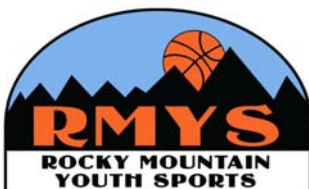


SUGGESTIONS FOR SUCCESS

THESE ARE TEN SUGGESTIONS THAT WE ASK PARENTS OBSERVE
TO AID IN THEIR SON'S SUCCESS.

THIS IS FOR THE BENEFIT OF YOUR SON IN LIFE, SPORTS & THE TEAM.

1. Be positive with your son. You can *choose* to be positive or negative about the team, the coach, his teammates. If you complain about why your son isn't a starter, he will do the same. If you complain about other players on the team, he will do the same. Set the example of being POSITIVE. Motivate and encourage your son.
2. *Be realistic.* We are all blessed with unique abilities. Accept your son as he is. We would all like to be big, tall, intelligent, athletic and strong, but it doesn't happen that way. Accept him for who he is and encourage him to do his best and make the most of the opportunities he has in life. It's the same in basketball — someone may be bigger, faster, more skilled, or smarter. Know your son's limitations and encourage him to be the best player he can be with his abilities! Accept his role on the team and encourage him to do the same.
3. Support the coach and their staff. How can you expect your son to perform to his fullest if all he hears from you about the coach is negative? The coach and teachers represent authority. You will give your son the wrong message if you ridicule the coach or his teachers. Support the coach's rules, philosophies, playbook, etc.
4. Don't be envious or critical of other players. Treat each player as if they were your own. Don't dislike a player because you don't like his parents.
5. You had your chance to be young, let your son do his thing. Don't try to live your life through your son by forcing basketball or any sport down his throat.
6. You may have played basketball, coached basketball or watch basketball, but please do not be a know-it-all. Many coaches work with young adults numerous months a year. They spend hours with young adults in situations that their parents may never see. Don't exert pressure on your child by telling him things he shouldn't have to hear. Be a good role model. *Let the coaches' coach.*
7. Be present as a parent. Monitor your child's grades, attend his games and practices from time to time. Insist that your son study and earn good grades. Putting academics first will help him be more successful.
8. Know your son's social activities. Monitor his friends, hangouts, girlfriend, curfew, language, and so on. Talk to your child about drugs, alcohol, and tobacco use. Encourage your child to make the right choices and remind him that the consequences of some decisions he makes in life never go away! Not communicating well in these areas may leave room for the wrong people to influence your son.
9. Be unselfish. Don't use basketball for the wrong reasons, like pushing your son to play for a scholarship. Doing so pressures him unduly. If he is good enough, he will earn a scholarship. Let him play because he loves the game!
10. Don't baby your son! Sever the umbilical cord. It's a tough world out there. Let him begin preparing for it by not babying him. Let the coaches push/encourage your child. Let the coaches make him tougher mentally by challenging him. Let his team challenge him. A youngster can learn mental toughness regardless of whether he plays a lot or a little, plays on a very skilled team or not as skilled team. Give him the opportunity to learn!



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