



Dear PL Parents,

I found this letter below on a coaching website. It had been randomly posted by a soccer parent from Stockholm, Sweden, and has garnered huge support among the European youth soccer world, mainly because of its simplicity and sound reasoning. Enjoy....

*Advice to parents on how to raise young footballers.*

- 1. Make them pack and prepare their own kit bag.*
- 2. Always be on time for training.*
- 3. Make them clean their boots.*
- 4. Make them put their dirty kit in the laundry bag.*
- 5. Tell them to give 100% at every game and training session.*
- 6. Teach them how to tie the laces on their boots.*
- 7. Play football with them, when they want and where they want.*
- 8. Make them wear kit until it is falling apart. Then buy new kit.*
- 9. Buy them new boots when they need them, not when they want them.*
- 10. Buy second-hand boots, and save yourself a fortune.*
- 11. Teach them not to hate other teams.*
- 12. Win or lose, love the game.*
- 13. Respect teammates, the opposition, respect the ref, respect other team's coaches. If you don't teach them this their coach will have to do it for you.*
- 14. Let them dream that they can be a Lionel Messi, but don't set them expectations.*
- 15. Blaming teammates, blaming the ref, blaming anything is out.*
- 16. Let them play football at home with a tennis ball.*
- 17. Take them to football matches and let them watch the pros.*
- 18. Tell them football is for fun. Training is for fun. If it isn't fun for them, talk to the coach/club or move to another club.*
- 19. Watch football training videos on youtube and let them try out and perfect some of the moves.*
- 20. Encourage them, support them, but never ever shout out instructions when they play.*
- 21. Have them play other sports.*
- 22. Don't try to train your kid, go out and play with them. Ask them what they want to do and let them do it.*
- 23. Tell your kid that you love watching them play.*

*That's it.*

Seamus.