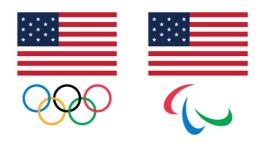


PARENT TOOLKIT

QUALITY PARENTING FRAMEWORK



UNITED STATES OLYMPIC & PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE

PARENT TOOLKIT

QUALITY PARENTING FRAMEWORK The quality of a young person's sport experience, and the personal assets they are able to develop, are shaped by multiple persons and contexts.

Among these, parents are one of the most salient. The appropriate quality of parent involvement can help youth reach their athletic and human potential while fostering a lifelong love of sport and physical activity.

In creating the Quality Parenting Framework and this parent toolkit, we hope that parents can reflect on, and adopt some of these best practices into, their existing parenting styles and consider how they can best serve their children in the context of sport.

Download the Full Quality Parenting Framework



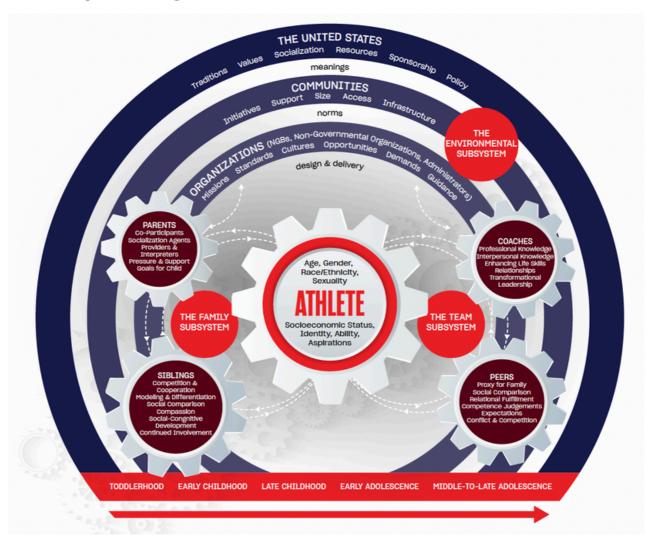
TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART 1: UNDERSTANDING PARENT ROLES	1
PART 2: AN ATHLETE-FOCUSED APPROACH	13
PART 3: SUPPORTING PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT	26
PART 4: SUPPORTING SOCIOEMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT	35
PART 5: SIX CONTEXTS OF SPORT PARENT INVOLVEMENT	46
CONCLUSION	66



PART 1: UNDERSTANDING PARENT ROLES

The potential for youth athletes to experience positive outcomes in sport depends on the people and environments, such as organizations, communities, and the broader United States systems, that they interact with. The involvement and influence of these will differ as the youth athlete develops and ages.



PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENTS

wno are some common people that <u>your child</u> interacts with outside of sport?
Who are some common people that <u>your child</u> interacts with in sport?
Who are some common groups of people that <u>you</u> interact with in sport?
Who are some common organizations that <u>you</u> interact with in sport?

PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENTS

We often refer to this social and cultural environment as the youth sport system. We know that multiple persons (i.e. parents, siblings, peers, and coaches) and contexts (i.e. organizations, communities, and societies) have the potential to influence or be influenced by an athletes' actions, attitudes, experiences, and outcomes.

PARENTS INTERACT WITH PEOPLE IN ALL CORNERS OF THE YOUTH SPORT SYSTEM



PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENTS

who do you interact with regarding your child's sport participation?
What organizations do you interact with regarding your child's sport participation?
Who could you interact with more to improve your child's sport experience?

PARENT ROLES IN SPORT

Generally, parents adopt three main roles as their children participate and compete in sport:

- Parents are ROLE MODELS
- Parents are PROVIDERS
- Parents are INTERPRETERS



ROLE MODELS

Parents' attitudes and actions impact athletes' thoughts, feelings, and actions in sport. Youth often see what their parents do and hear what they say which can lead to them imitating these behaviors that can impact their skill learning, social, actions, and performance.

f	0	r	•	У	′()	ι	IJ	r	(C	ŀ	1	il	(Ł	j	i	n	1	S	5	p)(0)]	r	t	_*	?	,																				•															•																							
		-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-							-																																								-	-																						-	-			
		-	-	-					-	-					-													-																												-						-	-							-	-											-						1 10	
				-																																																																																					
			-		-		-	-					-		-																											-																																											-	-		1 11	
		-	-	-					-	-					-								-					-					-				-	-				-													-	-							-							-	-			-						-	-	-	-						
																									į																																							į			ı			ı										_									
																													Ī					Ī												Ī																						_							Ī	ľ		'					Ī				ı	1 11	1 1
V				d		i	n	1	S	3	9	()	r	t		?								1	t))	Ł)	ϵ	9		6	ì	r	1	•	E	.	\	J	ϵ	9	t	n	l	ł)	•	9	t	1	Ţ	e	e I	7]	7	()	l	e	•	ľ	1	า	()	C	ł	E	1	1	f	C		r		J	7(0	J	J	r	•		
				d		i	n	1	S	3	9	()	r	t		?								1	t))	Ł)	ϵ	9		6	ì	r	1	•	E	.	\	J	ϵ	9	t	n	l	ł)	•	9	t	1	Ţ	e	e I	7]	7	()	l	e	•	ľ	1	า	()	C	ł	E	1	1	f	C		r		J	7(0	J	J	r			
				d	-	i) -	n -	1	S	3	O	•)	r -	t		?							-		t	-	• •	-	ŀ	•	-	=		ć	1	r -	1		•	-	-	<i>J</i>	· ·	_	-	``		ŀ	-	-	3	t	-1	-	e -	-			r.	_	-]	e		ľ	1	- -	-	-	- -	! "	•	1 -	1	f	•		r -		.	-	-	-		r			
				d	-	i) - -	n -	-	S	S] - -	•	-	- -	r -	t -		?					-	-	-	1	t		-	-	t)	-	=		a	1	r -	1		•		-	<i></i>	•	-		<u>'</u>		ŀ	-	-	2	t			e -	-			r.	_	-]	e -		ľ	<u> </u>	- -	-	-	-	1	•	1	1	f	•		r		.	-	-	-	-	r -			
				d	-	i) - -	n -	-	S	S] - -	•	-	- -	r -	t -		?					-	-	-	1	t		-	-	t	•	-	=		a	1	r -	1		•		-	<i></i>	•	-		<u>'</u>		ŀ	-	-	2	t			e -	-			r.	_	-]	e -		ľ	<u> </u>	- -	-	-	-	1	•	1	1	f	•		r		.	-	-	-	-	r -			

PROVIDERS

In a gatekeeping role, parents enable or discourage opportunities to participate and/or compete in sports. This includes registering for lessons and teams, transport to and from practice or games, purchasing equipment and clothing, attending sporting events, and paying incidental fees.

