

YAKIMA VALLEY SPORTS AUTHORITY

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COACH: ** Please provide your e-mail address. E-mail it to paul@yvn.com, if you haven't yet**

The time has come to take a tough stance with parents and coaches out of control. Even though the super majority of the coaches and parents do a great service to the young athletes. There is a small minority of parents that still don't get it. It is not about you as a coach or parents, it is about the players on the floor. If you are a coach that stands up yelling at the players and/or officials the whole game, your really not doing a good job coaching your team. If you as a parent are thinking the officials are against your team, you are totally wrong. The officials on the court are providing your children a chance to participate. They have the same concerns that you have, they want the players to enjoy the experience. If a player gets hurt, it's not the official's fault, things do happen for reasons, I could spend the next 20 pages giving reasons why something happens on the court.

As parents we should be cheering the positive and taking the negative in stride. When was the last time you made an error? The players will make dozens of positive moves during the game, they will make dozens of negative moves during the game. That is why they love the game. They have a chance to make the positive moves. They won't remember the negative ones.

WAKE UP PARENTS; ENJOY THE EXPERIENCE WITH YOUR CHILD. LOOK AT THE POSITIVE.

We played 185 games last week. It was a great weekend for many of the teams, officials and fans.

The Yakima Valley Sports Authority, the managing AAU Club for the league must take a new stance on action of parents, coaches and scorekeepers. At this time we have a rule that if you get a technical foul for sportsmanship, you must leave the building. The second technical foul, you are done coaching, playing and attending games.

In the future, if you are ejected from the game for the second time. Your child will lose the right to participate the remainder of that event - league or tournament. The Yakima Valley Sports Authority has the right to except or reject teams into its' events. Rejection of teams to participate has happened before and we will do it again if needed.

I do have to report two situations that were reported to me this week. (The reason why I report these: I don't want your team to do the same).

- 1 Official report: After a game in Wapato, a scorekeeper of a Selah team that was negative during the game toward the officials, thinking he knew the rules better than the officials, yes one of those type. Came across the floor to where the officials were and told one that he was a piece of S---. This is uncalled for.
AAU Position: The AAU will contact the coach/contact of the team. That score keeper will not be allowed to keep score, the remainder of the league. If we have another problem with him, his son and /or team will not be allowed to participate.
- 2 Gym Supervisor – After a game at Franklin, a Wapato team, wife of a contact person who was the scorekeeper wouldn't be quiet during the game, per gym supervisor, always complaining about the officials, approached an official after the game, some action took place, this should never happen. Her actions started a reaction that would have never happened if she would have gone on her way. She was totally out of control. She understands now after a long conversation.
AAU Position: She will not be attending the next two games for the team. I'm asking the coach that the husband not to be the score keeper for any future games. If this happens again, the child and/or team will not play.
- 3 Still looking into a situation in Kittitas about a game between Ellensburg and Cle Elum Team. Result, a official that does not want to work anymore AAU Games.

Three games out of the 185 is not bad, but the three game problems should have never happened if people would just do the right thing.

Do officials make mistakes, I'll be the first one to tell you yes, but I need one official for every four teams that play in the league. That means we need about 100 officials, maybe the offenders above would like to start officiating.

I thought it is important that you know what is happening in this youth program.

Have a great week and enjoy next week games.