TOPSoccer
Coaching Without Tears

Rick Flores
Director of Coaching
Illinois Youth Soccer Association
TOPSoccer Lecture Objectives

• Interactive and Classroom Participation
• Group Participation
• We will discuss
  ✓ Coach and Buddy
  ✓ Coaching and Expectations
  ✓ Handling various situations
  ✓ Share Ideas and Experiences
Coaching TOPSoccer

• Possible fears of new Coaches and Buddies
  ✓ Knowing what to expect
  ✓ Knowing what to do
  ✓ Saying something wrong
  ✓ Afraid to try something new
  ✓ Understanding the disabilities
  ✓ Having the time and commitment
TOPSoccer Coach and Buddy Qualities

- Positive attitude
- Provide positive experiences
- Familiarization on various disabilities
- Motivate and Enthusiastically providing positive reinforcement
- Teaches and enforces good sportsmanship
- Early to set up and greet athletes on arrival
Who are we Coaching

• Wide Spectrum of Disabilities
  ✓ Autism
  ✓ Down Syndrome
  ✓ Attention Deficit Disorder
  ✓ Behavior Disorders
  ✓ Cerebral Palsy
Who are we Coaching

• Wide Spectrum of Disabilities
  ✓ Hearing Impaired
  ✓ Cognitive Development
  ✓ Down Syndrome
  ✓ Visually Impaired
  ✓ Wheelchair or Walker Users
Coaching Expectations

Undesired Behaviors of Athletes

- Bullying
- Teasing
- Name Calling
- Profanity
- Physically Aggressive
- Doesn’t Follow Directions
- Argumentative
- Unmotivated
- Cliquish
- Poor Sport
Coaching Expectations

Desired Behaviors of Athletes

- Empathetic
- Cooperative
- Sportsmanlike
- Sharing
- Focused
- On Task
- Friendly

- Polite
- Attentive
- Motivated
- Eager
- Competitive
- Helpful
Scenario #1

• Athlete is a runner and no one is able to catch him.
Scenario #2

• Athlete who is physically and verbally aggressive and you are aware of this.
Scenario #3

- A female athlete who is overly affectionate.
Scenario #4

• Athlete decides to sit in middle of field and refuses to move thus posing danger to self and others.
Scenario #5

• Athlete grabs a private part of coach or buddy.
Scenario #6

• An athlete is having a melt down and screams continuous.
Scenario #7

• An athlete who is unmotivated and refuses to follow direction.
Coaching Tools for Success

The following will be helpful

- Reward System
- Reduced Stimuli
- One on One Coaching
- Peer Coaching
- Visual Schedule
- One Step Direction
- Mirror Play
- Verbal Prompts
- Hand over Hand Assistance
- Sign Language
Coaching Tools for Success

Teaching Aids

✓ Wii
✓ IPAD
✓ Sensory Balls
✓ Balloons
✓ Music
✓ Picture Cards (PEC)
✓ Coaching Activity Cards
✓ Now/Later Cards
Thank You!

- Huge pat on the back to everyone involved in this special program and “Firecracker” and “Salute” Clap dedicated to all of you!
- Special Thanks to **Sandy Castillo** (Region IV) for her assistance and expertise.

Rick Flores

doc@illinoisyouthsoccer.org