

## **Parent Meeting**

My biggest fear and to this day is still my least favorite part about coaching is the parent meeting. I'm not a fan of speaking to groups of people. This act was and is completely out of my comfort zone. In the beginning I used the "wing-it" method which turned into me rambling and receiving odd stares from parents. I soon learned that I felt more comfortable if I had a plan going into these meetings. With each year I coach my meetings get more refined, more to the point and on topic.

I use the following guide for my meetings it has helped me and I hope in turn it will help others.

1. Introduction
2. My philosophy
3. Goals for the team and players
4. Team rules
5. Contact information
6. Practice when and where

## **Introduction**

I use this time to tell parents who I am why I'm out here and my experience. My first year coaching was simply me giving my name and that I was out here because of my daughter.

## **Philosophy**

This is where I explain to the parents the difference between player development and team success. I let parents know I focus heavy on a passing game vs "kick and run". That player development is more important than short-term team success. Though the object of the game is to out score the opponent my priority is overall player development.

## **Goals**

My goals tie into my philosophy. I let parents know by the end of the year they will see some great passing plays performed by their daughters. Their daughter should know 5 dribbling moves, if they practice at home. I never make my goals around winning "x" amount of games, it's always based around development of their daughters play ability.

## **Team Rules**

Team rules should set out so both parents and players know how to act at practice and games. Some key points I hit on are attendance for practices/games, punctuality, sportsmanship, and coaching from

sideline.

Make the rules make sense to the parents to get them onboard.

### **Contact Information**

I give parents my number and email address. In turn I gather their information. I recently started using a form that they fill out. Here I find out if they use email or can receive text messages. I find it easier if I can send one bulk message verses calling 15 parents.

### **Practice when and where**

When and where your practices will be held. Let your parents know the plan if it is raining. Most importantly let them know you expect them to pick up their player when practice ends otherwise you could find yourself waiting 30 minutes after practice.

Last and most important have fun!