

Three tenets that will define our team include:

1. We Play with Effort
2. We are Unselfish (Team Player)
3. We Finish

- If you come and watch us play or practice this will be evident.

### **1. WE WILL BE AN EFFORT TEAM FOR EVERY SNAP OF THE GAME.**

- a. Initial effort – the effort required to perform your primary technique.
- b. Recovery effort – the effort used in reaction and pursuit of the ball.
- c. Game breaking effort – an effort that changes the outcome of a game.

Effort also means fast. In order to play fast our team needs to be in excellent physical condition. We also need to be fundamental and confident in our techniques. Mental or physical uncertainty leads to doubt, which leads to playing slow. Playing fast does not mean that we all run a 4.5 in the 40 yard dash. Playing fast does mean that we all run to our full potential every single play.

### **2. BE UNSELFISH**

This is a **no star system** and if someone excels it is usually because of the efforts of others.

“Our team will excel as a result of unit cohesiveness. No member of our family is worth more than another. No member is worth less. Believe in yourself, believe in each other.”

### **3. FINISHING (NEVER GIVE UP)**

The best way to demonstrate finishing is with an example:

The 2009 East West Shrine game is a great example of the NGU model. The West had not won in 5 years, but with 4 seconds to go we had a field goal opportunity that looked like a sure thing. Instead the East blocked it and picked it up running toward their end zone with what looked like, a game winning touchdown. Instead, Bobby Hirsch chased him down and tackled him on the one yard line with no time left in regulation. We went on to win by a field goal in overtime. Examples, such as this, remind us why we never quit and why we play to the whistle on every play.

I searched for glory,  
Glory I did not see  
I searched for victory,  
Victory eluded me  
I searched for TEAMWORK,  
And I found all three.

**Hard, Fast, Finish – We never Quit!**