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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 parent/fan:

- Remember there are two teams on the ice and at a certain point excessive cheering when your team is ahead and winning easily doesn't feel very nice for the kids (and parents in some cases) on the other teams. When your team gets up, remember to tone it down.
- Coaches have a tough job managing lots of things. If you have concerns please be respectful in raising them and know that you have a board of directors who can assist if there are challenges.
- There is a huge shortage of officials and retaining them has been very challenging. It's not an easy job to officiate games and it doesn't get any easier when fans are yelling at them or banging on the glass. Give the officials a break and let them call the games. Coaches and teams have mechanisms in place to raise concerns with officials in a professional way as oppose to having people yelling at them on the ice.
- It is never ok to yell at a child official (or an adult for that matter). Imagine the official is your child and treat them accordingly.
- You can be an ambassador for the Respect Others principle by reminding those in the stands who are getting too emotionally involved in the game to tone it down. We all have a responsibility to look after the best interest of all the players on the ice remembering that the majority of them are still children.

We know that watching your children compete is a great source of pride and enjoyment for many parents and fans. Let's make sure that the pride and joy we have for our child/team doesn't come at the expense of another child/team and that we are living the Respect Others principle throughout the season.

