### Making it Easier to Work with Sport Coaches Andy Gillham, PhD, CSCS'D, CMPC

### Path for Today

- ▶ Background
- ► S&C Coach Stories
- ▶ Best Practices



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### Roundtable Publications: S & C Coach Philosophy: Gillham, Doscher, Schofield, Kenn, Dalrymple Mentorship: Gillham, Doscher, Schofield, Dalrymple, Bird Evaluation: Gillham, Doscher, Fitzgerald, Bennett, Davis, Banwarth Working with Sport Coaches Gillham, Doscher, Krumpos, Martin-Diltz, Moe, Allen, Bridgeman

# Background of Project ► Multidisciplinary professional collaborations ► Sport Coach, ATC, S&C, Sport Psychology... ► LTAD -> American Developmental Model ► Key finding: Club level sports need to make better use of S&C ► Significant growth at high school level for S&C ► Sport coaches cause stress for S&C coaches

### **Complicating Factors**

- Most sport coaches had to serve as S&C for their team at some point.
- ▶ McGladery et al. 2014:
  - ▶ Sport coaches rarely trained to be effective as S&C
  - ▶ 427 participants on a RT exam for hs sport coaches, hs PE teachers, students
    - ▶Pass rate was 58%
    - ► Highest pass rate was 62% from PE teachers currently teaching RT
    - ▶Lowest content scores were on safety of RT

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MY WAY YOUR WAY

### **Key Questions**

- ▶ Particularly Challenging Sport Coach Demographics?
- ► Success and Failure Examples
- ► AD & ATC Involvement
- ► Athlete Effects
- ▶ New Sport Coach is Hired...



### **Sport Coach Demographics**

- ▶ Were their own S&C
- ▶ Strong connection to previous S&C
- ► Parallels sport coach experience and success ► First time HC
- ► Football, track & field, wrestling, basketball (m & w)



### Success & Failures

- ▶ Long-game vs. Short-game
- ▶ Over-confidence by S&C
- ▶ Building relationships with the athletes
- ▶ Defense mechanisms: anger, frustration, sarcasm, avoidance



### AD & ATC Involvement

- AD:
  - ▶ Unaware of S&C job responsibilities
  - ▶ Whom is easier to replace?
  - ▶ Whom costs more resources?
  - ▶ Overall low knowledge of S&C
- ► ATC:
  - ► Can be biggest ally of S&C
  - ► Closest knowledge level to S&C
  - ▶ Do not depend on athlete as go-between with ATC and S&C

### **Athlete Effects**



- ▶ Remember who recruited the athlete
- Sport coaches may use athletes as pawns, do not follow suit
- ▶ Confusion leads to loss of respect
- ▶ Dangers of being a 'hype' focused S&C
- ➤ You are there for the athletes, forget that and pack your bags

### New Sport Coach is Hired...

- ▶ Ask questions, LISTEN to answers
- ▶ Discuss coaching AND training philosophies
- ► Have a full season plan, anticipate adjustments
- ▶ Reach out early, but wait for sport coach's schedule
- ► Investigate that sport coach's background
- ► Including who their last S&C was
- ► Acknowledge the hierarchy



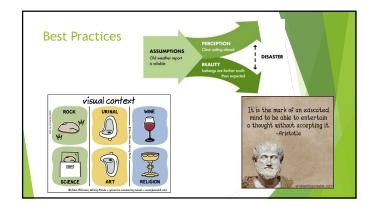
# If your PLAN A doesn't work, the alphabet has 25 more letters! Stay cool!

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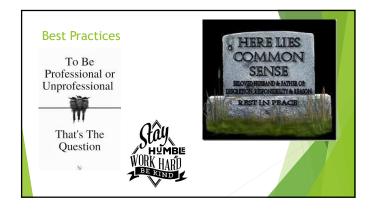












Questions		
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