

Bake Sale Bars and After-School Snacks

FamilyFun®

Jump Into the New School Year!

15 Ways to Get
(and Keep)
Your Family
Organized

Let's Make
Pizza!
Shortcuts,
Tips, and
Yummy
Recipes

Winning
Ideas to
Make Any
Sports
Season
Fun

A Simple
Trick That
Squelches
Squabbles



Sept 2012
Issue



A Chair That Cheers

Home or away, you can show your team spirit — and let other parents know who your favorite player is — with a removable chair pennant that you can change with the season (or kid). To make one, cut a **felt banner** sized to fit a **folding chair**, then decorate the banner with **fabric paint** and **felt cutouts** adhered with **craft glue**. To attach it, place **self-adhesive Velcro** strips on the back of the banner and on the back of the chair.

Sideline Survival Kit

I've occasionally been called Mary Poppins because of my seemingly bottomless bag of sideline supplies. But even I can't think of everything, as I discovered the day I had to take off my socks to replace my daughter's waterlogged ones! Here are the items I've found most useful to have on hand:



- First aid kit
- Water (for player and parents)
- Umbrella (for rain or shine)
- Healthy snacks
- Old towel for drying benches or protecting car seats from muddy legs
- Trash bags for wet or dirty shoes and equipment
- Pre-Wrap — so many uses! (see page 78)
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- Headband, ponytail holders
- Permanent marker for labeling equipment and other stuff
- Snack-size plastic bags — handy to keep track of jewelry, barrettes, even lost baby teeth
- Extra shoelaces — and spare socks

A High Five for High-tech

Send a game report, learn game rules, and organize a team snack schedule, all from the comfort of your sideline seat. These free apps and websites should be in every sports parent's playbook:

Score Simple This app's templates for most major sports let you keep score, then share the final result via e-mail or social media. *iOS*

iReferee (Referee Signals) View photos of referee hand signals so that you'll never wonder about a call again, and find rules for dozens of sports, including soccer and lacrosse. *iOS*

SignUpGenius.com Raise your organizing IQ: schedule team practices and snacks for the entire season, generate automatic reminder e-mails, and more.

Weplay.com This site is a virtual hub for sports parents, with links to instructional videos, drills, articles, podcasts, and online games for kids.