V f										-																			(е	•	S	3	ι	l	r	•	9		t	ł	1	1	8	1	t	,	J	/	C)	U	l	7	a	r	` (9	6	l	8	3)	()(C	l])	ľ	7	0	7(V	i	d	l	3	r				
																		-	-																																																		1 1					-			-		-			-		
																								-	-																																																-											
		-	-																																									-				-																															-	-	-	-		
																										į																								ı																													_					
																															Ī						ı	'							Ī																												_				_		- 111			-	1 16	
V	V	'ŀ ni	lo	d	j	r	1	5	S	u	1	c	ł r	ť	_	?	,							())	Ł)	E	9		ĉ	l	r	1	(e	•	V	' (е		r	1]	b)(ϵ) 1	t	t					-														O	Ì	•	`	У	()	U	1	7					
V	V h	't ni •	lo	d	i	r	1	5	S	u p	 	C	l r	t	_ •	?								-	.	-	Ł)	-	=		6	1	r	1		e	•	V	' (= =		r	1]	b	•	•	<u>•</u>	t	t					_									-					כ	ľ	-	_	y	•	-	u	-						
V	V h	't ni •	lo	d	i	r	1	5	S	u p	 	C	l r	t	_ •	?								-	.	-	Ł)	-	=		6	1	r	1		e	•	V	' (= =		r	1]	b	•	•	<u>•</u>	t	t					_									-					כ	ľ	-	_	y	•	-	u	-						
C	V h	't ni -	l (d	j	r	1		S	u p		C	l r	`t		?	-	-	-	-	-			-	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		t	•	-	=		<i>a</i>	1	r -	1	-	e			-	=		r -	1]	t		-	-	t -	t				-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-				O	- I	-	-	- -	-	-	- -	-	-	-	-	-		
C	V h	't ni -	l (d	j	r	1		S	u p		C	l r	`t		?	-	-	-	-	-			-	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		t	•	_	=		<i>a</i>	1	r -	1	-	e			-	=		r -	1]	t		-	-	t -	t				-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-				O	- I	-	-	- -	-	-	- -	-	-	-	-	-		
C	V h	't ni -	l (d	j	r	1		S	u p		C	l r	`t		?	-	-	-	-	-			-	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		t	•	-	=		<i>a</i>	1	r -	1	-	e			-	=		r -	1]	t		-	-	t -	t				-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-				O	- I	-	-	- -	-	-	- -	-	-	-	-	-		

INTERPRETERS

Parents' beliefs and actions convey messages to athletes, such as the importance of excelling in sport, how success is defined, and the appropriateness of activities based on an athletes' gender. Young athletes' perceptions of their parent's appraisal has a strong impact on their own beliefs and self-appraisals of ability.

V fo							-																ϵ	•	5	SI	u	r	Έ	•	t	ŀ	1	a	t	· ,	У	′()	U	l	a	ır	•	9	6	a	٤	3	O	C)(d	j	ir	1	t	e	r	ŗ)l	r	e	t	e	ì	•
			-		-				-		-				-	-	-	-	-											-		-		-	-							-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-	-	- 1			-					-	-			
	 		-		-		-																										-									-					-																-				
	 		-		-		-																										-																														-				
	 		-		-	-		-		-	-					-			-											-		-	-		-							-	-			-	-				-	-	-	-				-	-	-			-				
• •	 	-	-		-		-								-																		-											-																			- 1				
	 	-	- 1		-	-	-	-		-	-					-			-											-		-	-		-							-	-			-	-				-	-	-	-				-	-	-		-	- 1				
V c										٠			u	(d)	t)	ł)	e	•	6	l	n	1	e	'	7(e	r	1	Ł)(e	t	t	Œ	91	r	i	r	11		9	r	p	r	'	21	t•	Э	r	1	f)	r		У	C)(u	r	,	
	 	-	-		-	-		-	-	-	-				-		-		-											-	-											-	-							-	-			-	- 1			=	-	-	-		= 1				
		-	-		-	-		-	-	-	-				-	-	-	-	-										-	-	-	-	-	-	-							-	-	-	-		-			-	-	-	-	-	- 1			-	-	-	-		-	- 1			
	 		-		-		-																										-																														- 1				
	 		-		-		-																										-																														- 1				
	 		_								_	 																		_												_	_	_			_			_	_				_			_	_			_	_	_			

REFLECTION

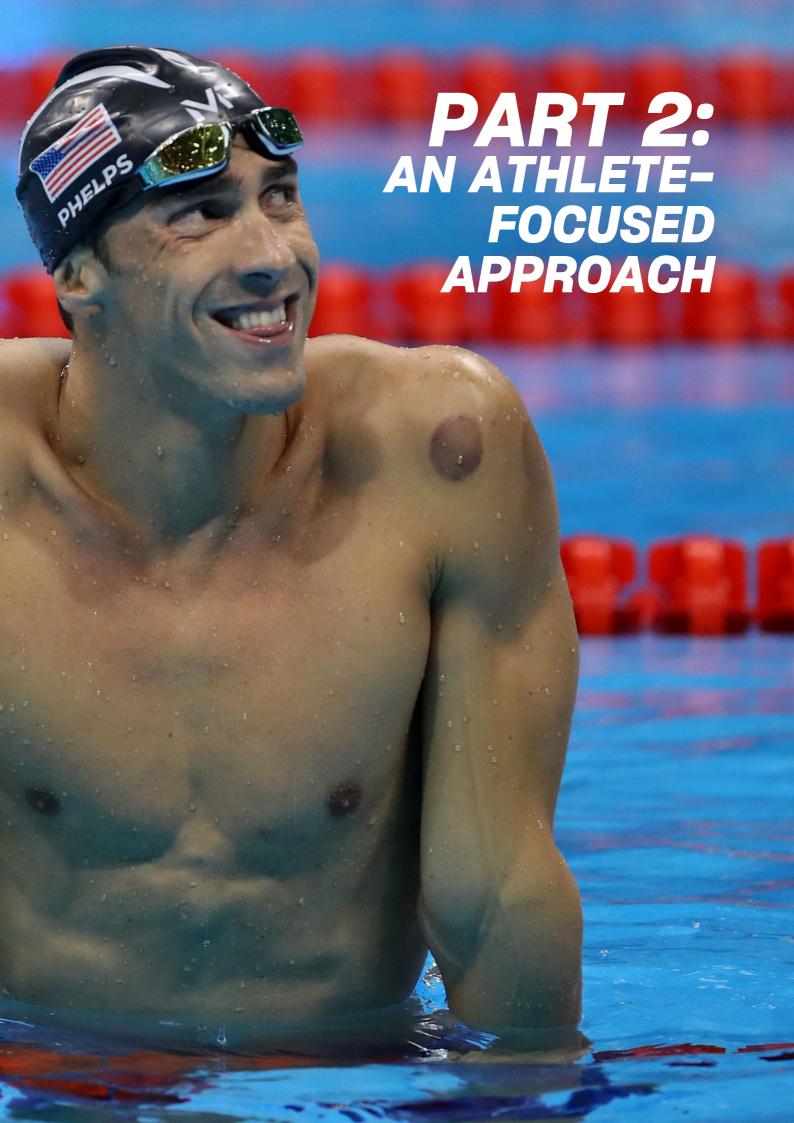
V	V	ŀ	1	a	t		r	()	I	ϵ)	S)	(d	())	I		ľ)	l	a	J	y	,	İ	r)		n	n]	y	/	C	2	ŀ)	(d	ľ	5	5	9	5	ŀ	,	L	,	l	ι	-	ϵ	9	>	(ľ)	ϵ)	r	l	ϵ	<u>.</u>	r)(С	`(3	,	•												
	-								-						-																																-																													-										
	-													-	-					-	-																-							-			-					-	-												-																					
	-														-					-	-							-				-					-							-			-					-													-	-										-										
	-	-	-					-	-			1															-	-																																					-																					
	-	-	-												-																													-										-											-	-											-							-	-	
	-																																				-			-				-										-											-	-					-	-				-	-								-	
	-														-																		-				-			-				-									-	-					-						-	=					-	-				-	-									
• •	-																																-	-			-			-				-									-	-					-						-	=					-	=				-	-								-	
	-	-	-						-																												-																												-											-	-			-	-		-	-	-	
V		L	:		٠,	h	1	ľ	٦,	0	ار	ŧ	2	5	5	(C	l	C)			(Ł	C)	,	V	λ	/(e		1	-)																																																			
-	V	I	11	(ار		•	1	•																									Ī																																																				
	V			•	ار ا			-						-																		-					-							-			-					-		-				-							-							-				-								-		
•••								-	-						-						-											-	-	-													-																		-																			-	-	
														-	-												-																																																											
	-													-	-												-																																																											
	-													-	-												-																																																											
	-													-	-												-																																																											
	-													-	-												-													-	-			-	-		-	-				-	-	-	-			-	-	-				-	-	-					-	-	-			-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-		
	-													-	-												-													-	-			-	-		-	-				-	-	-	-			-	-	-				-	-	-					-	-	-		 -	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-		

