

Positive Coaching Alliance

NATIONAL CONVERSATION ON GOOD COACHING

CASE STUDY #4 | AUGUST 2008

STATE OF PLAY

SITUATION

Several weeks into the season, you are frustrated by your child's lack of playing time. The team is successful on the scoreboard, winning more often than losing, usually by comfortable margins.

As far as you can tell, other parents and athletes on the team seem satisfied with the status quo, even ones who also are sitting on the bench. But you wonder if a coach has a responsibility to get players into games even when there are no external rules or requirements to do so.

Your child has not complained about not playing, but you sense diminished enthusiasm since the season's start.

QUERY

- Should you talk with your child about this? If so, what do you say?
- Should you approach the coach about this? If so, how would you go about it?
- Is your approach affected by whether players had to try out to make this team?

ACTION

- Distribute copies to parents at the next youth sports event you attend.
- Send it to friends involved in youth sports and ask their opinions.
- Share this case and discuss these questions with your child.
- Share your opinion at www.positivecoach.org/CaseStudies.aspx or via e-mail to casestudy@positivecoach.org. PCA will publish all civil responses on our website.



www.positivecoach.org

American Medical Society
for Sports Medicine

American Youth Soccer
Organization

Institute for International
Sport

Little League International

National Association for
Sport & Physical Education

National Federation of State
High School Associations

Michigan State University
Institute for the Study of
Youth Sports

Pop Warner Little Scholars,
Inc.

USA Volleyball

USA Water Polo

US Lacrosse

About the National Conversation

Positive Coaching Alliance and its partners in the National Conversation distribute Case Studies periodically to stimulate conversation among youth and high school sports parents, coaches and leaders about the elements of good (and bad) coaching. If you share our goal that youth athletes receive the best coaching available, help us get these case studies to people you know who are involved with youth sports. Thank you.