



# Coach Parent Communications

From NYSWYSA Workshop

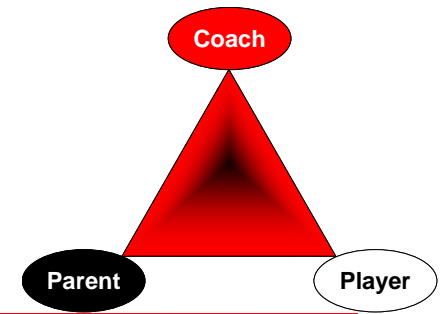
11/18/06

*Play hard, have fun*



# Pop Quiz 1

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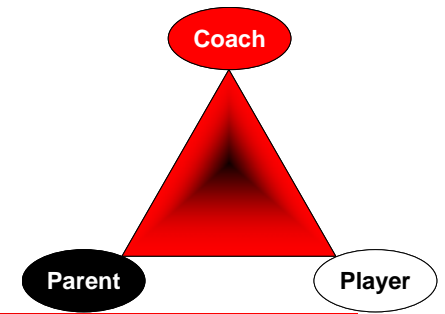
- At what age does the typical soccer player peak?

*Play hard, have fun*



# Pop Quiz 1

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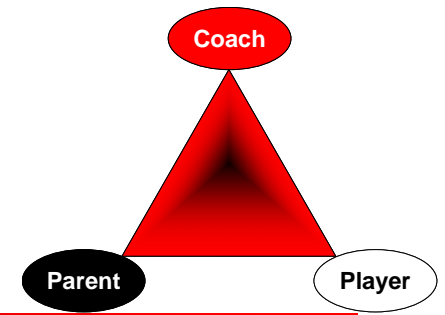
- At what age does the typical soccer player peak?
  - Field players, 22 to 26
  - Goal keepers, 30 to 35
- Beware of too much focus on results too soon

*Play hard, have fun*



## Pop Quiz 2

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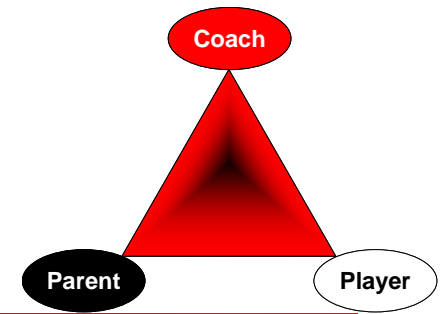
- What % of youth players leave sports between ages 12 & 15?

*Play hard, have fun*



## Pop Quiz 2

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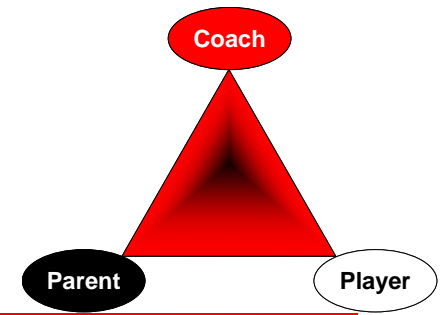
- What % of youth players leave sports between ages 12 & 15?
  - 70%
- If this was your business – how long would it survive?
- Adult influence is critical
  - Need positive communication from coach & parent up to and including this age

*Play hard, have fun*



# Pop Quiz 3

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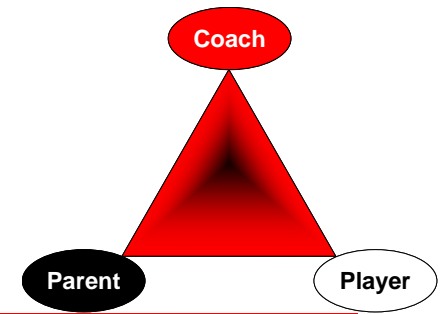
- What's the worst 20 minutes in youth sport?

*Play hard, have fun*



## Pop Quiz 3

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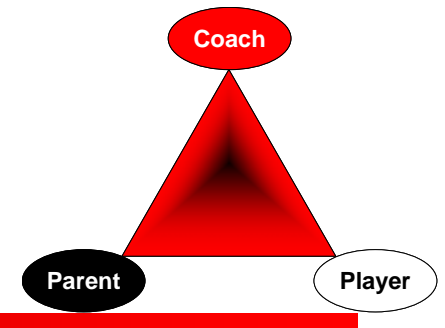


- What's the worst 20 minutes in youth sport?
- The ride home!

*Play hard, have fun*



# Coach-Parent Communication



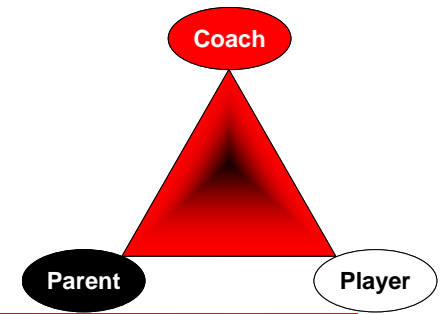
- Dedicate 5 minutes of every game/practice to parent communication
  - Include the why as well as the what
  - Utilize different media
    - Verbal, hand-outs, e-mails, DVDs
  - Some things will need to be communicated in more than one way
  - Include explanation of coaching activities
  - Logistics/planning
  - Get the parents “in the know”

*Play hard, have fun*



# Coach-Parent Communication (cont.)

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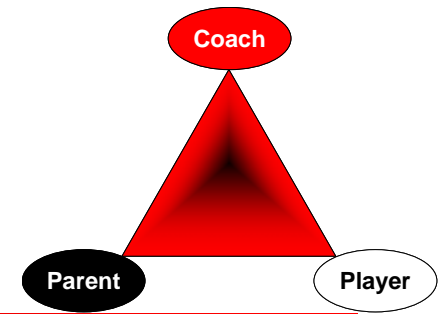
- Identify and utilize “ambassadors” among your parents
- Don’t get into dialogues after games
- In conflict situations – if possible wait 24hrs before following up

*Play hard, have fun*



# Parent-Player Communication

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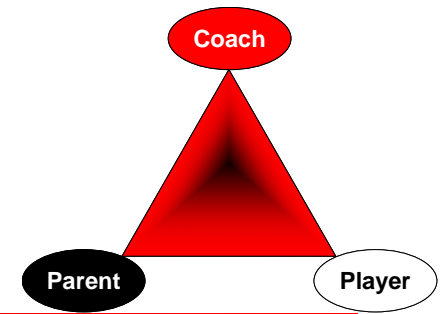
- Avoid in-game coaching
- Focus on intent/process rather than outcome
- Suggestions for language to use
  - “Good idea”
  - “Well played”
  - “Unlucky”
- Support the player’s “daily soccer diet”
  - Practice
  - Reading
  - TV/DVD
  - ??

*Play hard, have fun*



# Club Initiatives

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- Remember player is the consumer but the parent is a customer also
- Put education budget in place
  - For coaches
  - For administrators
  - For parents
- Develop a club culture
  - Player centric
  - Visiting teams and parents made welcome
    - It's OK to talk to other team parents!

*Play hard, have fun*