

March 12, 2012

Coaches/Contacts:

We received the following email after the Magic of Basketball Tournament held in Sunnyside this past weekend (March 9-11) and we wanted to follow up with each of our teams.

“Why is there always drama when my son or any of his teammates play in any tournament? I can handle and learn to ignore the parent comments about my son’s age when in reality is pretty ignorant. My son has been playing in this league since he was 5 and now they want to question his age. What I don’t appreciate and feel should not go ignored is when a parent from the opposing team bursts out a comment about my son’s size and weight while the game is in progress. I’m livid at this point and feel it should not be condoned. These are children who love to play the game of basketball and if parents feel they have to take cheap shots at them they shouldn’t be a part of any league.”

The fact that a parent had to write an email like this at all is very sad and disturbing. Please put yourselves in their shoes. None of you would like to be the parent of a victim of bullies, and that is exactly what this is – a case of bullying.

Our events are meant to be fun – fun for the kids to participate in and fun for the parents and fans to watch. When something like this occurs, it should remind each of us to take a step back and think before we speak.

Thank you for the attention to this matter and let’s teach the youth that bullying is **NEVER OK.**

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