

Team Loyalty vs Player Loyalty

An activity of "When a Star Player Changes Teams, Fans Follow".

Read the article, "When a Star Player Changes Teams, Fans Follow" (page 25, *What's Up* February 2025). In sports, fandom usually means loyalty to a team or a player. Some fans support a team no matter what. They celebrate the team's victories and stay loyal even when they lose. Other fans follow specific players. They admire their skills, achievements, and personalities, no matter which team they play for.

1. Which of the following statements do you agree with more? Why? Share your thoughts with a partner.

"A true fan stays loyal to their team, no matter what!"

"Players make the game. I'll follow my favourite athlete anywhere!"

2. The following is a fictional letter written by a sports fan asking for advice from a friend. Alex is undecided about whether to stay loyal to a team or follow his favourite player. He is asking Sam for advice.



2a) After reading the letter, choose one side — either convince Alex to stay with the Tampines Thunderbirds or follow Sophia Tan to the Vivo City Hawks. Write a letter to Alex, using persuasive arguments and examples to support your point of view. Here are some guidelines to consider:

- Have a clear opinion.
- Use strong supporting reasons with examples. Give at least two reasons, with supporting examples, from real sports situations or your own personal experiences.
- Address the other side of the argument. Show that you understand the other side but explain why your stand is better.
- Use persuasive language to be convincing and to connect with the reader. For example, use words like “surely”, “definitely”, “the best choice”, “I believe”.
- Conclude by giving a strong final statement and advise Alex what to do.

Dear Alex.

Sincerely,
Sam

