Parent Coaches: What they are, what they should be (How can we help)?

Eric Redder
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Which one is New Hampshire?
Which one is New Hampshire?
Which one is New Hampshire?
Which one is New Hampshire?
Who can benefit

- Age group coordinator
- DOCs
- TDs
- Age group DCs
Parent Coaches in America
Soccer Parents & Coaches in America
Defining Parent Coaches in America

“Seek opportunities to show you care. The smallest gestures often make the biggest difference.”
— John Wooden
What they are: Parent Coaches:

“We love that we are an all volunteer club. We just beat CLUB X and they pay $$$ every year! We offer a great product, that is local, and affordable. And we can compete with the big boys!!!!”

-October 2014, NH Parent Coach
What are they?

“I have never really coached before.......I am always at practice and want to help.”

“I played in High School/College, and the coach before didn’t know what they were doing so I decided to fix things.”

“I found this great set of drills on this website. Its supposed to be the warmup for Barcelona, I’ve been using it the last few weeks.”
What they are?

Unlocking “their” Expertise

“Every man I meet is my superior in some way, In that, I learn of him.”

-Ralph Waldo Emerson
What (Who) they are?

Educated Professionals

Leaders in the community & their field

Non-paid volunteers

Giving of their free time

Dedicated to their players
What they should be?

✓ Parent coaches
✓ Guides
✓ Facilitators
✓ Role Models
✓ Reinforce players passion for the game

OUR MISSION: Help shape how they impact their players?
How can we help?

Re-Prioritize

- Player Needs
- Support Group Needs
- Technical & Tactical Development
How can we help?

Constructing the environment

PLAYER NEEDS

✓ Role Model
✓ Fun & exciting
✓ Safe & secure
✓ Positive Learning Environment
✓ Consistent & clear
✓ Facilitator for play
How can we help?

Winning the support systems

Support Group Needs

✓ Expectations & Goals established
✓ Has the process been explained?
✓ How can others be involved?
How can we help?

They know you care.....

✓ Who helps them learn & How they learn?

Vs

✓ What they learn?

TECHNICAL & TACTICAL DEVELOPMENT
How can we help?

Inverting the Parent Coach Pyramid

**Player Needs**
- ✓ Role Model
- ✓ Fun & exciting
- ✓ Consistent & clear
- ✓ Safe & secure
- ✓ Facilitator for play
- ✓ Positive Learning Environment

**Support Group Needs**
- ✓ Expectation & Goals established
- ✓ Has the process been explained?
- ✓ Others involved

**Use Parental strengths to impact the players**

**TECHNICAL & TACTICAL DEVELOPMENT**
General awareness of Soccer in America

Where we can help?
How (Where) we can help:  
**Macro vs Micro**

Play like Manchester United?

Positions & Spacing?

The pursuit of the “MAGIC DRILL”
How we can help:  
*The best laid plans....*

- ✅ Why the need for planning?
- ✅ Choosing a theme/topic?
- ✅ Benefit of proper progressions?
- ✅ Developmentally Appropriate?

What's next after the warmup?

What is a warmup?
How we can help?

**Coaching Methodology**

Enable them to apply their “soccer eye”

- ✓ Small sided games:
  - ✓ Game serves as the teacher
  - ✓ More players are engaged
  - ✓ More functional to the “game”
  - ✓ Greater repetition with the ball
How we can help?

Coaching Methodology

✓ Allows for more 1 on 1 connection when making corrections/suggestions
✓ Individual Reference
✓ Flow maintained
✓ Identify Coachable moment relative to the “game”
How we can help?
How we can help?

**Avenues of Support Summary**

- Establish personal goal as coach & team related goals
- Establish priority list for the player experience (topics, skills, etc.) – PRE-PLANNING!
- Provide developmentally appropriate, quality resources
How we can help?

Can we LEAD them to the answer?

- What went well, and what did not go well?
- How did the players react to the session?
- What can I do improve for next time?

If .....then..... What is next.....?
Qualities of Effective Parent Coaches

They show up each day, they put their players first, and they encourage/reinforce players to continue in this great game of ours.....
Questions?

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