REFLECTION

V	V	h	į	C	ł)	Ì	r	()		ϵ	•	S	•	(2	()	ι	l	1	C	l			(d	l	0)		b)(e	1	t	t	_(e	•	ľ	•	?	•																																																
	-						-				-					-						-	-					-															-									-																			-					į						-											
	-					-					-					-																				-	-			-			-						-			-				-				-				-			-				-			=					-	-		-	-										
•	-				-		-				-				-	-							-					-				-				-	-			-			-						-			-				-				-							-				-			-					-	-		-											
	-		-				-				-											-															-																														-				-									-		-	-	-									
• •	-		-			-	-				-											-	-					-																																							-				-								-	-				-									
• •	-		-		-																	-	-	-				-				-					-			-									-							-								-			-												-	-				-									
• •	-		-		-	-																-	-	-				-				-					-			-			-						-							-								-			-				-						1 1		-	-				-									
• •	-				-																	-	=	-				-				-					-			-																						1					-				-						1 1			-				-							11		
• •	-		•	-	-		-				-					-						-	-					-				-								-			-						-					1		-								-			-				-									-			-	-				-	-	-		-	
L	ı	,,	X/	, ,	V	V	(1	ı	1	ı	(d		t	-	h	i	į	5		h)(e	ŀ	ľ))	ľ	1	n	Ţ	V	,	(2	ŀ	h	i	il	1	r	1		ŀ	`	-	2	١,	`	,	•	_		:	a		Ł)	(е	1	t	t	(е)	r	,	5	5	ľ))(C		7	t															
H	•	, ·	v		•				•	_	_															_						_	•								•	·	ı		•	I	•	٠	ı	1	•	•	_	•	•	•																•																					
e																										-																•	1			I	•	U	•	•	V	•	_		•	_																•																					
																																	-																				-		_																	•																					
																																	-			-	-			-			- -						-	•		-	-			=	-			-							-				-			-					-	-		-											
																						-	-				-	-					-			-	-			-			= =				-		-			-	-			=	-			-				-			-				-			-					-	-		-	-	-			-		-	-		-	
																								-								-	-							-							-		-			-	-		-	-	-			-			-	-				-			-			-	-				 			-				-			-			-	
																																-							-								-					-		,		-																							 														
	X	p	-	-	-j	i € - -	= = =	· I	1	-		-	3		?											-					-	-	-						-															11							-																		 														
e	X	p	-			i		I)	-			2		?																																																																														

GOAL SETTING

Use this space to write down some goals for your involvement in your child's sport related to the questions you just answered in Part 1. Use this space as a 'whiteboard' for drawings, sketches, or doodles as well as your writing.



PART 2: ADOPTING AN ATHLETE-FOCUSED APPROACH

Parenting style has received a large amount of attention in mainstream child psychology and is now seen as an important mechanism of parental influence in organized sport.

"HIGH-QUALITY SPORT PARENTING IS ATHLETE-FOCUSED"

Athlete-focused parenting gives youth athletes voice in their athletic experiences along with the autonomy to make decisions related to those experiences. Ultimately, a parent's goals should reflect a child's in sport.

There are a number of ways that parents can maximize positive and minimize negative experiences for their children in sport, while also helping their children develop personal assets.

- Create a safe environment for COMMUNICATION
- **Listen ACTIVELY**
- Ask with athlete-focused INTENT
- Identify and engage in the best forms of SUPPORT
- Explore and engage in MULTIPLE sport parenting ROLES
- Allow for AUTONOMY in athletes
 DECISION-MAKING
- Engage PURPOSEFULLY, and with CARE

CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR COMMUNICATION

Encourage athletes to share openly and freely about their sport participation.

"ATHLETES MUST KNOW THAT THEY CAN SHARE EXPERIENCES, INSIGHTS, IDEAS, AND FEELINGS WITHOUT JUDGEMENT, CRITICISM, FEAR, OR PUNISHMENT"

This includes both verbal and non-verbal communication. Parents must communicate that 'we are in this together.' The goal is to make the athlete feel safe and comfortable.

con	-	s i ur			-																e	a	t	e	6	l	S	a	f	e	•	er	ינ	√i	r	O	n	n	n	e	n	t	f	c)ľ	•	
											-				-																																
											-		-		-		-		-																			-									
	• • •										-		-		-									-			-		-												-						
	• • •	• • •									-		-		-				-					-			-		-									-		-	-		-				
											-		-		-				-					-			-		-					- 1		•		-		-	-		-		=		
	• • •										-		-		-				-					-			-		-									-		-	-						
	• • •														-				-					-		-	- 1		-									-		-	-		-		-		
			•								-		•		-				=		• •			•	•	-	-		•							•		-		-	-		-				
	• • •							•			-		-		-									-		-	-		-							•		-		-	-		-		=		
Wh	at	st	ra	te	g	i∈	es	(dc)	I	u	S	e	t	O) (Cl	re	26	ıt	e	6	ì	S	a	f	e	ϵ	er	ינ	Vİ	ir	O	n	n	n	e	n	t	?						
Wh	at	st	ra	t€	eg	įi∈	es		dc)	I	u	S	e	t	C	•	CI	re	26	ıt	e	6	1	S	a	f	e	•	:) '	vi •	ir	O	n	n	n	e	n	t	?				1 =		
Wh	at	st	ra	te	eg	ie	es		dc) 	I 1	u	S	e	t	: CO		Cl	re	26	at "	e	6	1	S	a	f	e	•	er •••) 	vi	ir · ·	0	n 	n	n•	e	n	t	?				-		
Wh	at 	st	ra	te	eg	i∈	es		dc) 	I ,	u 	S	e	t			CI	re	26	at	e		l :	S	a '"	f	e	•	- I	'' ''		ir 	0	n 	n 	n.	e	n 	t	?						• •
Wh	at	st	ra	te	g	:i€	es		dc		I :	u 	S	e	t			CI	re	26	nt	e		1 :	S	a	f	e		- I	יר 	vi	ir 	0	n 	n 	n·	e	n 	t	?						
Wh							•••	•••				•••		•••		•••				•••													• •			•••											
																																								-							
															-																							-		-							
																																								-				•••			

