

# **My Child Plays In A Christian Basketball League. Now What Do I Do?**

## **Be An Example!**

Your child is watching your every move. He/She is like a sponge that is absorbing your attitude, values, and work ethic. The attitude that you portray toward the league rules, the coaches, others parents, other players, scorekeepers, and to the referees will quickly be reflected in the attitude of your child. At certain times in competitive sports, tensions get high. Be careful to keep your temper in check.

## **Be An Encourager!**

Children feel pressure from every angle today. Playing on a sports team, especially in a Christian league, should be a place where your child can experience joy. Unfortunately many times the stress level brought on by fan expectations doesn't allow the child to really experience the joy of participating in a game. It is during these times when you must remember that he/she is only a child. Your encouragement or discouragement will impact them long after the game is over.

## **Be Enthusiastic!**

Playing on a church team has many purposes, but one of the most important is that the players and fans have **FUN**. You need to be enthusiastic at your child's games, but make sure that the enthusiasm is always positive and never negative. Cheer for you child and team, but never cheer against the other team or players. Never scream miss-it, or make loud noises when the other team is shooting. Remember that the other team is not the enemy. They are children, like yours, trying to have fun. Seeing parents and fans having bad attitudes is not fun. Their attitudes will more than likely begin to match what they see.

## **The 10 Commandments for a Christian Fan!**

1. I shall practice good sportsmanship at all times.
2. I shall not criticize the referees or officials.
3. I shall not coach from the stands.
4. I shall keep my perspective – remembering this is not a professional sport.
5. I shall remember that only a certain number of players can play at one time.
6. I shall not be critical unless I am willing to be part of the solution to the problem.
7. I shall remember that referees are not perfect and will miss calls.
8. I shall remember that my child is not the only one on the team.
9. I shall volunteer my services whenever possible.
10. I shall understand that the needs of all the children are top priority.

## **League Purpose**

The purpose and mission of the MMYBL is to provide children and families an opportunity to participate in a Christ centered basketball league. In each contest, the object is not the result of the game, but how the game may contribute to the spiritual, physical, and emotional development of the players, coaches, and parents.

**“Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be in love.”  
1 Corinthians 16:13-14**