



HERITAGE COACHING PHILOSOPHY AND PLEDGE

- Coaches will emphasize, to the athlete, the importance of effectively improving individual skill levels, as well as the learning of new skills. It is under this successful leadership that the desire for life-long involvement in soccer will be instilled in our children. We believe an effective coaching program is one that contributes to a positive learning experience. The Coach possesses the skills and training to communicate with youth athletes, and for this reason, has been engaged by Heritage to provide skills and training.
- Heritage will not seek to control the manner in which Coach provides skills and training, but Heritage does have a program level interest in maintaining consistency in its overall program. Coaches should be quality communicators (both a listener and a giver of feedback). The successful Coach will recognize the collective and individual needs of the kids and balance those needs with their own. The Coach must establish a relationship with the parents and make them part of the team rather than viewing them as critics to be avoided. **This is best done by managing parental expectations of their child's abilities and the capabilities of the team.**
- Coaches must focus on instruction. Experience shows that instruction based on both individual and team skills accomplish both competitive and fun play. We believe that every player can improve, no matter what level they start the season at. We expect a player to focus on task. By focusing, the player will learn the right play or the correct execution. Once the individual or team skill has been mastered, then confidence follows. With confidence comes a successful team
- Soccer is a sport that enables players to create as individuals, but who must successfully perform with teammates. The phrase that a team is more than a sum of its parts is perhaps more accurate and telling in our sport than any other. At Heritage we will develop individuals and in doing so we will achieve our objectives of building successful teams at all levels.