



The Parents as Partners Initiative

Team Enhancement Program 2010-11

Presented by the Promise of Good Sports and the Arizona Region of USA Volleyball



USAVolleyball®

What are our goals tonight?

- To achieve a **sense of ownership** by *Parents, Athletes, and Coaches* in the *Team* (PACT) by involving everyone in establishing guidelines about how they will work together to achieve their goals.
- To facilitate **communication** among *Parents, Athletes, and Coaches*.
- To achieve a better **understanding** of one another.
- To discover a **common ground** upon which to build good working relationships.
- To designate a **place** where they can regularly gather to strengthen their relationships.



Exercise #1

Discovering the Secrets of Parent Athlete Bonding

- On the court, your athlete will coach their parent on one of the major volleyball skills:

pass, set, attack, block, serve
(10 minutes)



Review and Discuss Exercise #1

- **Was it as easy as it looks?**
- **Was your “Coach” patient with you?**
- **What did parents learn from this exercise?**
- **What did “coaches” learn from this exercise?**



Let's tear down the barriers before us...



Myths to dispel

- Today's athletes are spoiled, think only of themselves and aren't coachable.
- Coaches don't listen to players or parents and only care about winning
- Parents don't understand the concept of team and only care about their kid playing



Athlete's: when did things change?

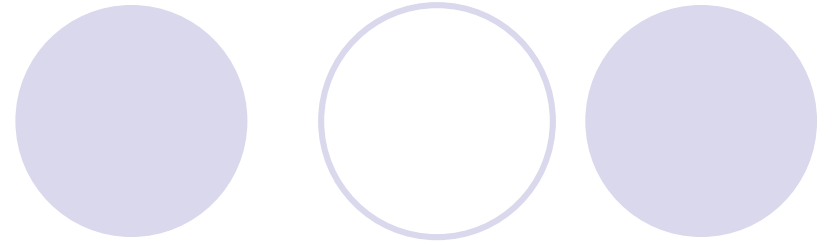
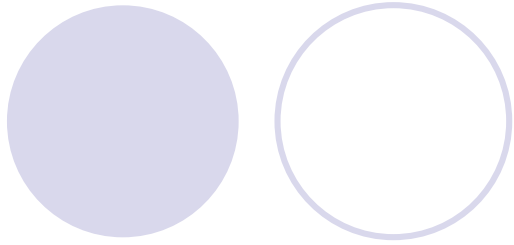


From '99

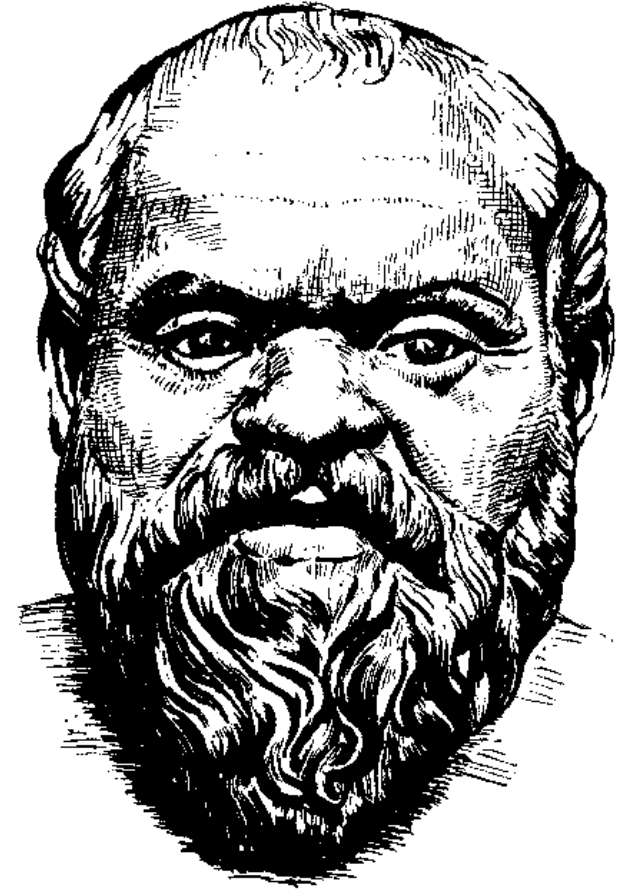
- “From the day your child is born you must teach him to do things. Children today love luxury too much. They have detestable manners, flout authority, have no respect for their elders. They no longer rise when their parents and teachers enter the room.



What kind of awful creatures will they be when they grow up?”



399 B.C. by a
a Coach named
SOCRATES



The Millennials

- Achievement oriented
- Team oriented
- Special
- Sheltered
- Pressured
- Conventional
- Technologically astute



Coaching the Millennials

“In order to communicate effectively with today’s athlete we must bridge the gap of technology, the diverging values of the generations and the language barriers that confront us. The easiest way to do this is to remember that they are people. In fact, when the hand meets the ball we are more alike than unlike.”



