

PARENT MEETING

Step by Step Guide

Topics and best practices to make sure your First Team Meeting is a success.
To learn more, consider taking our Parent Engagement for Coaches course.

Personal Introduction

Frame your introduction around your experience with the sport, whatever that may be. Thank parents for trusting you with their child & show optimism for the season ahead.

Parent Introductions

Ask parents to introduce themselves and share a bit about their child. Ask parents to quickly explain any background they have in soccer.

Setting Expectations

Be clear on your expectations for parents, including things like:

- Drop off / pick up times.
- Reading and responding to communication from you, the team manager, and club.
- Commitment to tournaments.
- Communication policy for missing games and practices.
- Sideline behavior (supportive, not distracting, respectful of officials, not hostile).

Discuss Logistics

Share information about when season starts, when practices start, uniforms, communication channels such as apps, etc.

Team Culture

Communicate expectations of how players are to interact with one another, the opposing teams, and officials. Ask parents to amplify these messages to their children.

Team Manager and Social Coordinator

If these roles are already in place, introduce them and explain their responsibilities so the boundaries & expectations are clear. If you need people to step up to fill these roles, explain the positions and ask for volunteers to reach out to you. Choose wisely!

Community

Share your thoughts related to developing a Sense of Community with the players and parents, and its importance to enjoyment, building team chemistry, and success.

Learning Environment

Review your coaching style. Explain what parents can expect of the practice/learning environment and your coaching style during games.

Boundaries

Define boundaries and expectations for conversations with parents. When the door is open to parents and when it is closed. Be clear on your boundaries as this will help parents feel comfortable approaching you at the appropriate times, and allow you to end future conversations that are outside your boundaries.

Questions

Make sure you give parents ample time to ask questions. End on an upbeat tone!

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