

# news

ISSUE ONE | MARCH 2024



URPA

GOOD SPORT UTAH

## What is Good Sports Utah?

It is a state wide sportsmanship initiative dedicated to changing our youth sports culture into a positive place for young athletes, their families, coaches, and game officials.

Did you know that 55% of game officials leave because of verbal abuse from parents and fans? This jeopardizes all youth sports programs from recreation to competitive. This is a nation wide statistic that Utah Recreation and Parks Association (URPA) is working to combat. Starting with local city programs, special service districts, and all the way up to Utah's professional sports teams, URPA is sharing the message of "Don't be a Richard" in order to turn our youth sports culture

from what can be a negative situation for everyone involved to a much more positive and supportive space where athletes, fans, parents, officials, scorekeepers are thriving, instead of just surviving. How is URPA doing this? Please read on through this newsletter that is released quarterly. Youth sports fans, parents, coaches, and officials will be given tools and know how on how to make a positive impact on not just their players experience, but their own experience.

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# The Positive Parent Pledge

Children participate in sports for a variety of reasons; physical fitness, friendship, and fun typically top the list.

The goal of youth sports should center around the participants building skills, competing and having fun! Adults can support that effort by cheering and encouraging all players, coaches, and officials along the way.

Do not mistake winning as the most important factor. If children are doing their best and enjoying the game they have already won.

Players, coaches, and officials are human and make mistakes. Pointing out those mistakes creates a negative environment for everyone.



**URPA**

**GOOD SPORTS  
UTAH**

focusing on:

**RESPECT  
KINDNESS  
LEADERSHIP  
POSITIVITY  
SPORTSMANSHIP**

to elevate the youth  
sports experience

## POSITIVE PARENT PLEDGE



### PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR PLAYER AS A POSITIVE SPORT PARENT BY PLEDGING -

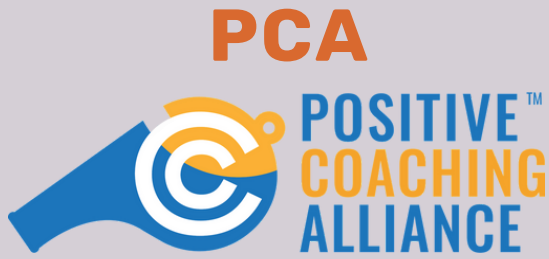
- I will exemplify good sportsmanship towards everyone including players, coaches, officials, and spectators.
- I will remember that children will follow my example - good or bad.
- I will applaud good performances by my child's team and opponents.
- I will speak positively towards officials and coaches.
- I will show respect to and express appreciation for the officials, coaches, coordinators, and facilities.
- I acknowledge that mistakes and losing are part of life.
- I pledge to be tolerant of the mistakes made by players, coaches, officials, and others.
- I will voice my concerns by providing constructive feedback through the appropriate channels of the league at the appropriate time.
- I will choose to be positive and kind so game days are fun!

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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PCA's vision is to build a world where every child benefits from a positive youth sports experience with a coach who inspires them to become the best version of themselves in the game and in life. PCA trains coaches and partners with youth sports organizations, parents, sports leaders, and communities to make youth sports more positive, equitable, and accessible to all kids regardless of social or economic circumstances.

**POSITIVE  
COACH  
.ORG**

# The Power of Positive

## POSITIVECOACH.ORG

A positive approach gets the most from youth and high school athletes, which is what coaches, parents and the athletes themselves want. Staying positive also helps youth get the most out of sports.

Encouraging athletes with positive reinforcement helps them hear and heed the necessary corrections. With that winning combination of truthful, specific praise and constructive criticism, athletic performance improves and so do the chances that kids stick with sports longer and learn all the valuable life lessons inherently available through organized competition.

Academic research and real-world scoreboard results from millions of coaches, parents and athletes that PCA has trained and educated prove what the pro and college coaches on PCA's National Advisory Board already know: Positive is powerful.

<https://positivecoach.org/the-power-of-positive/>

## WHAT YOUR KIDS WANT YOU TO KNOW



We asked kids from all over Utah, and they answered. Watch the video to find out what they want you to know.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FAkTSzx7KEs>



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MARCH 22ND-APRIL 5TH

# Utah Sportsmanship Week with the Pros!

You are invited to participate in our message throughout the state during Sportsmanship Week with our professional sports teams at their live sporting events!

## PARTICIPATE IN OUR MESSAGE



ATTEND ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING PROFESSIONAL SPORTING EVENTS DURING SPORTSMANSHIP WEEK WITH US!



March 22nd | UTAH ROYALS  
@ 7:30pm  
America First Field  
Redeem discounted tickets [here](#)



March 30th | REAL SALT LAKE  
@ 7:30pm  
America First Field  
Redeem discounted tickets [here](#)



March 26th | SALT LAKE CITY STARS  
@ 7:00pm  
Delta Center  
Redeem discounted tickets [here](#)



April 3rd | SALT LAKE BEES  
@ 6:35pm  
Smith's Ballpark  
Redeem discounted tickets [here](#)



March 27th | UTAH GRIZZLIES  
@ 7:10pm  
Maverick Center  
Wear your Youth Sports Jersey  
Redeem discounted tickets [here](#)



April 5th | UTAH WARRIORS  
@ 7:00pm  
Zions Bank Stadium  
Redeem discounted tickets [here](#)



GOOD SPORTS  
UTAH

Thank You to Our  
Sportsmanship Week  
Hosts:

UTAH JAZZ  
SALT LAKE CITY STARS  
UTAH GRIZZLIES  
SALT LAKE BEES  
REAL SALT LAKE  
UTAH ROYALS  
UTAH WARRIORS



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