



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Justin Buell

3 & 4 year olds and Kindy Coed Teams

My son has had Justin Buell as a coach for the past two seasons. There are many things that I, as a parent, appreciate about him as a coach. One of the things I appreciate is his **commitment** to teaching our team of boys in a **meaningful way**. It's evident that he **cares deeply** not just about winning the games, but **skill building** in a way that makes an impact. He's open to **feedback** and wants to teach them in a way that they can learn what he's teaching. I also appreciate the **kindness** he shows them. My son has played various sports over the past 3 years and I notice that many coaches are particularly hard on boys when they get hurt, using phrases like "Toughen up" and "You're fine." When a boy on this team gets hurt, Coach Buell responds with **concern and care**. I think this is really important to model for these boy athletes. The last thing I appreciate, is the **communication** that Coach Buell, and his wife Brandy, maintain with the parents, both through email and in person. Every single practice/game he **greet us** with a smile and initiates **brief conversation**. This brings me to how I think he has had an impact on my child. He doesn't just **acknowledge** me at the beginning of each practice/game, he individually **greet my son** as well. As a result, my son feels seen and **heard**, as a **valuable member** of his team. He feels connected to his coach and I think that makes it both easier for him to connect with his **teammates**, and more fun for him overall. I'm sure there are many great coaches this season, but the heart that Coach Buell puts into coaching should definitely win him this award.

-Brianna



OUTSTANDING COACH OF THE SEASON



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Anne de Ridder

4th Grade Boys

As a parent, I have the ability to actively **observe** how my son feels. I can tell that my son's experience with Coach de Ridder has been more than satisfying. With constant **encourage** as well as **endless energy**, Coach de Ridder taught my son the **true meaning** of being part of a **team** and to **never give up**. I always remember the time when our team was losing badly. Despite the score, Coach de Ridder constantly complimented her players and still seemed to be brimming with **positive energy**. Running back and forth on the court, everyone never stopped showing effort. After the game ended, my son didn't have the expression of a sad loser but wore a **genuine grin**. "We'll definitely win next time. Today was actually pretty fun!" He said to me with a **smile**. From that experience, I knew my son learned a **two valuable lessons**: **never falter in the face of an obstacle**, and don't **let a loss bring you down**. Coach Anne de Ridder truly has helped make my son's **experience with basketball fulfilling**.

~ Joyce



OUTSTANDING COACH OF THE SEASON



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Justin Buell

3 & 4 year olds and Kindy
Coed Teams



My name is Hao and my son William is attending K Westside YMCA basketball program this season.

I am writing this to nominate Justin Buell for outstanding coach of the season. My son joined Coach Buell's team for **two seasons** in a row now. Coach Buell is very **professional** and he always has a detailed practicing plan every week. He is so **wonderful** with the kids and tries his best to make **equal opportunity** for everyone. Moreover, he has a magic to **cheer up** these little kids and get everyone involved and enjoy the game, which is what we really expected.

~Hao

OUTSTANDING COACH OF THE SEASON



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Justin Buell

3 & 4 year olds and Kindy Coed Teams

While all the YMCA coaches were great in giving of their time and talent in helping their players developed basketball skills and good sportsmanship one truly **stands out**, coach Justin Buell. He was there when the player fell down and needed **encouragement** to get up and continue the play. He was also there when they became **skilled** at dribbling and putting the ball through the hoop while **appreciating** a pat on the back. You could tell by watching that his main goal was for the players to have **fun** and develop **sportsmanship** along with a **healthy character**.

~ James



OUTSTANDING COACH OF THE SEASON



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Eddie Johnson

3rd Grade Girls

Coach Eddie Johnson is **THE BEST** coach. He starts off every game and practice with a **joke**. He is always **positive** and makes the girls feel **special**. During the games he never sits down, he walks around **cheering**, giving **high fives**, and **encouragement**. The girls have **improved** leaps and bounds in the past few years under Coach Eddie's direction, but more importantly he makes it **fun**! Coach Eddie is loved by all and is well deserving of this award.

~Andrea



OUTSTANDING COACH OF THE SEASON



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Justin Buell

3 & 4 year olds and Kindy Coed Teams



My son **didn't know how** to play basketball before he had Coach Buell. Coach Buell **taught** him many basketball **skills** and was very **patient** with him. When we missed a few games he **called** me to check in, because he **cares** about Eriksen being here to play with the rest of the **team**.

