Coaching Education in America: Learning From The Past.

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Prepared for: National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), United States Olympic Committee (USOC), American Sport Education Program (ASEP).
Overview of Coaching Education

1900–1950
Colleges primary providers of formal education of coaches

1950–1970
Decline of teacher coaches, increase in sport science research, no one organization championing coaching education

1970’s
AAHPERD, Michigan State Youth Sport Institute, ASEP

1980’s-2000
ASEP, USOC, NFHS, NGB’s
Status of Coaching Education in 2000

Volunteer level – attrition rate over 50%

NGB’s – mixed results depending on level
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<th>Status of Coaching Education in 2000–Interscholastic</th>
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<td>6.5 million athletes</td>
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<td>500,000 coaches</td>
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<td>8% receive specific education to coach</td>
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Status of Coaching Education in 2000–Universities

- 1,000 colleges and universities
- 360,000 athletes
- 30,000 coaches
For coaching to become a profession, myths must be abandoned.

- If you played the sport, you can coach the sport.
- The better you played the sport, the more qualified you are to coach the sport.
- If you can teach, you can coach.
- Educated coaches are needed more at the advanced levels of sport than the introductory levels.
Recognition of the need for qualified coaches.

- Parents
- Sports administrators
- Media
- Legal experts
COACHING

Accidental Profession

Incidental Profession
Obstacles to offering quality coaching education programs

- Lack of support by leading sport organizations.
- Lack of support by current coaches.
- Lack of requirement for certification.
- Disbelief that education standards can be established/required.
- Turf protection.
Obstacles to offering quality coaching education programs (cont.)

- Overemphasis on winning as benchmark of success.
  - Lack of accepted standard curriculum.
  - Lack of knowledge about coaching practices in certain domains.
  - Lack of strong delivery system for providing coaching education.
  - Compensation.
Need for National Coaching Certification Program

Most sporting nations around the world have this in place.

U.S. has excellent research and academic publications.

Quality coaches with experiential knowledge at many levels.
National Coaching Certification Program

- Curriculum
- System for delivering the curriculum
- Support system to maintain the above two elements
2000 – The NCAA, NFHS and USOC formed a coalition to provide leadership to develop and improve the profession of coaching in America.

The coalition will:

- Develop and promote comprehensive competence for coaches
- Facilitate the delivery of coaching programs
- Invite and encourage other sport organizations to participate in the coalition’s initiatives
Goal of this initiative is to improve the physical, psychological, social, and ethical development of coaches and athletes to achieve their full potential in sport and in life.
Current status – Next steps

- Long-Term Athlete Development (LTAD).
- American Development Model (ADM).
Key Questions and Discussion.
Thank you.

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