What str	rategies co	ould I used to create a safe environ	ment?
		re that I am creating an environme at they can communicate safely wi	
		S	
		S	
		S	
my child	to feel tha	S	th me?
my child	to feel tha	at they can communicate safely wi	th me?
my child	to feel tha	at they can communicate safely wi	th me?
my child	to feel tha	at they can communicate safely wi	th me?
my child	to feel tha	at they can communicate safely wi	th me?

LISTEN ACTIVELY

Active listening involves providing full, immersive attention to what is being shared. Some strategies to enhance this are minimizing distractions, allowing the athlete to speak without interruption, showing interest in an athletes' emotions, maintaining eye contact and nodding.

V li:									9	r		S	st		r	a	11	t	е	٤	S	i	е	5	5	(C	2(C)	ι	ı	10	C	ł		Į	J	S	60	e	e(d	t	C)	ľ)	r	6	ો (С	t	į	C	ϵ	•	6	1	C	t	i	\	/(Э										
	-	-					-	-																																	-																					-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	-						-	-		-			-	-																																																					-		-				- 1	- 1	
H																																																`	_			\	λ	<i>J</i> .	h	i	C		h		S	t	ī	· (3	t	e	<u>}</u>	უ 5	į	e	:5	}		
	-	-			-		-	-		-	-	-	-												-				-					-							-																					-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			



ASK WITH ATHLETE-FOCUSED INTENT

It is important to acknowledge that a athletes are active, autonomous participants in their sport experiences. Parents should view young athletes as valuable sources of information – treat them as stakeholders in their own sport experiences.

H ge									-								_												-											g	e	1)	ł	16	e)	lp)	t	h	ı€	er.	n	ĺ		
			-	-			-	-					-	-					-	-	-		-			-		-	 		-	-		-	-		-	-	 			-	-				-										
			-	-		-	-	-					-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-		-	-		-	-				-	-			-	-										
			-	-			-	-					-	-	-			-	-	-	-		-			-	-	-			-	-					-	-				-	-				-										
				-			-							-					-		-			-	-							-		-	-	- 1	-	-	-	-		-	-				-									-	
																																																					-				
W w e:	r	16	91	n]	Υ	lá	a	k	i	n	3																					•				•			٠								ilo	d	f	ì	r	S	t			
			-	-										-		-			-		-			-	-							-							 			-	-				-									-	
			-	-			-		- 1							-			-	-	-			-	-	-				-		-					-					-	-			-	-		4 =				-			-	
				-			-							-		-	 		-	-	-			-	-			-				-	 -		-		-	-	 				-				-										
				-			-							-					-	-	-	 				-	-		 		-	-	 -		-		 -	-	 			-	-				-										
																	 					 	 	_	_				 			_	 				 _		 			_											_			_	

IDENTIFY AND ENGAGE IN THE BEST FORMS OF SUPPORT

Ensure that your goals for your child's sport match theirs. Ask them to share their vision for what a supportive parent looks like to them – and act on it. If their responses are not specific enough to act on, follow up with more questions to get a better understanding.

"HOW CAN I BEST SUPPORT YOU?" "DO YOU WANT ME TO CHEER?"



EXPLORE AND ENGAGE IN MULTIPLE SPORT PARENTING ROLES

It is important for parents to ask their children before becoming a coach, team manager, or official/referee. Exploring athletes' thoughts and feelings about taking a dual-role is important to be able to make the best decision for their experience.

Hov bec				$\overline{}$			_							٠																		У	′ \	V	'C	l	ıl	d	1	E	26	el	(al	b	O	l	ıt		y	O	u	i
																				۰			•			- 1		-							•		•											-					
					-		-		-							-	- 1			-			-					-							-							-						-					
					-		-		-							-	- 1			-			-			-		-		-					-		-		-			-			-			-					
					•												- 1			•			-			-		-															- 1		-			-					
				•		•			-															• •							• •				•		•								-	-		-					
Wh	a	t	C	OI	ul	d	<u>ا</u>	y	o	u	(d	C	i	f	t	h	e	į	r	6	ł	1	S	N	/6	er	• (d	o	e	S	ľ)(O	t	n	าล	a	t	cl	h	1	V	i1	tł	1	V	V	h	a	t	
you	ΙV	V	ei	Έ	•	e:	X)	p	e	C	t	ir	12	5	?																																						
																-										- 1		-														-						-					
					-		-		-							-			-	-		-	-			-		-		-									-			-			-			-					
					-		-		-							-			-	-		-	-		-	-		-							-		-		-			-			-			-					

ALLOW FOR AUTONOMY IN ATHLETES' DECISION-MAKING

When parents assume their athlete wants to participate in sport, the parent is denying the child an opportunity to make an explicit choice on their own. This can have huge impacts on an athletes' sense of ownership and may ultimately backfire on the parent, who is trying to be supportive.

"IT IS THEIR JOURNEY!"

V e				•	•					n	15	5		C	C)l	U	ıl	C	l		У	()	ι	l	ć	a	.5	S	k	•	J	/(O	J	J	r	•	C	Cl	h	11	ŀ	d	l	8	ık)	O	J	ľ	t	1	Į	1	ϵ	9	İľ	•	S	}])	C)	r	t			
		 	 	 		 																																																									-	-		-	- 1		 	
						 		-																																					-														-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			 	
	-					 																							-	-																																					= 1		 	
H n						_						6	1	C	t	-	i	f	1	t	ŀ)(е	j	y	1	t	E		1	•	У	′(О	l	J	•	S	C		n	n	l€	3	t	ŀ	ì	r	ารู	y	1	tl	h	6	11	t	3	y	C)(u		V	V	e	1	^ (е		
	-	 				 																					-																																				-	-		-	- 1		 	

ENGAGE PURPOSEFULLY, AND WITH CARE

Sport parents are perhaps the most important part of a young person's network of social resources. Therefore, it is important that parents' attitudes, actions, and decisions serve as a way to enable their athlete to thrive. This requires empathy, offering support, and unconditional positive regard.

