



Expectations for Youth Basketball Coaches

To lay a foundation for fostering the healthy growth of the great basketball game in our community, Cranberry Township Parks and Recreation has set forth the following statement for all involved in the youth game to abide by. As a youth basketball coach, you must understand that an exceptionally high level of sportsmanship is expected from you. You are expected to treat your coaches, players, officials, opposing team players, and coaches with respect and dignity. Applying the “golden rule,” to treat others how you would like to be treated, is an appropriate overall interpretation.

Everyone should do their best to:

1. Improve the skills of the players on their team AND the opposing teams (help each child reach their level of success)
2. Foster a spirit of teamwork and sportsmanship
3. Give players positive reinforcement
4. Allow all players equal playing time
5. Encourage lifelong enjoyment of basketball
6. Remember that league games are for fun
7. Instill in players that doing one's best is more important than winning (see #6)
8. When it is evident that one team is monopolizing the game, coaches should transition players to new positions, emphasize more passing, and “relax” the defense to encourage success for everyone.
9. When it becomes apparent that one player is monopolizing the ball, encourage passing and sharing and/or transitioning that player to a new position.