



Sure, it's fun to win state titles, and tournament championships. Yes, it feels good to be called a winner, and be recognized for what happens on the field.

But that is not why I coach.

I coach because of everything that happens off the field. I coach because I love my teams and players. I love watching kids grow up to be strong, confident men and women.

I love the smile on the face of an athlete who has struggled and persevered, who was ready to quit, and has now found success.

That is why I coach.

I love the camaraderie, and sense of accomplishment, that I see on the faces of a team that has battled and emerged victorious, together as one.

I love the kid who takes a quiet moment to say thanks for believing in him when no one else did; no matter how many years later that thank you comes.

I even love it when a mom or dad comes takes the time to say thanks for making a difference.

That is why I coach.

I coach because of CJ, whose father was no longer part of his life, and needed someone to show him that men were capable of compassion and understanding.

I coach because of RM, who needed to know that someone could care as much as she did.

Most of all, I keep coaching because I am playing catch-up. For far too many years, I had many players whom I was not a good coach for. I was too often selfish, emotional, and at times mean.

I didn't know my words could be so hurtful. No one told me.

I wish I could have those years back. But I cannot.

So, I will keep coaching, keep trying to do my best, and keep trying to help other coaches learn a bit quicker than I did. That is why I coach.



ETA356, Inc.
Excellence Thru Athletics

WHY I COACH?



So, Coach here is your challenge this week and a reminder to do each week as the season unfolds – the hope is that this simple exercise will give you the “juice” to get you over the tough spots:

III. COACHES CHALLENGE

Take out a 3 x 5 note card and draw the “3-Dimensional Coaching”™ pyramid on it and then see if you can write out your philosophy of coaching in 2 to 3 sentences using the information you have learned in this lesson. Next, keep the card with you at every practice & this week communicate to your athletes that their job is to control the only two things they can control...their attitude & their effort & how they handle mistakes.

“Players don’t care what you know, until they know how much you care...about them!”

WHY KNOW OUR WHY?

When we know WHY we are coaching, it gives us incredible power in the present to persevere through adversity. If we aren't clear on our "why," the pressures we face as coaches in the 21st Century will easily push us out of our calling. As a society, we need coaches to stand firm in their calling to help a generation of kids get to a level they can't get to on their own.