

Coaches must learn to evolve

"Do no harm" is the first rule when coming to the aide of an injured person. USSF coaches would do well to adopt this as their motto!

Conformity does indeed seem to be our national coaching strategy. Most coaches coach as they were coached. And they teach players to play as they played. Unfortunately, 1960s or 1970s players are not what the United States needs.

Truly great coaches give players the tools, freedom and desire to coach themselves. These exceptional coaches inspire their players to go beyond their own experiences and to seek a higher level of play. Although I've taken nearly a dozen youth coaching courses, my players have been my best teachers.

The dogma of "one right answer" or "the head coach knows best" is the strategy of failure. Coaches, players and fans must learn to evolve along with the game.

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