

PRACTICE

Building Character Through Soccer



Integrity:

Adherence to moral and ethical principles, honesty
Synonyms: incorruptibility, honorable, virtue

Integrity Story

Is there a more exciting player in the NBA today than Steph Curry? Most NBA fans would say “No.” Curry is coming off the 2014-15 NBA Championship and the MVP Award playing for the Golden State Warriors. Starting his college career in 2007 with only one “walk-on” offer from a major college because of his slender 160-pound frame, he chose to go to Davidson College with just under 1,800 students. However, his collegiate basketball achievements are stunning and too numerous to mention but one. In the 2008 NCAA Final Four, Davidson defeated Gonzaga, Georgetown, and Wisconsin before losing to Kansas 57-59 in the Elite Eight Finals. Kansas went on to win the NCAA Final Four that year.

This current NBA season, Curry is rewriting the record books for the third time in four seasons on 3 point shots. Curry finished the 2012-13 season with an all-time NBA record of 272 three pointers. Then he eclipsed that record in the 2014-15 NBA season with 286 three pointers. During the current 2015-16 NBA season, he has shattered last season record with 392 three point shots made with a game to go.

His basketball skills are what made him a household name but his integrity is what sustains him. Curry’s integrity can be best described by what is said of him. Warriors veteran point guard, Shaun Livingston who has played with the likes of Durant, Russell Westbrook, Paul Pierce and Kevin Garnett: “As far as a superstar, he’s one of the most humble superstars there is, by far. His faith, his beliefs and his value system is unprecedented.”

Warriors forward Draymond Green: “His persona, his character, fans take notice of that. He’s probably one of, if not the most, beloved NBA players. And everything you see is not a facade – it’s really him. That means a lot to fans.”

Brandon Payne, Curry’s private trainer: “What makes Steph Curry so special is his unbelievable work ethic. Nothing is overlooked, he is very coachable and he asks, “Why?””

What Curry says about his career: “There is more to life than basketball. The most important thing is your family and taking care of each other and loving each other no matter what.”

Curry is only 28 years old, but his personal integrity on and off the court is speaking for him. His advice to all of us: “Be the best version of yourself in anything you do. You don’t have to live anybody else’s story. I would rather be a non-All-Star playing in the Western Conference finals than an All-Star who’s sitting at home in May.”

