



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF PAWTUCKET**

Athletic Parent/Guardian Expectations

We appreciate your child's participation in our sports program. At the Boys & Girls Club of Pawtucket, our mission is to inspire and enable young people from Pawtucket and surrounding communities, especially those with greatest need, to realize their full potential as healthy, productive, responsible, and caring citizens. In keeping with that, our athletic programs are centered on your child learning new skills while playing in an enjoyable league.

You can help ensure the effectiveness of our programs. Here's how:

Your Role as Parents/Guardians

There are many benefits from playing youth sports. At the Boys & Girls Club of Pawtucket, youth learn good sportsmanship and self-discipline. They learn how to work together, to take actions for the good of the team, to be a gracious winner and deal with disappointment - all while becoming physically fit and healthy. As parents/guardians you too can contribute to the needs and development of your child.

Support Your Child

In order for your child to get the most out of youth sports, it is important you support your child by giving encouragement and showing an interest in his/her team.

Always be Positive

Parents/Guardians are not participants on their child's team, but they contribute to the success experienced by their child and the team. Parents/Guardians serve as role models for their children and their attitudes are often copied by their children who look to them for advice and approval. Become aware of this situation and work to be positive models. That includes, most importantly, showing good sportsmanship at all times to the coaches, league officials, umpires/referees opponents and teammates.

Be Enthusiastic & Supportive

Remember that your child is playing sports. It's important to let children establish their own goals, to play the game for themselves. Help your child establish and achieve goals. Be careful not to impose your own standards and goals on your child.

Don't put too heavy a burden on your child to win games. Children play for the fun of playing. The most important benefit children receive while playing sports is to learn while having fun. A healthy environment which encourages learning and fun will aid in developing players with positive self-images.

Show Your Child Positive Reinforcement

The best way to help a child to achieve goals and reduce the natural fear of failure is through positive reinforcement. No one likes to make a mistake. If your child does make one, remember that he or she

is still learning. Encourage your child's efforts and point out the good things he or she did well in. As long as children give their best, they deserve to be treated like winners.

Set the Right Example

The Boys & Girls Club of Pawtucket is a substance free area. There is no use of drugs, tobacco products or drinking of alcoholic beverages allowed on the property.

Let the Coach Coach

All coaches are here to help make your child's experience a positive one. They need your support to do so. Encourage from the sidelines, but don't coach from the sidelines.

Let the League Officials/Referee/Umpire Do Their Job

League Officials/Referees/Umpires are not the "bad guys". They need your support and encouragement. Treat them and their calls fairly and respectfully. Remember, children reflect the attitudes and conduct of their parents, so keep your sideline behavior positive and supportive.

If you have any questions about our programs, please feel free to contact us. Thank you again for your participation and let's have a great season.