



A Few Thoughts to Remember

- 1) Kids don't like to be criticized any more than adults.
- 2) Kids are like sponges. They soak up everything, even the “**negative stuff**”
- 3) Kids want attention and it costs you nothing to give it to them.
- 4) Every kid wants to feel special, and they are.
- 5) Kids want to laugh. Don't be afraid to play around with them.
- 6) Don't be afraid to make a mistake. Kids can be very forgiving if you are too.
- 7) Kids want to know they are improving; they need someone who has the position of Coach to tell them that again and again. But don't use false praise.
- 8) Kids can see right through it and then you can lose your credibility with them.
- 9) Find something positive they have done and let them know.
- 10) The confidence they gain from honest praise will help them in every facet of the game in life.
- 11) Kids do want to win, but don't place all of the emphasis on winning, place it on positive improvement.
- 12) Let the kids learn by controlled trial and error. Most kids learn from losing something once in a while depending the age.

Remember:

Next year they probably won't know what their record was for this year anyway, but they will remember if they want you as coach again.

The kids will remember you as a good fun coach and will return the next year.

The kids also will remember if you are a bad, negative coach and they will not return the next year. You are trying to make the soccer experience the best it can be, they love the game and they will try harder and improve over a shorter time.

Most important make the kids smile and have fun! ☺

Director of Coach & Player Development
FSA / OSC