



# LEADING WHERE YOU ARE

## INSIGHTS FOR ASPRING CAPTAINS & INFORMAL LEADERS

*"Talent is important. But the single most important ingredient after you get the talent is internal leadership. It is not the coaches as much as one single person or people on the team who set higher standards than that team would normally set for itself." - Mike Krzyzewski, Former Duke University Head Basketball Coach*

So what does all this leadership talk mean when you are on the team and not yet a leader, but you want to be? Informal leaders are just as important to a team as the captain. But what does this look like? The key is that everyone has a **ROLE**.



The Informal leadership role is to lead by example. It is not what you say, it is what you do.

You have been the team before so you know what excellence looks like. You modeling that. Do you early? Are you prepared? Are you positive? Are you making a contribution?

If so, that is leadership... because leadership is influence. Influence the team positively by showing what should be done. Your coach will notice. With that comes greater responsibility and oftentimes, formal leadership follows.

**REMEMBER:**

One negative, yet influential, informal leader can derail an entire season. Informal leadership matters...

**THINK ABOUT IT:**

As you grow in your leadership and work towards formal leadership, what can you do this season to:

- 1) Show your coach you have what it takes
- 2) Build trust and credibility with your teammates, and
- 2) Support your captain

