

Creating Effective Partnerships with Youth Sport Parents: A Coaches' Workshop

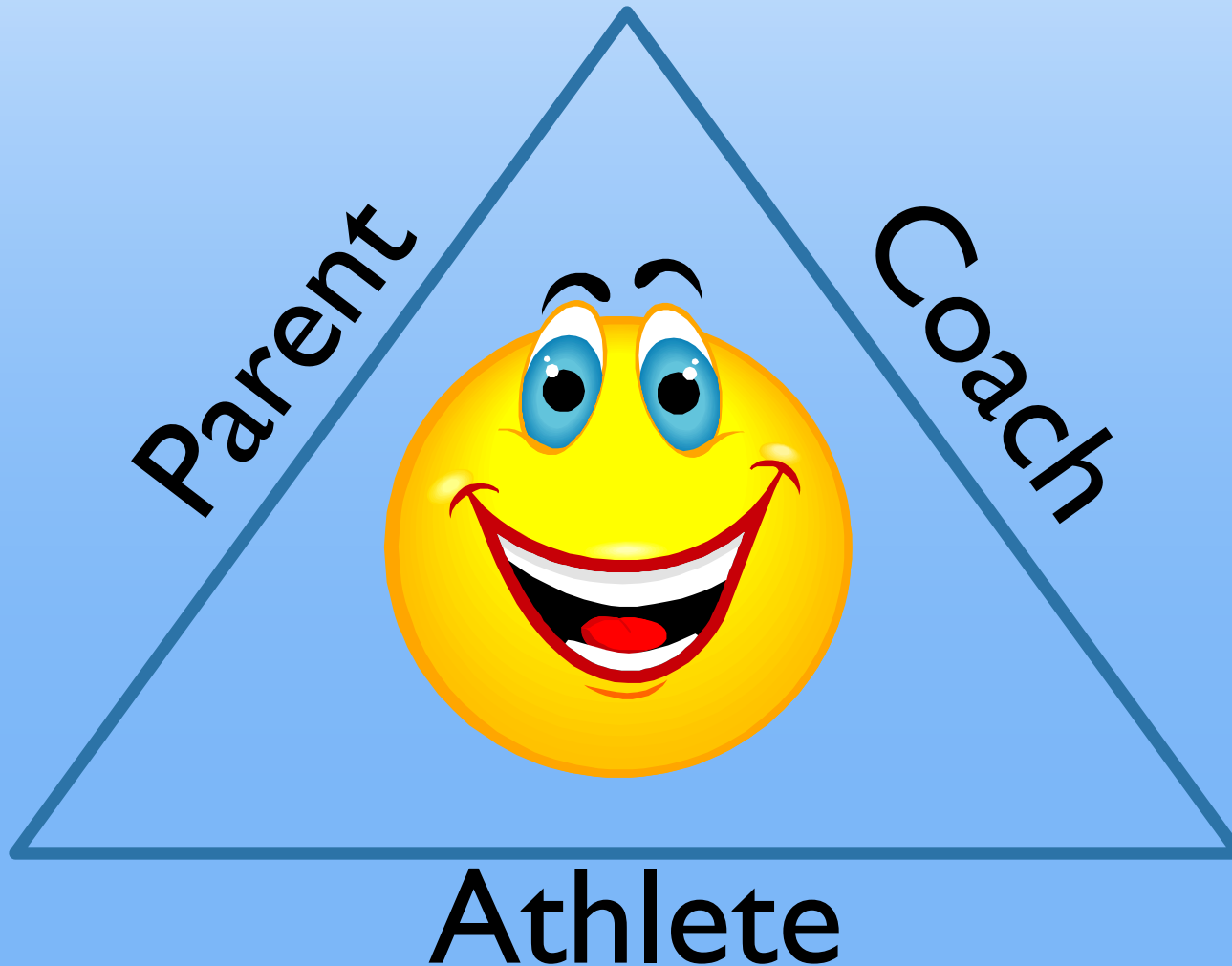
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Three Good Things

What are 3 good things about having parents involved in our teams?

The Athletic Triangle



Workshop Plan

- ▣ Roles and Viewpoint
- ▣ Types of Parents
- ▣ Case Studies: Small groups
- ▣ Strategies
- ▣ Take Home Messages & Resources
- ▣ Questions

ROLES



to help *their child* grow
and develop through sport
participation



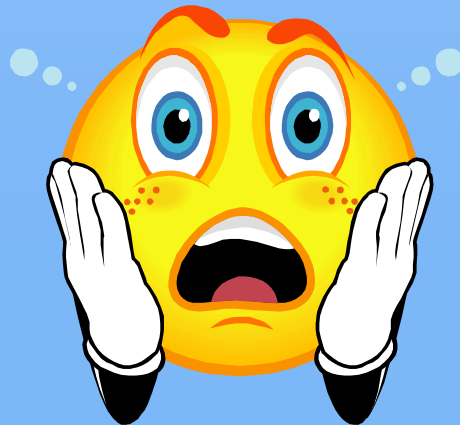
to help *all of the athletes*
grow and develop through
sport participation

Understanding the Parents' Point of View

Sport parents have challenges of ...

- ▣ Being careful not to become too dependent on successes of child
- ▣ Trying to be realistic about the child's talent
- ▣ Separating child's performance from their view of themselves
- ▣ Managing increased, intense emotions from watching their child perform in public
- ▣ Sharing control of their child with another adult

Have you experienced these parents?



Have you made any?



**MISTAKES THAT COACHES MAKE
IN DEALING WITH PARENTS**

Challenging Parent Scenarios

- Consider the following related to your assigned scenario:
 - What are the critical issues in the case?
 - Who are the stakeholders?
 - How do you reach a decision about your next action?

Large Group Discussion



**HOW CAN WE HANDLE
THESE CHALLENGES?**

Large Group Discussion



**WHAT ARE SOME
STRATEGIES YOU USE?**

Successful Strategies

What are your strategies?

- Have a parent meeting before the season
 - Cover the mission of the program and expectations of athletes & parents
 - Share your philosophy of how you will conduct the team
 - Outline ways that you want parents to interact with you
- Send parents updates about player development throughout the season
- Demonstrate consistency: conflicts happen when coaches are inconsistent in dealing with athletes
- Focus on the development of the athletes: conflicts happen when coaches are outcome focused rather than mastery focused

Other Successful Strategies

- Remember the parents' point of view
- Encourage a cooling off period
- Be a listener first
- Get parents involved
- Be upfront and honest
- Designate a parent liaison
- Provide concrete suggestions for how parents can help provide a positive atmosphere

Take Home Messages

- ▣ What have you reflected on today that has affected your approach to working with parents?
- ▣ Sport parents have many challenges
- ▣ Coaches have the opportunity to develop positive relationships with parents
- ▣ Attempt to reinforce your coaching philosophy with your behaviors



Resources

- ▣ *Whose Game is it, Anyway?*
Ginsburg, Durant, & Baltzell
- ▣ *The Double-Goal Coach*
Thompson
- ▣ *The Cheers and the Tears*
Murphy
- ▣ *Straight Talk about Children and Sport*
Coaching Association of Canada
- ▣ *Champions are Raised, Not Born*
Sanders
- ▣ *Parenting Your Superstar: How to Help Your Child Get the Most Out of Sports*
Rotella and Bunker



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