u										٠																٠	_														r	1	t	-	?	,			•		•												•	•					_																	
		= 1			-	-			-	-	-	-		-							-	-	-			-				-			-	-				-																		-	-			11			-									-	-		-									-		
		-		-	-	= 1																-	-											-				-				-							-							-	-						-	-								-		-												
	• •	-				-			-	-	-	-										-																											-																																			-		
• •		-							-				-	-							-	-	-							-			-	-				-					1												-	-	-			11													-	-	-											
		-			-	-			-	-	-	-									-					-				-																																																					-	-		
Н	o	V	V	C		DI	u	l	d		У	'()	ι	l	(d	()	-	t	ł	1	i	S	5		ϵ	•	\	V	•	9	ľ	1	1	ľ	1	n	(0)	r	٦(E	<u>,</u>	?	•		ŀ	ł	()	V	λ	,	(2	Ĉ	l	r	1	•	y	()	ι	l	כ	(9		t	ŀ)	e	•	ľ	1	1	C):	S	t	_	
H										•	_																												\mathbb{C}	6	a	l	r	1		Ł)	ϵ	•	•	?																																			
										•	_																												\mathbb{C}	6	a	l	r	1		Ł)	ϵ	•	•	?																																S			
										•	_																										l	•	2	6	a	.	r	1		Ł)	•	<u>.</u>	-	?						-			1 1		-							 			-												-		
										•	_																										l	-	C -	· (a	-	r	1		Ł)	•	_		?				-		-							-								-	-		-								-		-	
										•	_																										l	-	C -	· (a	-	r	1		Ł)	•	_		?				-		-							-								-	-		-										-	

GOAL SETTING

Use this space to write down some goals for your involvement in your child's sport related to the questions you just answered in Part 2. Use this space as a 'whiteboard' for drawings, sketches, or doodles as well as your writing.



PART 3: SUPPORTING PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Physical development in sport begins at a very young age and parents should consider athletes' physical development from toddlerood through young adulthood. Physical change is not always linear, fits and spurts in growth, learning, and performance are common and can stem from accommodation to new and ongoing training programs.

"LONG-TERM ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT"

When supporting young athletes' physical development, it is important to consider both growth and maturation. Growth is defined as an increase in body size, whereas maturation refers to the timing of and progress toward a physically mature body.

On average, females reach their greatest tempo of growth at 12 and males at 14.

SUPPORTING PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

There are three main areas of knowledge related to physical development that parents need to be aware of to best support their children.

- Foundational motor skill development is important.
- Parents don't have to answer the 'sport sampling' versus 'sport specialization' debate.
- Training load patterns and progressions should be implemented strategically.

FOUNDATIONAL MOTOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT

The key to athletic developpent is the acquisition of foundational motor skills. These include:

WALKING SKIPPING THROWING

BALANCING KICKING CATCHING

RUNNING JUMPING LANDING

"PHYSICAL LITERACY IS COMPETENCE, KNOWLEDGE, CONFIDENCE, AND MOTIVATION TO BE ACTIVE THROUGHOUT LIFE."

FOUNDATIONAL MOTOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT REFLECTION

As children develop, parents should strive to enhance physical literacy by fostering a strong sense of physical self and confidence in their children's physical movements by offering appropriate challenges.

Ho ³							•		٠									•														ir	•	
the																ľ	J						J											
	 		 					 	-	 		 	-	 				 														• •		
	 		 • •	• •	•			 • •		 		 		 				 																
	 		 • •	• •				 • •		 		 		 				 																
	 	• •	 		• •			 	-	 	-	 	-	 	•			 																
Ho you			_												_			h	a	t	W	/il		h	el	þ	C	le	V	el	lo _i	p		
	 	• •	 			-		 		 •	-			 	•			 							• •				• •		• •	• •	• •	
	 		 • •	• •	•		• •	 • •		 				 • •				 																
	 		 				 	 		 		 _		 				 								_								

SPORT SAMPLING VERSUS SPORT SPECIALIZATION

In the past 20 years, research has shown that sampling a wide range of sports during childhood is more likely to result in elite sport performance than early specialization in a single sport.

Participating in multiple sports, positions, or events results in well-rounded motor skills which can transfer across sports when athletes are given adequate rest and recovery.

EARLY SPECIALIZATION IS LINKED TO INJURY, BURNOUT, AND DROPOUT FROM SPORT

Decisions about specialization may vary across sport types. For example, some 'early entry' sports such as gymnastics, diving, golf, figure skating, and skiing, may necessitate specialization prior to physical maturity.

þ											•				- 1	•	-	•																										-																		•	•							d	()		У	· ()	U			
													-								-	-	-	-	-				-	-	-					-																		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-															 	
							-		-				-										-	-											-												-									-		-	-			-	-	-				-									1 11	1 11	 1 1	
	-						-	-	-				-								-	-	-	-	-				-	-	-					-	-			-														-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-															 	
																									-												-																	-	-			-			-			-				-											 	
																				-			-	-						-	-				-	-	-				-					-	-																					-									4 1	4 11	 4 1	
	-	-	-	-			-			-	-	-																													-						-																																 	
V S S	0	C	ci	ć	a		J	y	•	ć	a	r)	d		ľ)	S	5.																	۰																		•							•			٠								_								
S	o p	e	ei ee	ia C	a i	ll a	y l	y li	, Z	7.7	a	r) i	d	 	ľ) (?	5.	У	′(2	ł	1(C	ol	lo	0	٤	g	İ	C	Zi	a	ı		Į	У	ĉ	a)	r	1	C	ł		ŀ	10	0	7	λ	J	Ì	1	ว	į	3	ŀ	11	t	t	ŀ	1	İ	S	i	n	n	ŗ)	8	1(2	t							
S S	o p	·C	ei e	C	a ia	a •	\ \	y li	, Z	7.7	a a "	r t	i i	d C	 -	F n) ו`.	?	5.	y	" (ŀ](C) ' "	l	0	\	<u></u>	i	•	: :	a	• l		ly	y	~	1	r	1	C	1		ŀ	-	_	-	\	J	1	Υ	า า	ię	3	l-	1 1	t •	1	:}	1	i:	S	i	n	n	F)	a	\ ' '	C	t							
S	o p	·C	ei e	C	a ia	a •	\ \	y li	, Z	7.7	a a "	r t	i i	d C	 -	F n) ו`.	?	5.	y	' (ŀ](C)] ' "	l	0	\	<u></u>	i	•	: :	a	• l			y	a	a 1	r -] ·	C	: 	-	- -	-	-	-	-	<i>J</i>]	Υ	า วา	i g	5	- -	1 1	t -	-	:}	1	i:	S	 i)	n	<u> </u>)	a		C	t							
S	o p	·C	ei e	C	a i	a •	\ \	y li	, Z	7.7	a a "	r t	i i	d C	 -	F n) ו`.	?	5.	y	' (ŀ](C)] ' "	l	0	\	<u></u>	i	•	: :	a	• l			y	a	a 1	r -] ·	C	: 	-	- -	-	-	-	-	<i>J</i>]	Υ	- -	i {	=	- -	1 1	t -	-	- - -	-	i:	S	i)	- -	- -)	a		2	t						 	
S	o p	·C	ei e	C	a i	a •	\ \	y li	, Z	7.7	a a "	r t	i i	d C	 -	F n) ו`.	?	5.	y	" (ŀ](C)] ' "	l	0	\	<u></u>	i	•	: :	a	• l			y	a	a 1	r -] ·	C	: 	-	- -	-	-	-	-	<i>J</i>]	Υ	- -	i {	=	- -	1 1	t -	-	- - -	-	i:	S	i)	- -	-)	a		2	t						 	

TRAINING LOAD

As athletes develop, they may be asked to increase their participation.



