***My Coaching Philosophy***

 I coached my daughter’s Catholic Youth League basketball team when she was in the fifth grade and we had a great deal of fun. Although the league was competitive, there were some basic rules that I firmly stood by.

 I plan to hold two practices a week and expect my players to come to practice if they want to play. However, studies should come first, and if a player misses because she has a big test the following day, she will be excused. I am also willing to hold a homework session for an hour before one of our practices each week if the girls find it helps them to get homework done so they can focus on basketball, get some exercise and have fun. If the girls work together on their homework, it helps them to play together as a team on the court.

 I believe that all of my players should have equal playing time during the game. For example, if I have ten players and two 16-minute halves each girl will play about 16 minutes during the game. If someone is not at the game, another girl may play a couple of minutes more or less but I will make an effort to ensure that each girl is treated fairly. At this age level, I think it is more important that the girls learn teamwork and team spirit.

 Finally, I am willing to coach girls at all skill levels. At this age, it is very important for girls to learn that everyone has strengths and weaknesses and, by working together, we can enhance each other by working with and through them. Even the smallest accomplishment can make a difference in the life of a child so we will celebrate all of them.