

## Crafting Teams of Character - The First Step

Bruce E. Brown - [www.proactivecoaching.info](http://www.proactivecoaching.info)

From the booklet – *First Steps to Successful Team – Core Covenants*

### First Essential – Core Covenants

#### What are your Core Covenants?

- Covenant – a binding agreement where you will see action physically visible
- What is your teams' identity? What are you know for? What do you stand for as a Coach? A team? An athletic program? What would you like to be known for?
- Can you articulate it?
- Is your team committed to your core covenants?
- Can you see it in their actions?

#### Examples:

Teachable Spirit – Work Habits – Confidence – Pride – Accountability – Poise – Discipline – Competitiveness – Mental Toughness – Integrity – Selflessness – Team First Attitude – Teamwork – Enthusiasm – Courage – Honor - Friendship

#### The players on the best teams and their covenants:

- The players know exactly what their team stands for – they see the same vision as the coach
- Players voluntarily commit to the core covenants
- Players can articulate the core covenants
- Players actions reflect their core covenants at all times
- What do they look like when you practice? When you win? When you lose? During the school day? When you are away from your team? What are the other times you should demonstrate your core covenants?

#### Leadership and Core Covenants:

- Establish your core covenants - cornerstones
- Articulate, teach and provide a crystal clear vision
- Write them down – make them public – declare them
- Practice your core covenants
- Compare your covenants with your actions
- Institutionalize your core covenants
- Reward your core covenants
- Identify your committed and uncommitted players and begin building your inner circle