



THE i9 SPORTS PARENTAL PLEDGE

Background

Team sports are one of the best ways to help children develop physically and emotionally. Youth sports develop life skills, promote a healthy lifestyle, and increase self-esteem. Unfortunately, as many as 50% of youth will quit organized sports by age 12 because of too much pressure and competition.

A survey* among youth athletes revealed the following:

- 31% saw parents yelling at or arguing with officials
- 28% saw parents yelling or arguing with coaches
- 27% heard parents or coaches using bad language

Key reasons for stopping participation in organized sports included:

- 43% stopped having fun
- 27% felt like they weren't good enough to play

* Source: July 2004 Harris Interactive Youth Query; SI GoodSports Backgrounder

The i9 Sports Parental Pledge

I, the parent or guardian of an i9 team player, agree that the most important outcome of any game is for my child to have fun. My child needs my approval and support, regardless of what happens in the game.

I will refrain from the use of negative or derogatory language aimed at the officials, the coaches, my child, or other players. I will encourage my child and all others in the game and will let the coach be the coach. I will do my best to model the sportsmanship-like behavior I wish my child to adopt, and to support the coach in making this the best possible experience for my child.

[Parent/Guardian - SIGNATURE]

[Parent/Guardian - PRINT NAME]