SIDELINE IMPACT

As a parent, YOUR etiquette on the sidelines impacts your child’s youth sports experience. Be cognizant of your body language as you react positively or negatively to their play or their team’s play. Studies have shown that positive cheering and expressing positive body language directly leads to a better experience for your child.

Having passion, wanting to win and wanting the best for your child is great. The how and when we express all of these emotions is what is truly important.

Tips on How to Support Your Child During the Game

“\textbf{I try to go to my kids games and be a dad not be a coach, support them and cheer for them and encourage them and allow their coaches to be a coach.}”

CHRIS COLLINS, NCAA COACH

**LET THE COACHES COACH** It is inappropriate for parents to address playing time, team strategy or play calling with the coach. It can be confusing for athletes when parents are offering and sometimes yelling tips and tactics from the sideline.

**ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD** Help your child learn the importance of sportsmanship by talking with them about what it is, and then showing them what it is by positively cheering for them and their teammates in the stands.

**KEEP PERSPECTIVE** Pay attention to the game, but at the end of the day, remember that basketball is just a game, it’s supposed to be fun and enjoyable for everyone involved.

**REFRAIN FROM ARGUING WITH THE REFEREES** Arguing or saying negative things to the referees does not change their calls, help your child’s team win, or make your child feel proud.