

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE
HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS**



NEWS RELEASE

Free Online Course – The Role of the Parent in Sports – Now Available

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INDIANAPOLIS, IN (October 19, 2010) — A new online education course – *The Role of the Parent in Sports* – is now available through the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) at www.nfhslearn.com.

Similar to the *Concussion in Sports – What You Need to Know* online course released in May, the new parent course is being offered at no cost. Anyone can register for the free course at www.nfhslearn.com.

“Parents of students who participate in athletics make a huge difference in the quality of the sport experience for their sons and daughters,” said Tim Flannery, NFHS assistant director who directs the NFHS Coach Education Program. “Parents unintentionally spoil the educational experience of their children at times by the way they talk to them after games, behave in the stands and interact with coaches and officials. This online course provides information and resources to help parents understand their role in ensuring an educational experience for their son or daughter.”

The NFHS Coach Education Program was started in 2007, and more than 140,000 coaches have taken the core course — *Fundamentals of Coaching*. Forty-five of the 51 NFHS member associations have adopted the course.

In addition to the core courses (*Fundamentals of Coaching* and *NFHS First Aid for Coaches*), eight sport-specific courses are available in football, basketball, soccer, softball, cheer and dance, spirit safety, wrestling and volleyball. The program also includes four elective courses and the two free courses.

The NFHS offers coaches the ability to become Level 1 certified as an Accredited Interscholastic Coach. In addition to the *Fundamentals of Coaching* course, coaches must complete *NFHS First Aid for Coaches*, or its equivalent, and one of the sport-specific courses or *Teaching Sport Skills*, and then can apply for certification online.

All NFHS coach education courses are available at www.nfhslearn.com.

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About the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS)

The NFHS, based in Indianapolis, Indiana, is the national leadership organization for high school sports and fine arts activities. Since 1920, the NFHS has led the development of education-based interscholastic sports and fine arts activities that help students succeed in their lives. The NFHS sets direction for the future by building awareness and support, improving the participation experience, establishing consistent standards and rules for competition, and helping those who oversee high school sports and activities. The NFHS writes playing rules for 17 sports for boys and girls at the high school level. Through its 50 member state associations and the District of Columbia, the NFHS reaches more than 19,000 high schools and 11 million participants in high school activity programs, including more than 7.6 million in high school sports. As the recognized national authority on interscholastic activity programs, the NFHS conducts national meetings; sanctions interstate events; produces publications for high school coaches, officials and athletic directors; sponsors professional organizations for high school coaches, officials, spirit coaches, speech and debate coaches and music adjudicators; and serves as a national information resource of interscholastic athletics and activities. For more information, visit the NFHS Web site at www.nfhs.org.

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