- Athletes should not exceed the "age vs. hours rule."
 Athletes who are not competing at the national level or higher should not participate in more hours per week than their current age.
- An athletes' acute workload (hours per week) should be between 0.8 and 1.2 times the athletes' chronic workload (the average hours per week over the last four weeks).
- Prior to becoming 'elite,' athletes must be given time and space to discover, learn, play, develop, train, compete, and perform and succeed.

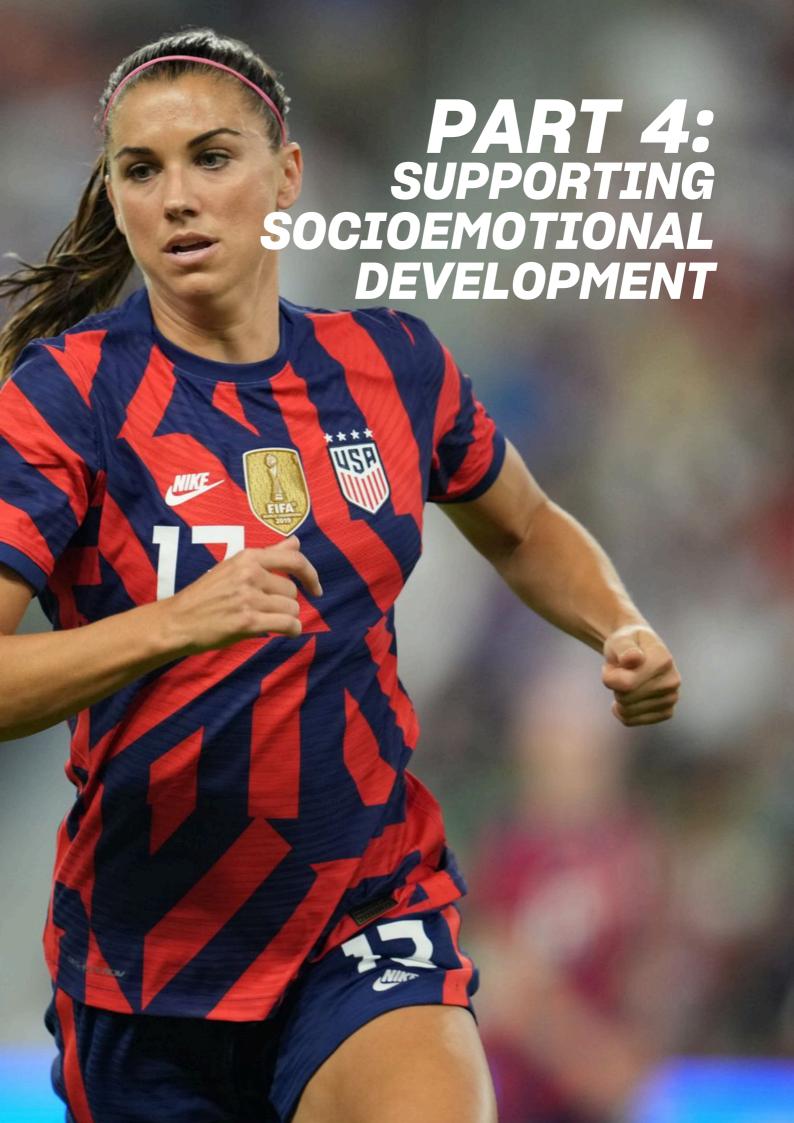
TRAINING LOAD REFLECTION

Athletes' opportunities for physical development in sport begins at a very young age and are shaped by the experiences that parents afford them.

su ch	it	a	b	le	9	f						•										•	_				-	•												•	_							1	τ			
						-				-					-			-							-				 	-			-		-									- 1		- 1		-				
						-		-		-		4 =	-		-			-		- 1			-	-	-				 	-			-		-								-	= 1		-	 -	= 1			 	
						-				-					-			-							-				 						-									= 1		-	 -	-				
						-		-		-					-			-					-		-				 	-			-		-								-			- 1	 -	- 1				
						-		-		-								-	-	-			-		-				 				-		-												 -				 	 ı
										-					-														 																			-				
Ha dis	SC	CC)\	/6	er	,	p		a	У	•	t	ra	ai	ir	١,	(9	t	С	?	•	H	ł	О	V	V	C	Οl	u	lc	ł	У	'C	ρl	l	p	r	O	V	į(d	e) I				ır	'r	1,		
								-		-					-			-	-																																	
								-		-			-		-			-	-	- 1		-	-	-	-				 				-		-			۰					-	- 1		- 1	 =	- 1			 	
• • •						-		-		-					-			-	-	-			-		-				 				-		-								-	= 1		- 1	 =	= 1			 	

GOAL SETTING

Use this space to write down some goals for your involvement in your child's physical development related to the questions you just answered in Part 3. Use this space as a 'whiteboard' for drawings, sketches, or doodles as well as your writing.



PART 4: SUPPORTING SOCIOEMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

There are a range of socioemotional benefits that have the potential to be realized when organized sport participation is designed and delivered in a purposeful way. Parents have the potential to influence this development in four main ways:

- There are pros and cons to participation in organized sport.
- It is imperative to create a mastery-oriented motivational climate.
- There is great value in engaging in parent education and training.
- Parents should contribute positively to the coach-parent relationship.

PROS AND CONS

While sport participation is generally assumed to be beneficial for young people, there are potential negative outcomes. Incidents of bullying and maltreatment, declines in moral development, and increased experiences of stress and burnout have been document.

"THOSE WHO SURROUND YOUNG ATHLETES HAVE THE ABILITY TO PRIORITIZE POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT"

One of the underlying issues is the increase in the popularity of 'elite' sport specialization. Most important is the shift from athlete-oriented, holistic, enjoyment focused, and skill development approach to a more professional image for youth sport. This has resulted in a greater emphasis on the development of the most talented athletes.

PROS AND CONS REFLECTION

Those close to the athlete, specifically parents, have the potential to be able to positively influence the youth sport experience by focusing on enjoyment, development, and fun.

