

Helping Hands

By Susan Epaves Karel

Coaching frequently entails more than just working with the players. There are league meetings and many other little jobs that need to be done before, during and after practices and games.

Most of these things, while they are the coaches responsibility, can be handled by a parent.

If you want to be an angel for your child's coach, offer to take on one of these jobs.

- Set up field or equipment before games or practices.
- Clean up field or equipment before games or practices.
- Organize the snack list and give all the parents a copy.
- Distribute information and collect money for team photos, candy sale, or the banquet
- Take your turn working the concession stand and encourage other parents to do the same.
- Offer to keep score.
- Offer to start pre-game drills if the coach is running late.
- Offer to make phone calls when there are inevitable cancellations and changes in the schedule.
- Offer to give the coach a helping hand during practices, but be careful, allow the coach to instruct the players. Children need consistent instruction, from one source. He or she probably just need help, just make sure that you are helping, not complicating things.