

Steven Miner

Coaching Philosophy

One of the hardest parts about coaching is the idea of winning vs. losing. In modern society, many coaches are judged based on their records. Trying to keep athletes focused in a losing season is not easy. Do wins determine the success of a coach? My goal of coaching is to make an impact on my athlete's lives, help them to improve their skills, and help my athletes be successful not only on the field, but also in the classroom.

Throughout my lifetime, I have had many great coaches, as well as some who were not that good. They all shared one common thing with me; all of my coaches, (good and bad) and I shared the common love for sports. Sports have given me life-long lessons that I have cherished throughout my life. Sports have allowed me to meet others who I am became very close with, allowed me to feel successful through championships, but also feel disappointment through losing. Losing just meant that I would have extra motivation going into my next competition. Vince Lombardi once said, "It's not whether you get knocked down, it's whether you get up." My players will understand that they will be knocked down from losing, but they will hold their head high, and get back up for the next challenge. However, no matter what the results were, I carried myself with pride. I was taught at a young age, winning or losing didn't define me; it was how hard I tried that really mattered. I am proud of what I accomplished in sports. I was always sure to promote positive sportsperson ship on the field. A sport provides endearing experiences through positive sportsperson ship. As a coach, I will make sure that all my athletes carry themselves in a way that I did. My athletes will take pride in their accomplishments, but will also demonstrate integrity.

One of the common misconceptions about athletes is that they are only athletes, not students. However, athletes demonstrate that they are students in various ways. They are students of the sport in which they are playing. My athletes will work hard every day to improve the skills they need for the sport(s) in which they participate in. Additionally, in today's society it seems that the student in student-athletes is frequently overlooked in the school settings today. My athletes will be considered STUDENT-athletes, rather than just an athlete. Student comes first. I believe student-athletes' success is defined by the progress they make on the field, as well as the classroom. While today's society wants athletes to believe that they are all going to make it professionally, that is not always true. The athlete's in my program will set themselves up for success outside of sports. They will master the skills needed in their academic programs in order to be triumphant in the career path they choose to follow if professional sports is not an option.

Coaching is one of the most rewarding careers. As a coach, I will be able to watch a boy grow into a man, or a girl grow into a woman. I will have the honor to watch my athletes mature to become better citizens. My athletes will also grow on the playing field by learning new skills to be the best they can be in their sport. Some of the most valuable athletes on the field might not be the best, but those who try their hardest. They will learn respect, and dignity from sports. When it is time for my athletes to continue on in their own journey, I want them to be able to return and thank me for all I have done while coaching them. I want my athletes to speak my name proudly. When just one athlete thanks me for making a difference in their life that means that I have been rewarded.