Н у									_									•		٠																								•													p	•	91	rì	ĺ€	3	n	1(20	e	•	İÌ	า				
					-	-	-										-		-		-	-		-	-		-				-										-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-						-			-						-	-						-
		-			-	-	-																																																-																		-
					-	-	-													-	-																										-	-		-						-													-	-	-	-	-
					-		-										-		-	-	-	-	-			-	-				-														-	-	-		-		-					-	-	-	-	-						-	-			-			
					-														-		-	-	-			-		-	-												-																									-	-						
A ov re m	v ef	e	r a	e	n) (j(C	y J	'r	Y) (e	ì	n	t	-	6	l	n	(þ	(d	le	9	\	/(e	ŀ	C)	p	Ì	Υ	1	e	eľ	1	t	?	•	ŀ	-	•)	V	V	?	•	ŀ	I	O	/	λ	,	C	6	al	n		У	' ()	U	l							
					-		-												-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-	-		-						-	-			-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	-						-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
= = :		-			-	-	-												-	-	-	-		-	-		-		-		-										-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	-	-						-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
																																																																			-						-
							-													-						-	-	-	-		-										-		-	-	-	-	-			-	-						-			-						-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

MASTERY-ORIENTED MOTIVATIONAL CLIMATE

Designing and delivering a mastery-oriented climate can be challenging. Parents can often judge their success as parents by how successful their children are in domains such as sport.

"SUCCESS CAN BE DEFINED IN MULTIPLE WAYS"

It is important for parents to keep a holistic definition of success and development and focus on how their child is improving rather than how they compare to other children.

This can be difficult to do with the rising costs of youth sports where parents can begin to pressure their children to 'perform.'

MASTERY-ORIENTED MOTIVATIONAL CLIMATE REFLECTION

V SI O	u	C	C	C)	S	S		?		\mathcal{D})(О)	У	/(0	J	Ĺ)	C	()	n	n	Ţ)	ć	l	r	e	•	t	ŀ	1	e)	1	1	1	t	О) -	t	h		9	i	•	p)6	19	S	t	S	S E	el	f	•	a	ľ)(d	1	f	0	C	CI	u	S)		
											-																																											-											-	-							
											-																																			-			-			-		-			-								-	-			-				
																																																						-			-								-								
	-				-						-																																											-			-								-	-	-		-				
• •	-			-			-														-																									-		-	-	-		-	-	-			-	-	-						-	-		-	-				
V 'p th)(er a	t	1) [r J	n	n	'' 6	?)	I	S	;	t	ł	1	e)	r	e	, .	t	ŀ	ì	İ	1	2	5	S	, .	t	ŀ	1	a	t	-	y	/(O	ί	l	(2	a	ır	1	(þ	0	1	t	С	1	e	et		t	h	E	91	n	1	ŀ	(n	10)	V				
• •	-			-			-									-					-																									-		-	-	-		=	-	= 1			-	-	-					-	-	-		-	-				
• •	-			-			-														-																									-		-	-	-		-	-	-			-	-	-					-	-	-		-	-			-	
	-																																													-			-			-		-			-								-	-			-				
	-		-								-			-	-	-		-			-	-	-																											-							-										-						
						8																									1	1	1	1				1		1	1	1		1		-								-			-							-				п		-			

PARENT EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Research has shown that parent education can have significant effects on the positive experiences youth athletes may have in sport.

Parents who engage in active sport education often report having better knowledge and skills related to sport-parenting which results in their child perceiving higher parental support, and lower levels of sport-related stress.

"PARENTS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO SELECT DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE SPORT SETTINGS"

PARENT EDUCATION AND TRAINING REFLECTION

Think about your time involved in your child's sport so far. How do you select what sport clubs/teams for your child to join? What could you consider the next time you go through this process, or what could you have thought about more last time?
What could you do to begin to learn more about your child's sport participation and become more informed?
What resources could you use to find places to become more educated about your child's sport? Websites, groups, workshops?

THE COACH-PARENT RELATIONSHIP

Parents should take it upon themselves to positively contribute to the coach-athlete relationship. Parents, as an integral part of the youth sport system, find themselves in a key role to influence their child's sport relationships.

"PARENTS AND COACHES PLAY DIFFERENT ROLES IN SPORT"

Parents can enhance their relationship with coaches, and therefore the coach-athlete relationship, by establishing and respecting roles and the demands of each party involved.

THE COACH-PARENT RELATIONSHIP REFLECTION

Take some time to reflect on your relationship with your child's sport coaches. Which are good? Which are bad? What happened to make that the case?

v d																٠					•				_									•					•																						٠	′	1		<u> </u>	2	n	
u У																														-																				-	•			_												a	11	l
b	O	U	lľ	า	C	l	a	r	į	e	2	3	?																																																							
• •			-	-				-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-						-	-	-	-	-			-	-			-		-	-					-			-	-			-	-				-					-	= 1			-	
• •			-	-				-		-		-	-					-		-	-						-				-			-				-	-	-				-		-			-	-			-	-	- 1			-	-				-				-	
			-	-				-		-	-	-	-					-	-		-						-				-		-	-				-	-	-													-	-				-						-				
			-	-				-		-	-	-	-					=	-	-	- 1						-				-		-	-				-	-	-				-		-			-	-			-	-	- 1			-	-								-	
			-	-				-		-	-	-	-					=	-	-	- 1						-				-		-	-				-	-	-				-		-			-	-			-	-	- 1			-	-				-	-			-	
V	V	h	6	11	t	(2	a	ľ	1	•	y	C)(J	(d	C)	t	O)	e	er er	1	h	16	a	r	1(C (e	•	У	/ ()	u	r	· (С	h	ıi	l	d	'5	S	r	E	ŀ	a	t	i	С	n	ıs	sł	า	iŗ)	\	V	'i1	tl	h				
tl	10	e	i		(2(0	6	a	C	ŀ	า'	?	,	H	1	O	V	V	•	С	C)(J	l	d		У	'()	u	l	i	n	f	lı	u	e	r)(C	e	•	t	h	16	ei	r	l	~ (el	la	11	į	C	ì	1	S	h	ij	p	1	f	O	r			
tl	1	e	ŀ)	E	1	t1	t	e	r	•	•																																																								
				-									-					-			-						-						-	-				-	-	-																							-	-			-	
			-	-				-		-	-		-		-			-			-						-							-	-			-	-	-	-												-	-	-			-	-				-	= 1			-	

GOAL SETTING

Use this space to write down some goals for your involvement in your child's socioemotional development related to the questions you just answered in Part 4. Use this space as a 'whiteboard' for drawings, sketches, or doodles as well as your writing.



PART 5: SIX CONTEXTS OF SPORT PARENT INVOLVEMENT

- Parenting
- Communicating
- **3** Volunteering
- Learning at Home
- **5** Decision-Making
- 6 Collaborating

PARENTING

Parenting involves the actions and principles that set the context for athletes' sport participation. Below are 13 key indicators of quality parent involvement in sport.

- Provide early exposure to many sports.
- Cover the cost of registration, equipment, and travel.
- Ensure athletes are benefitting from a safe sport environment.
- Attend competitions but leave the coaching up to the coach.
- Show interest in the athletes' talent and progess.
- Set clear standards and expectations of athlete conduct.

PARENTING

- Be purposeful about athlete development.
- Allow athletes to solve their own problems when facing a challenge.
- Avoid coercion and punishment, do not use bribery as a motivator.
- Focus on effort and personal improvement.
- Provide emotional support in times of stress.
- Shift from leading early experiences to a supporter role.
- Avoid viewing sport involvement as an 'investment' in the future.

