

The Winners Club

Everyone wants to join and everyone can afford it
But few are willing to pay the dues.
The dues are high and are paid everyday
There are no exceptions and there are no excuses.
It is not an exclusive club, it is open to all.
The day you think someone can't join is the day they will replace you.
Some days the dues are higher than others.
There is always work to be done.
Sometimes it's getting out of bed while others sleeping
Sometimes it's hurting while others stay in comfort
Sometimes it's doing the work that others have neglected
Sometimes it's doing more than what is asked of you.
You must do it willing and without regret.
Many people belong just because you joined.
They may be the ones who cheered for you along the way
Who walked every step of the journey with you
Or those who wiped the sweat from your brow.
Payment to them is waking up everyday:
Thinking like a winner,
Believing you are a winner,
Feeling like a winner,
Acting like a winner,
and Being a winner.
There are days you feel you don't belong or that the dues are too high.
On those days you are tested to see if you truly belong.

Lou Holtz said that when a group gets together to get something done, everyone has the same questions:

1. Can I trust You?
2. Are you committed to our excellence and success of our enterprise?
3. Do you care about my needs?

I challenge all of you to ask these three questions of yourself. Can the team trust you to do your best everyday, to be at practice everyday, to do the entire workout the way it's supposed to be done everyday, and to be mentally prepared to perform to your best ability? Are you committed to the betterment and the success of the whole team or are you just in for yourself? Are you willing to sacrifice some of your wants, needs, desires, comforts for those of the needs of the team? Do you care about your team mates, their goals, their sacrifices? If you say no to any of these questions, our team will not be successful. You as an individual can not accomplish what we can do as a team. Imagine a basketball team where only one member of the team is allowed to touch the ball. What kind of success can that team attain? We must all come together on a daily basis and willingly pass the ball to share in the success and the short term setbacks that await us this season. A mistake stops being a mistake once you fix it.