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## True Sport Principle of the Year

### Respect Others

**This Principle Reads “Show respect for everyone involved in creating your sporting experience, both on and off the field. Win with dignity and lose with grace.”**

Respect Others is the Ringette True Sport Principle of the Year and Ringette PEI wants all of our members including players, parents, coaches, officials and fans to give some thought to what this principle means. Sport inherently has lots of emotion within it and sometimes those emotions get the better of us and our actions sometimes aren't in line with this principle.

For the 2018-19 ringette season we ask you to think about how you can live out this principle so you can do your part to make sure all the players on both teams and the officials have a very positive and enjoyable season. Here are a few things to consider as a coach:

- All eyes are on you. The players look to you for direction and the fans usually sit across or behind you. What type of example are you setting and what legacy are you building for yourself with your actions.
- You can and do impact the enjoyment of both teams on the ice and you have a responsibility that both teams leave the ice with their dignity. Have a plan in place should the score become one-sided so the score doesn't get out of hand.
- You are responsible for the behavior of your parents. Please communicate with them early in the season on how you expect them to behave in relation to their cheering in the stands and their comments towards and about the referees.
- Over the past three years, Ringette PEI's retention rate for officials is less than 25%. That means for every four officials who took up officiating in the last three years, there is only one that has continued to officiate. Please make sure that all your dialogue with officials is respectful and that you are setting an example for your team/fans on how to treat and support them.
- It is never okay to yell at a child/youth who is officiating (this could be said for adults as well). They are learning and building their confidence in calling a game just as players are learning the skills to play a game. If you have major concerns with the officiating, please raise your concerns with the director of officials in a calm respectful way after the game is done. This will give us the chance to work with our officials to improve their abilities.
- Players sign up to play ringette to play. Please consider fair play and each child's best interest when dividing ice time. Is winning at the expense of some children not playing very much really worth it?

We know the job of a coach is not an easy one and you are placed in positions to make lots of decisions throughout games and the season. We appreciate your work and look forward to you helping Ringette PEI live out our True Sport Principle this season. Have a great year.

