

IFL PARENT PLAYBOOK

The mission of FCA's IFL is to create a Youth Sports experience that counters the often seen norm in many youth sports programs today. We hope in some way to redeem the sports culture as we know it and create an approach and atmosphere that fosters learning and growth physically, mentally and spiritually. We also want to make it enjoyable for players, coaches, fans and refs.

Our Primary objective is to create an understanding of the greater purpose we have in sports. That is, to go away knowing that football is a tool that God uses to test, teach and develop us in our faith, and a model designed to transfer the disciplines of sport into living and serving Christ. . Sports can lead us to Him through humility and seeing a need for a Savior or it can lead us away, through pride and self-glory. It all depends on the understanding and attitude we develop going through it.

We would ask you as you join us this season to consider your objectives for your child as they take the field each week and as you take your place on the sideline. We hope you will "buy in" to our approach that we trust will create an enjoyable 8 weeks of growing boys and girls in to godly young men and women. You are a significant piece in this process and we hope you will take to heart the following:

Parent's To-Do List:

- Cheer for and encourage players and coaches on the other team as well as your own. (rejoice in the efforts and success of others)
- Become a more "silent source of encouragement." In most polls kids said what they most wanted to hear from their parents in the stands was "NOTHING." An innocent "Come on, you can do it," just adds additional pressure and is better left unsaid.
- Save it for after the game. Tell them you really enjoyed watching them and hope they had fun. Less time critiquing and should'a, would'a , could'a .
- Spend time with your child off the field developing skills. Repetitions and your involvement in it will make the greatest difference in their development.
- Make your child responsible for their own water bottle. Refrain from asking if they are thirsty, hungry or too hot!
- Let the players play, the coaches coach, and officials officiate.

KNOW THIS:

- Family events are more important than sports. Just be considerate when you need to be gone and let the coach know asap.

DON'T DO THIS:

- Direct critical remarks @ refs ,coaches or players(or another parent)
All remarks beyond "Nothing" are permissible if they build up and encourage. If you are prone to this you will be given a whistle and expected to help ref or coach. Or leave.

SILENCE IS NOT ALWAYS BEST:

- We have developed COACH CHECK to allow you to be heard. You can send valid concerns that you observe on the field or in practice by e-mail. Not on the field or after the game. We welcome feedback and feel it is essential to provide accountability for our coaches and makes our program better.

TEAM COVENANT:

To my teammates and coaches:

“I will believe in you and your potential regardless of your ability, performance, or past failures. I will trust you to grow, to rise to the occasion, and do the right thing. If you fail my trust, I will not give up on you and will do whatever I can to help you succeed. If I see a weakness in you ,I will honor you enough to pray for you ,and ,if necessary, challenge you face to face to rise up to your higher calling . I commit to always treat you better than I treat myself. I will fight for your honor if you are attacked in any way. I will stick by you and stick up for you, always.”

Parent Signature(s) _____

For questions or concerns, please contact RC Kilgore at russel.c.kilgore@k12.sd.us, or at 651-895-9850