

Dear Mum and Dad,

I hope that you won't get mad at me for writing this letter, but you always told me never to keep anything back that ought to be brought out into the open. So here goes -

Remember the other morning when my team was playing and both of you were sitting and watching. Well, I hope that you won't get mad at me, but you kind of embarrassed me. Remember when I went after the ball in front of the goal trying to score and fell? I could hear you yelling at the Goalie for getting in my way and tripping me. It wasn't his fault, that is what he is supposed to do. Then do you remember yelling at me to get on the other side of the field. The coach told me to cover my man, and I couldn't if I listened to you, and while I tried to decide they scored against us. Then you yelled at me for being in the wrong place. And you shouldn't have jumped all over the coach for pulling me off the field. He is a pretty good coach and a good guy, and he knows what he is doing. Besides, he is just a volunteer coming down at all hours to teach us skills and how to enjoy the game more, just because he loves the game. And then neither of you spoke to me the whole way home. I guess you were pretty sore at me for not getting a goal. I tried awfully hard, but I guess I'm just a crummy soccer player. But, I love the game, and it's lots of fun being with the other kids and learning to compete. It is a good sport, but how can I learn if you don't show me a good example. Anyhow I thought I was playing soccer for fun, to have a good time, and to learn good sportsmanship. I didn't know you were going to get so upset because I couldn't become a star.

Love,

Your Son/Daughter.