



**Championing  
& Celebrating  
Responsibility in  
Youth Sports**

## **INTRODUCING ELM TREE OF MASTERY TO YOUR TEAM**

### **At the start of the season, let your players know that:**

- You will always be proud of them as long as they give 100% effort (regardless of the outcome on the scoreboard).
- You want each one of them to constantly strive to learn and improve. This involves them comparing their own performance to their own performance (i.e. Are they better than they were two weeks ago?).
- Mistakes are an inevitable part of the game. If they are giving 100% and trying new things (as they strive to improve), mistakes are bound to occur, and your best players are those who find ways to quickly bounce back from mistakes.
- Teams that focus on giving their full effort, constantly learning and improving, and bouncing back from mistakes, actually win more than teams who consistently focus on the scoreboard.
- You want a team that focuses on the ELM Tree of Mastery (Effort, Learning and Mistakes) because players who do this well are less anxious on the field and have a greater sense of confidence in themselves and their abilities.

For more valuable Responsible Coaching resources and information on how to earn a \$2,500 Community Grant or Responsible Coaching Award, visit Liberty Mutual's Responsible Sports™ program at [ResponsibleSports.com](http://ResponsibleSports.com).