

October 17, 2009

Dear Parents,

It is with deep regret and humility that I write this letter. My actions on the court yesterday were unprofessional, unsportsmanlike and embarrassing. I feel that I not only embarrassed myself but also Southern Regional and our volleyball program. There are no excuses for my behavior and I simply ask for your forgiveness as you have entrusted me with the welfare of your daughters.

Most of you know that I coach with emotion but obviously in this case, I went too far. My anger over a referee's call gives me no right to act as I did. Our girls deserve more from me professionally and I feel like I let them down. Please accept my sincerest apologies for this incident.

My actions took me mentally out of the game; however, I was fortunate enough to have an assistant coach beside me who handled himself like a veteran coach. He encouraged me to keep coaching and deal with the situation later. The players demonstrated an incredible amount of composure and proved to me why we call our program a family. I couldn't be prouder of Coach Fredrickson and the girls for how they responded to what was a very unfortunate situation.

I only hope that I can restore the confidence that you have shown in me in the past and prove to you that your daughters are in good hands. I have their best interest at heart and desire to gain your trust in me once again. I had a chance to speak with the girls immediately following the match and was touched by how they reacted toward me. I just wanted to relay my thoughts to the parents as well. I am blessed with an incredible group of young ladies who are truly my second family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Coach Eric Maxwell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Coach Eric Maxwell