

Be Professional

Everyone associated with your team should always conduct himself or herself in a professional manner. Do not allow anyone to question the referee. Referees have enough to concentrate on and don't need any added pressure. Instruct parents and spectators to be fans of the team and of the sport, not bickering whiners who have to point out every questionable call or missed call by the referee. Imagine how silly it would be if referees yelled at players after the players made a poor pass or missed a shot! In my opinion, it's just as silly for players, coaches and spectators to yell at referees over an apparent poor call as it is for a referee to yell at a player for making a poor pass or poor shot! Character, respect and integrity are more important than a win!

A team is only as professional as its least professional associate! It is up to you to train the players, parents, and spectators to behave in a professional manner. Inform the people associated with your team of what your expectations are; continuously praising their appropriate behaviour and re-teaching slow learners!

It's up to you to maintain self discipline, portray a calm demeanour throughout each game, and always go by the book. Never, under any circumstances, should a coach encourage players, managers, or anyone else to cheat in any way. For example, using an illegal player in a game, falsify a birth certificate, or attempt to trick the referee into awarding your team a throw-in.

Coaches should also dress the part! As a coach, you represent yourself, your team, and your club. Maintain a fine image by setting a good example in the way you show up to practices, games, tournaments, and functions. People will appreciate your professionalism and who knows; your players may even feel proud to have you as a coach!