Thank you,

~Ruth

OUTSTANDING COACH OF THE SEASON



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Greg Oltman

Kindy Coed



Hi! My child's basketball coach, Greg Oltman, is **AMAZING**. He does a great job of including all the kids and treating them **kindly** and **fairly**. Our team has a wide range of basketball **skills** and he makes sure that everyone is **progressing** and **learning** in a **supportive environment**, regardless of skill level. We are so **lucky** to have him as our coach, and he should definitely be the outstanding coach of the season!

~Elizabeth

OUTSTANDING COACH OF THE SEASON



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Brett Jenkins

3rd Grade Girls

I'd like to nominate Brett Jenkins as an outstanding coach. He's coached my 3rd grade daughter's team for two years now and he is an **absolute treasure**. I cannot emphasize enough how much his **positive attitude** and **cheering** makes all the difference for young girls who are just learning to find their confidence in sports. During almost every game I see him not only calling out **positive remarks** for our team, but he regularly tells the girls on the **opposing team** "that was amazing, or great shot". He is **supportive** but also **encourages** them to push themselves and he teaches them the importance of **teamwork**. With two daughters in sports, we've had a lot of really good coaches, but Brett is without a doubt the very best.

~Melanie



OUTSTANDING COACH OF THE SEASON



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Chris Boudreaux

2nd Grade Boys

I am honored to nominate Chris Boudreaux of the Razor Blazers for Outstanding Coach of the Season. Chris has coached many of these 2nd grade boys since Kindergarten. In addition to volunteering his time for Saturday practice/games, he provides his team with an **optional week night practice** as well as **assisting** with his younger son's team. He follows up games with an **game recap** and what the following week's focus will be - **sportsmanship**, rebounds, etc. During the snow and ice days, when the kiddos missed games/practices, he provided parents with a few 'garage' drills in an effort to keep kids **active** and **engaged**. What I appreciate most about Coach Chris is that he **focuses** not on the score but the **sportsmanship** and **attitudes** of his team. He values a **good attitude** and hard work over points. He teaches our boys the skills of 'moving on' and not 'holding a grudge' over a foul; this difficult to learn skill will serve them well throughout their lives. He creates **equal playtime** regardless of skill level; Coach Chris **praises** the **child's effort** despite the outcome. The Razor Blazer team is fortunate to have such a **dedicated**, **caring** coach.

~Stephanie



OUTSTANDING COACH OF THE SEASON



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



Joel Frank
2nd Grade Boys

I would like to nominate my sons coach Joel Frank for coach of the year. He coaches a 2nd grade group of boys mostly from Nancy Ryles.

Right away at the first practice he established a **fun** atmosphere for the kids to learn the sport. He lets all the kids play and is very **encouraging** to all children at every skill level.

As parents we really appreciate him **stepping up** to coach a team with all new kids that he didn't know.

His goal for the season has been to teach the children about basketball and show them how **fun** it can be so they will want to play again next year.

~Erin



OUTSTANDING COACH OF THE SEASON



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Brian Sigler

4th Grade Boys

I'd like to nominate coach Brian Sigler, who coaches 4th grade boys for the outstanding coach of the season. This is my son's **first year playing basketball**, and the first time he's playing any formal team sports. He's not exactly the most physically gifted or coordinated child, so getting him to sign up and agree to give this a try took some work and started with a ton of anxiety.

From day one coach Sigler has done a remarkable job of establishing a **fun**, disciplined environment that's helped him gain so much **confidence** in **himself** and his **abilities**. Even though the team has many players with far more experience and ability, coach Sigler treats **each player equally**, is able to provide the **right level of coaching** each individual player needs, and gives every child a **fair opportunity** to participate. He doesn't get frustrated with the lower ability players, and sincerely seems to be **enjoying** the entire experience. On top of all that, it's completely obvious that all of his players are getting better every week. His team comes to games looking more organized, neat (they tuck in their jerseys), and work so well as a team.

The best compliment that I can give is that my son, who I really wouldn't have been surprised if he didn't want to keep playing, has now signed up to play with another season and asked for a basketball hoop this past Christmas. That is all because of the **experience** that he had with coach Sigler.

~Jeff



OUTSTANDING COACH OF THE SEASON