Penny Lucas-White

Coaches- The Difference Makers



Michigan State University Study...

75% of kids quit organized sports by the age of 15.

Why?

“I was not having fun.”

“The coach was a poor teacher.”

“I lost interest.”

(Do you see winning on this list?)



Coaching on the dark side...



The importance and responsibilities of all coaches...

“I've come to the frightening conclusion that I am the decisive element on the court.

It's my daily mood that makes the weather.

As a coach, I possess a tremendous power to make a child's life miserable or joyous.

I can be a tool of torture or an instrument of inspiration.

I can humiliate or honor, hurt or heal.

In all situations, it is my response that decides whether a crisis will be escalated or de-escalated and a child humanized or de-humanized.”

- adaptation of Haim Ginott

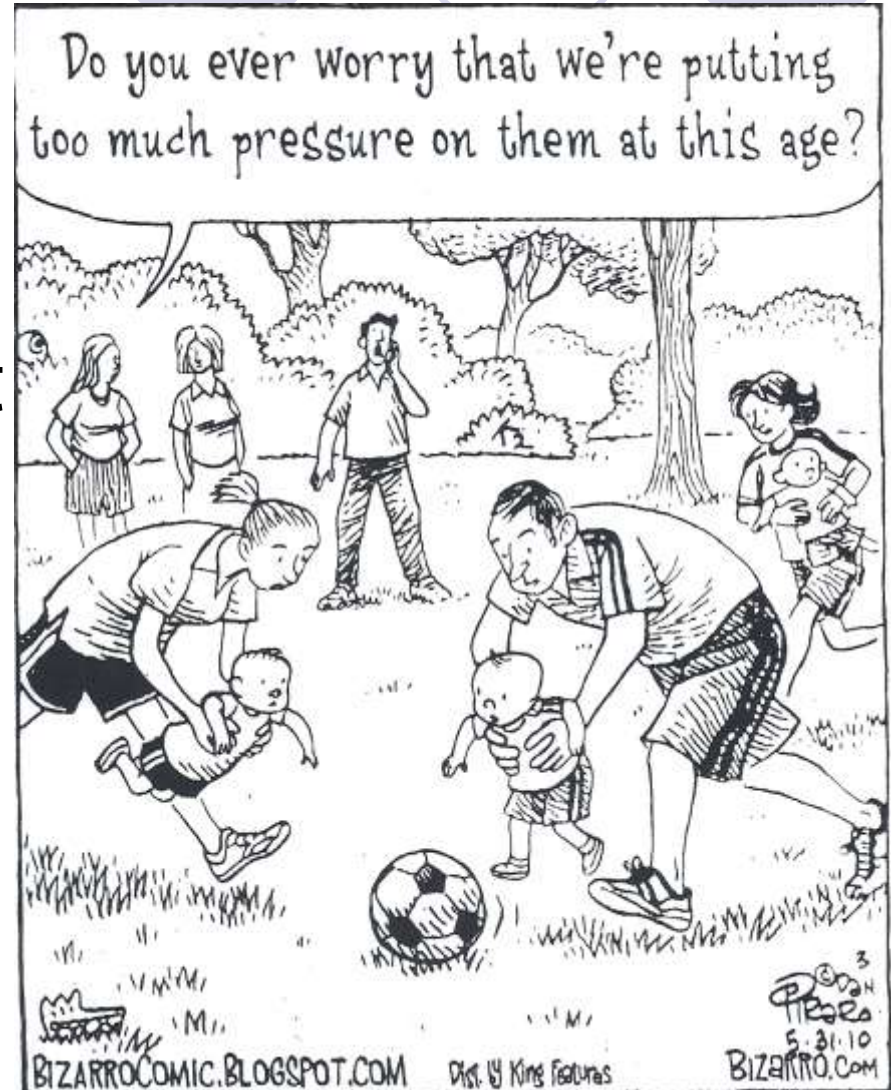


Like Coaches and Athlete's, Parents have the good and the bad as well...

