

## Characteristics of Effective Youth Coaches:

- *High Moral and Ethical Standards* - Be an appropriate role model.
- *Honesty* - Be fair, no one likes it if you cheat.
- *Respect of Players, Parents, and Community* - Develop strategies to develop positive relationships with all involved.
- Understanding Readiness Factors for Participation
- *Maturation* – when to begin, how the game is structured
- *Learning* – what are children able to comprehend and how do they learn
- *Motivation* – internal desire to play and have fun
- *Communication* - Appropriate verbal and nonverbal responses (body language & gestures).
- Appropriate language (words, tone, volume, rhythm, articulation).
- Development of an Appropriate Temperament for Coaching Children
- Be sensitive to each child, Exhibit a calm personality, Show patience, Observe and guide; don't direct
- Use your normal voice, not a whistle.
- *Ability to Motivate positively* - Develop high levels of self-confidence, Positive coaching...Don't yell
- *Possess Leadership Qualities* - Be prepared, Be organized, Demonstrate discipline – identify appropriate and inappropriate behavior and enforce team rules.
- Learn to be critical of behavior, not a player's personality.
- *Be Dedicated to Child Development and the Sport of Soccer* - Understand what is appropriate for different ages and levels of play.
- *Let every child play* (and play a lot).
- *Be Enthusiastic* - Your enthusiasm is contagious, Celebrate!!
- *Have a Good Sense of Humor* - Keep things light, Have fun, Smile and laugh!
- *Must Have Current Knowledge of Coaching Youth Soccer* - Learn about children and how they learn, learn the rules, Learn appropriate practices, activities, and content. Learn appropriate actics and strategy. Learn how to have fun.