Being a Sports Parent: What you need to know

This segment simply states things you need to know as a sports parent. Whether you are a rookie sports parent or a veteran sports parent, allow these to serve as reminders as you parent your child through youth sports.

-Your kids will play to please you. If that is the only reason they are doing it, it will make them miserable.
-Just because your child is a star athlete in 2nd grade doesn't mean they will be in 6th grade. Just because they love a sport when they are 8 doesn't mean they will when they are 12. (***Everyone develops at a different age and different stage.)***
-You will sacrifice family dinners and outings so often that you forget how important they are. ***(Don't take those simple family moments for granted.)***
-You will never have a completely free weekend again. ***(That's not always a bad thing; especially if your child loves sports!)***
-You will judge how other people parent their kid's sports. ***(Focus on what you are doing for YOUR child.)***
-No amount of private coaching, bribing, threatening or negotiating is going to make your child love a sport. (i.e. ***What Kids Enjoy from Playing Sport-No. 66***)
-You will fear that if your child doesn't pick a lane and specialize in one sport that they will be left behind. Don't fall for this belief (see below: ***Why Children are Quitting Sports-Sports Specialization facts***).
-You will disappoint them when you least expect it. The one home run you didn't see when you had to step away and take a phone call will be what they focus on instead of the other 2 hours of the game you did see. (see the **Parent Challenge** below: ***No Phone Zone***)
-Remember, more is caught than taught. Just when you think your children aren't watching, they are watching. Your body language, your word choices, your reaction to situations will all be areas to be aware of while parenting.