

8. **Different coaches have different philosophies.** It is IMPORTANT to remember that your child's coach is not being paid, he is working for the love of the game and the kids. Let him be the coach! Don't argue in front of the kids and criticize in the background if you think your child is being treated unfairly. As parents, it is natural to be very protective, but most coaches aren't discriminating. If you think there is a problem, discuss it with the coach **AWAY** from the ball field; chances are that you will see his or her point of view. The important thing is not to make an issue in front of the players; along with baseball or softball, they are learning to work as a team and to respect authority and experience...work not to ruin this teaching.
9. **As a coach don't get focused on winning as being the only way to have fun.** If you can't enjoy the game without winning you are missing out on some of the best things about coaching. One of the most rewarding experiences possible is to take a player with little baseball/softball skill, no confidence in themselves, and help them develop over the course of the season to the point they look forward to his or her turns at bat because they know they can succeed. That player who came to practice with their head hanging, now stands tall with pride and a big smile on their face. Take the opportunity to enjoy your child's childhood, and to teach some important life lessons!
10. **The program only gets better if you volunteer.** We can't stress this enough: VOLUNTEER...we need you. One of the biggest irritants we see is those who will not give their time, but are quick to criticize. If you can't be part of the solution, don't be part of the problem. If you think that something needs to be changed, get involved so that you can change it.