



BETTER ATHLETES
BETTER PEOPLE



Asking The Coach If Your Child Will Be Cut

This resource stems from a question submitted to the Ask PCA blog. Responses come from our experts including PCA Trainers, who lead live group workshops for coaches, parents, administrators and student-athletes.

"My son is 9 almost 10, playing in a local league with several out of state tournaments. We honestly love this team and don't want to move. This is the coaching we want our son to receive. But, having struggled a bit this season, my husband and I are questioning if he will be cut from his team. We would harbor no hard feelings if he was cut, but if that cut is coming, we want to know in enough time to have our son tryout with other organizations. Is it appropriate to ask our coach about our son's status or is it best to wait to hear from them? We don't want to come across as needy."

PCA Response by David Jacobson, PCA Trainer & Senior Marketing Communications and Content Manager

I think you should be very open with the coach. As you say, "We honestly love this team and don't want to move. This is the coaching we want our son to receive."

Presumably, coaching that you would want your son to receive encompasses empathy, willingness to listen, and appreciation of parents who have an honest view of their son's capabilities and performance and who trust the coach enough to discuss their son's performance openly. Also, if you like the coaching, that probably means the coach can recognize talent, can recognize diamonds in the rough, can recognize when a player is struggling and is proficient enough technically and in terms of teaching style to help the player through those struggles.

I might hold off on anything along the lines of, "If you're going to cut our son, please just let us know now." Rather, tell the coach how much your son loves the team (and if your son is mature enough to handle it, quite possible at age 9, then have him talk to the coach). Also, let the coach know you think your son underperformed and can do better and tell the coach that you think he/she is the best person to help your son get the most possible out of baseball.

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