PARENTING REFLECTION

spend some time thinking about the 13 points made on the previous two pages. Take a moment to write down which you do the best, and which 3 you could improve on the modern of the moder	ost.
	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
How can you maximize the three that you do well, to mak them even better?	
How can you make sure that you improve on the 3 that you have the most room for improvement in?	ou

COMMUNICATING

Communicating involves the clarification of expectations, provision of feedback, discussion of sport performance, and reinforcement of actions. Below are 9 tips to improve parent-child communication in sport – and outside of sport.

- Avoid unsolicited sport-specific feedback.
- Provide positive reinforcement and encouragement related to participation.
- Foster a culture where athletes feel comfortable talking about their sport participation.
- Communicate and problem-solve with athletes facing challenging situations.

COMMUNICATING

- Create realistic expectations that align with athletes' skill and motivation.
- Approach conversations calmly and non-judgementally.
- Communicate with sport organizers and coaches about the value of life skills and values.
 - Keep emotions in check; avoid communicating negatively
- towards referees, coaches, athletes, or parents.
- Foster common values and a sense of community.

COMMUNICATING REFLECTION

Take a few minutes to think about how you communicate with athletes, parents, coaches, and officials in your child's sport. Write about a situation where you could have communicated better with one of those groups.
Now think about a time where you communicated well with one of those groups. Write about what happened.
Now relate these experiences to the 9 principles before, which did/did you not implement during those exchanges. How could you have used them to communicate better?

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering is another way parents are engaged in youth sport. Volunteering enables parents to support organizational activities by contributing to management, administration, operations, coaching, and fundraising.

In doing so, parents interact with others to contribute to a broader sense of community and positive team climate. Below are four key indicators of quality involvement in the context of volunteering.

- Volunteer as time and resources permit to support the overall system.
- Help coaches, administrators, and other parents with logistics, travel, and fundraising.
- Participate in telephone trees, parent patrols, and other operations.
- Recruit and nurture the involvement of other parents.

VOLUNTEERING REFLECTION

your child's sport activities in the past year.
How did this help your experience? Your child's experience? Other parents' experiences? Other children's' experiences?
How can you make volunteering in your child's sport a priority in the next 12 months? What can you do to help and be more involved?

LEARNING AT HOME

Learning at home is a tangible way that parents can support athletes' development. Parents may engage in free play opportunities or in more formal skill development with their athletes. Parents can be instrumental in supporting their athletes' at-home learning with in-home learning opportunities. Next are 9 key indicators of quality parent involvement in at-home learning opportunities for their child athletes.

Support athletes' sport practice by encouraging involvement, participating with them, and setting aside time dedicated to development.

- 2 Assist with athletes' goal setting
- Understand what athletes are learning and help motivate and reinforce that learning.
- Foster interactions with multiple social agents to facilitate motivation.

LEARNING AT HOME

- Seek out climates that encourage sport and physical activity by watching sport and being active.
- Reinforce 'teachable moments'
 and acknowledge when athletes
 demonstrate skills learned in sport
 outside of the sport context.
- Ensure athletes have a healthy diet and begin to internalize healthy nutritional principles.
- Discuss the value of teamwork, character development, respect for authority, and enjoyment.
- Ensure sufficient rest and recovery as well as time away from sport.

LEARNING AT HOME REFLECTION

develop in sport at home in the past.
How did this happen? Did you plan it? Was it accidental?
How could you make sure it happens more in the future?
Deflect on how this impacts your shild's sport synoriones
Reflect on how this impacts your child's sport experience. Think about both performance based and non-performance based outcomes.

DECISION-MAKING

Decision-making is a primary form of parent engagement during the early years of sport participation. During this time period, parents are instrumental in enrolling their children and in supporting their continued involvement. There are 10 main indicators of quality parent decision-making in sport.

- Allow for athletes' increased ownership as they enter adolescence.
- Engage with athletes in relation to setting goals for their sport involvement.
- Assist with athletes adopting time management strategies.
- Monitor progress regularly to support learning and motivation.
- Provide informational support in relation to decisions about the athletes' choice of club.

DECISION-MAKING

- Ensure a balance of parent direction and athlete independence.
- Allow teachers/coaches to have more influence as the athlete ages and skill develops.
- Promote a positive culture and focus on holistic development.
- responsibility in addressing negative interactions with spectators, participants, and coaches.

Demonstrate leadership

Support continuing education and professional development for coaches and parents in sport.

DECISION-MAKING REFLECTION

recently?
Where could you have offered more or less guidance on a decision, depending on your athletes' age or skill level?
How can you provide more suitable decision-making guidance and freedom in relation to sport in the future with your child?
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

COLLABORATING WITH OTHERS

Collaborating with others promotes positive interactions among a variety of stakeholders, including athletes, parents, siblings, coaches, and peers. There are a number of ways that parents can engage positively with others in organized sport. Below are 9 indicators of quality collaboration between parents and others.

- Interact respectfully and positively with other parents
- Encourage and congratulate other athletes on the team.
- Encourage friendships and positive interactions among teammates.
- Create opportunities for families to network and connect to foster a positive climate and build a sense of community.

COLLABORATING WITH OTHERS

- Be mindful of sibling interactions and investments and their impact on the family.
- Foster positive relationships and friendships with other parents.
- Work to enhance communication among those engaged in an athletes' life.

Realize that the sense of

- community resulting from positive interactions has an effect on parental satisfaction and athletes' continued involvement.
- Foster positive parent-to-parent interactions that add value.

COLLABORATING WITH OTHERS REFLECTION

youth sport?
•••••
How has this changed both your own, and your child's, youth
sport experiences?
•

••••••
How could you collaborate with others more in the future to enhance the sport experience even further?

GOAL SETTING

Use this space to write down some goals for your involvement in your child's sport related to the questions you just answered in Part 5. Use this space as a 'whiteboard' for drawings, sketches, or doodles as well as your writing.



CONCLUSION

The goal of the Quality Parenting Framework is to inform, not prescribe, how parents can most effectively engage with athletes and other stakeholders in organized sport.

The previous six parts focus on core principles related to high-quality sport parent involvement. The USOPC understands that parenting is complex and acknowledges that there is no single pathway to perfect parenting in sport. However, this toolkit provides an opportunity for you to learn and reflect on evidence-based, informed decisions about how key stakeholders should collectively think of, speak about, and enact high-quality parenting across the full range of Team USA sport contexts

The potential for youth to experience positive social, cognitive, emotional, and physical outcomes through sport depends largely on the social and cultural environment in which their experiences occur. Within this broader environment of the youth sport system, parent involvement stands out as an important contributor to athletes' attitudes, beliefs, values, and actions in the sport domain. Key parenting principles that enhance young people's enjoyment of and confidence about their ability in sport are essential to motivating a lifetime of sport and physical activity participation.

NOTES:

Use this space to make notes of anything to remember or implement once you have completed the toolkit.

PARENT TOOLKIT QUALITY PARENTING FRAMEWORK



