

THE 7 C's OF PSP

PUGET SOUND POLO CULTURE

1). CULTURE

Our Culture is the overall guiding principles that drive our club, set our goals, and provide the framework and sense of community/family within which we can thrive.

2). CONTAGIOUS

PSP Culture needs to be an attitude and expectation that all players, coaches, and parents want to be a part of. To be contagious, we need to be something that people are drawn to and want to be a part of. Inclusive vs Exclusive. We must be welcoming, not elitist.

To be contagious, this must be something that spreads throughout the team. It needs to start at an individual level and spread to others and then to the team as a whole.

3). CONSISTENT

Being consistent is the key to it all. You must be consistent with your attendance, your effort, your expectation, your work ethic and your focus on the goal. Any inconsistency derails the direction of the team. This must occur in all situations, regardless of who is watching.

4). COMMUNICATE

Communication is imperative. Person to person communication is decidedly more valuable than written or impersonal communication. It is important to have actual conversations with individuals as well as the whole team. Everyone needs to have a chance to express themselves and to be supported for their ideas/thoughts. Sometimes tough conversations need to be had. These can happen if the culture is strong enough to support a healthy sharing environment.

5). CONNECT

Take time to build relationships with every person on the team. A true team has bonds throughout, not just in pieces. This can be accomplished through small interactions on a regular basis as well as team activities.

6). COMMITMENT

Total commitment to the team means being 'All in' That means with your effort as well as your thoughts and actions. Teamwork and Culture can be undermined quickly if there is support for ideas and expectations on the deck, but then undermined in the locker room or side conversations. You can't be committed unless you are committed all the time, everywhere.

7). CARE

Ultimately, Caring may be the most important piece. If each individual actually and honestly Cares about what we are doing and trying to achieve, the rest will follow. Hard work is easier if you want to do it, communication is easy if you feel your voice is valued etc... If the athlete feels that the coaches care, and the coaches feel that the athletes care, there is already a solid base for mutual respect. This respect makes the team stronger than any adversity it may face.