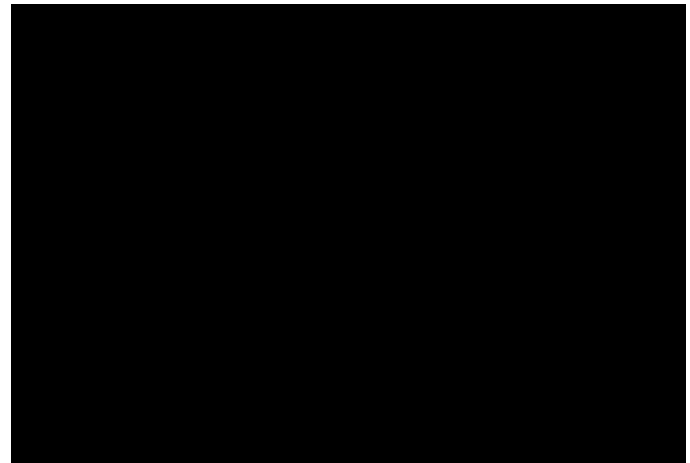
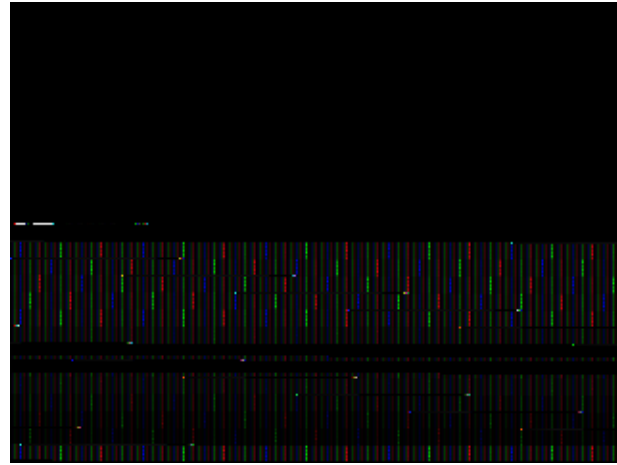
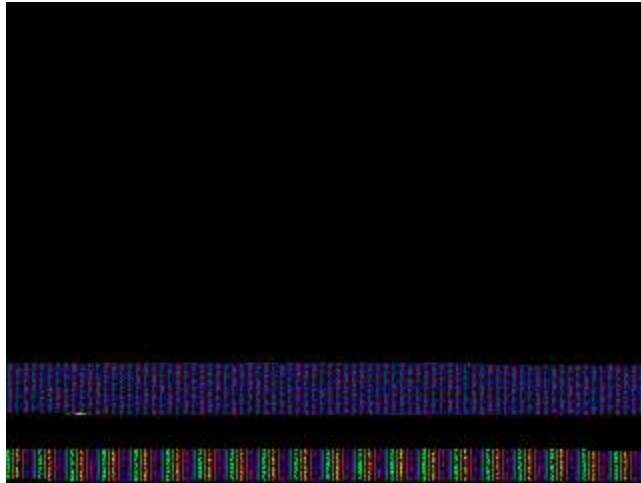


Are Parents the biggest battle?

Much like anything else, the few bad apples draw the most scrutiny; guilt by association.



Drawing attention to parent issues



Exercise #2

(20 min)

- Athletes will break up into groups of three to four and write down the three things that Parents, Coaches and/or Spectators do that cast negativity onto you, your team and your season.
- Parents, while they are doing this, fill out the Parent-Athlete Relations Inventory (yellow sheet)



Exercise #2

(20 min)

- 1. The Athletes will announce their findings to the group. They will then go with their coaches to discuss how better to communicate with their Coaches, team mates and Parents.**
- 2. While Athletes and Coaches meet, Parents ONLY will get in groups of 3-5 and work together to list 2-3 PERSONAL initiatives you can take to strengthen your relations with your athlete (green sheet)**
- 3. Parents will share your personal initiatives with the entire group, coaches and athletes included.**
- 4. In team groups, review Tips for Strengthening Parent-Athlete Relations (grey sheet)**
- 5. Compare and come up with a pooled list of initiatives your group will share with all**



Some things we all need to embrace...

- Citius Altius Fortius- the Olympic Motto



- The uniqueness of our sport
 - Rebound sport, no holding of the ball
 - No equipment
 - Lower level teams can beat better teams
 - Saturated court with few boundaries
 - Serve receive, attack, block- uncanny reaction
 - No time limits, must win by two points

How do we get better?

- How did you learn to ride a bike? And how were you taught to ride a bike?
- Great coaches and knowledgeable parents know winning shouldn't come at the expense of the process
- The importance of making mistakes



Exercise #3

ROLE REVERSAL VOLLEYBALL MATCH

Parents are the players & referees

Players are the parents/spectators



- **Set 1:** dramatization of POOR sportsmanship (10 min)
- **Set 2:** dramatization of GOOD sportsmanship and positive parenting. (10 min)

Discussion on Exercise #3

- How did the “players” feel in the positive environment, and in the negative?
- How did the “parents” feel in the positive environment, and the negative?



Exercise #4

- Break up by team and select two or three team building activities that your team would like to follow up with. (10 min)

**A Pre-Game Parent Huddle
An “Adopt-an-Athlete” Program
Videotaping Parents in stands**



- Choose a volunteer parent and athlete to help facilitate these activities in the coming weeks, months and tournaments.

(10 min)

The Six Words...



No matter the match, the outcome, the amount of playing time, the mistakes, the successes, there are six words that are **ALWAYS** appropriate for the car ride home...

“I LOVE to watch you play.”



And Finally...

- Give us some feedback on your experiences tonight. (Blue sheet)
- How can we improve this program?
- Would you like to receive a monthly exercise from the Arizona Region to further these new ***P.A.C.T?***



Contact the Arizona Region

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Thank You!!!



USA Volleyball.



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