *(not playing time issue)* and that the staff member will listen carefully and will do everything possible to address the issue.



# Perfect Triangle



#### **Parent & Coach Commitment**

#### Parents Do Not:

- Confront the coach after the game
- Undermine the coach at home
- Teach your child to be selfish ("Get Yours")
- Live your dreams through your child
- Blame your child's mistakes on the coach
- Forget about commitment

#### Coaches/AD's Do Not:

- Belittle athletes/parents
- Befriend athletes/parents (be friendly)
- Fail to communicate with parents/athletes
- Fail to trust the process
- Fail to listen
- Ever display anger





#### Parents' Rights Continue...

- Parents have the right to information on team requirements and expectations for the program.
- Parents have the right to view their child's game stats at the end of the season.
- Parents have the right to be informed of all game and practice schedules.
- Parents have the right to be informed of all schedule changes.
- Parents have the right to evaluate the program at the end of the season.



#### "Must see" Movie for Coaches



#### Statement of Commitment

#### Portrait of a Parent

- Be a Supporter in Words and Action
- Communicate Appropriately
- Respect Scheduling
- Utilize School Website
- Respect Coaching Staff
- Volunteer Support
- Engage in Responsible Digital
   Citizenship

#### Portrait of a Coach

- Uphold Mission
- Uphold Vision
- Uphold Values
- Cultivate & Develop Potential
- Create Supportive Environment
- Continue Professional Development
- Engage in Responsible Digital Citizenship

#### The End...



# Sports NIGHT at Maclay!



Go Marauders!



# We're Glad you're Here!

Topics for Tonight Go Over the BASICS!
Introduce our Program and our Coaches!
Cover Expectations – Players, Coaches, & Parents
Answer Questions!



#### What are the Goals of our Coaches at Maclay?

- 1. to Offer them a great HS Experience!
- 2. to Recognize their unique gifts!
- 3. to **Encourage** them to give their Best!
- 4. to <u>Challenge</u> them to become the very Best Person that they can be!

#### Do we care about "Winning?

- YES, we do want to Win!
- 36 State Titles and 22 more State Runner Ups...
- But there are many other ways to "Win" that don't show up on the scoreboard...
- We're going to <u>Challenge</u> them to become the very Best Person that they can be through Sports!

The Very Important Role of Parents (1)!

You have One Job - Support your Kid!

How do you do this? Two very easy ways...

- 1. CHEER LIKE CRAZY!
- 2. Tell them, "I Love watching you play!

The Very Important Role of Parents (2)!

As a Parent ... you are Not a Coach.

If you want to coach, Come on Out!

Remember your role - CHEER LIKE CRAZY!

Also - remember the term "ONE VOICE"

# The Very Important Role of Parents (3)!

As a Parent ... you are not an Official

If you want to officiate, Come on Out!

Remember your role - CHEER LIKE CRAZY!

As your AD, I work very hard to make sure the officials "Like us" so please help me!

#### **Practices** -

Practice is not optional, Practice is not Drop In. It doesn't matter WHY you're not at practice... If you're not at practice you can't expect to play! We're only asking for about 2 hours a day! The other 22 are totally left for you to study, play, and use as you see fit!

**Practices** -

For our Coaches ....

**End Practice ON TIME!** 

For Parents – We don't have closed practices, but try and let your kid "own" their practice!

# **Playing Time -**

After tonight, we won't talk about Playing Time!

Playing time will Never be Equal – But It will <u>ALWAYS BE FAIR!</u>

There will be starters, subs, and role players - but we will not have any 30-30-30 players

# **Playing Time -**

Playing time is assigned by the Coach -

The Coach determines playing time based on -

Practice, Attitude, Effort, Knowledge, and Skill.

They see every day, every practice, every game!

# **Playing Time -**

Middle School: TEAM FIRST + Everyone Plays!

Focus is on FUN and FUNDAMENTALS!

Everyone will get a quality experience over the season according to their attitude & ability.

# **Playing Time -**

- **High School TEAM FIRST!**
- We are putting our **Best TEAM** out there!
- Focus is on "Competing" just like an Academic or a Music "Competition"!
- Although our coaches strive to get everyone into the games, at the high school level, there may be games where everyone does not play!

# **Playing Time -**

Final Words ... Don't ask the Coach!

It's not about you! If you just have to ask .... Ask your kid!

Every player will be told by their coach Exactly what they need to do to get BETTER so they can EARN more Playing Time!

## **Playing Time -**

Kids "earn" playing time

Let your kid have those "talks" with their coach.

If that's too scary, then let ME be their advocate because I am THEIR Athletic Director!

## That's It!

Remember – You are a very Important Part of our team's success this year! Do Your Job!

Players PLAY – Play Hard & Have Fun!
Parents CHEER – Cheer LOUD & Have Fun!
Coaches COACH – Our Coaches Have Fun!
Officials OFFICIATE - Be Nice to them!

# Sports Night at Maclay!

Let's All Have a Great Year!
Go Marauders!



