

# Positive Coaching Alliance NATIONAL CONVERSATION ON GOOD COACHING

CASE STUDY #5 | SEPTEMBER 2008

## THE HOT-AIR FAN

**SITUATION** In the stands at your child's game, you hear another spectator berating the officials. Over time, this fan's criticism grows louder and more pointed, with a sprinkling of foul language. You notice other spectators glancing at the fan, and you sense a volatile situation developing. None of the coaches seem to be paying attention to what is happening in the stands and you wonder what your responsibility is in this situation.

- QUERY**
- What, if anything, might you say to the fan?
  - What other action might you take to correct the situation?
  - What concerns do you weigh as you decide how to proceed?

- 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](http://www.positivecoach.org/CaseStudies.aspx) or via e-mail to [casestudy@positivecoach.org](mailto:casestudy@positivecoach.org). PCA will publish all civil responses on our website.



[www.positivecoach.org](http://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.