



Champion Coach Note: Family

Merry Christmas to all from Play Like a Champion Today!

The days are getting shorter, the temperatures are dropping, sleigh bells are ringing, and everyone is coming home! Christmas is here!

One of the most special elements of this season is the prospect of reuniting with family. We may live in the same town, or we may be separated by oceans. We may be joined by blood, or maybe we are joined by marriage, adoption, a strong shared bond, or even just coincidence. Regardless of how we started, or where we are now, we all know the blessing of that word: family. Families are complicated things. We almost never chose to be a part of them, but nothing can break their bonds. We sometimes cannot stand each other, but we love another and we want the best for each other. Sometimes we cannot get enough of each other, and sometimes we just need to be apart. But on some level, we all thrive because of the different members of our family.

The same can be said of the sports teams that we coach. We don't always choose our members, and we aren't always grateful for them, but on some level, we depend on each other. Players need their teammates for the important things in life, like supporting each other through personal tragedy, but also for just getting through the mire of everyday life



"You don't choose your family.
They are God's gift to you,
as you are to them."

-Archbishop Desmond Tutu

with someone to say hello to, and to participate in a fun activity with. Teams, just like families are complicated things. Members may play sports for different reasons, be of different backgrounds, and have different personality types, but they all are united by the experience which they share.

So, in the spirit of family that this Christmas Season calls to mind, let us remember that as coaches, we are leaders not only of athletes, but molders of families. We are entrusted not only with the task of teaching fundamentals, but with teaching care, cooperation, and just plain coexistence. May blessings come to you and all your families during this season, and enjoy a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Coach notes will return on January 8, 2013.