# YOUTH SPORT TIPS FOR PARENTS

# Be Supportive of Coaches

In front of your child be supportive and positive of the coach's decisions. If you have problems with what the coach is doing, it is best to talk directly with the coach.

#### **Teach Respect for Authority**

There will be times when you disagree with a coach or official but always remember they are trying their best and are trying to be fair. Show good sportsmanship by being positive.

#### Let the Coach do the Coaching but you can do some of the Teaching

When your child is on the field, court or ice, let the coach do the coaching. You can teach sportsmanship and how to deal with success and failure. Develop their character and teach life skills that athletics and activities bring to the forefront.

#### Help your Children Learn through Failure

The way your child handles failure can help them to face the certain failures life will throw them in the future. The worst time for you as a parent to give advice is immediately after a disappointment. Let your child cope in their own way.

#### Get to know the Coach

Since the Coach has a powerful influence on your child, take the time to attend the preseason parent meeting and get to know the coaches' philosophy, expectations, and guidelines.

## Focus on your Child as an Individual

Focus on what your child does well and where they need to improve. Encouragement is essential.

## Listen to your Child, but Stay Rational

Always support and listen to your child, but remember to stay rational until you have investigated the situation.

## Be Mindful of your Role as a Role Model

Take a good honest look at your actions and reactions in the athletic arena. These actions are a big cue to your child and to the others around you.

## Show Unconditional Love

The most important thing... Show your child you love them, win or lose.

# Sportsmanship is Everyone's Responsibility

A Message from the Granville Recreation District

