

TO: Jody
FR: Andy McClouskey / assistant Basketball Coach

Q1. Why did you become a coach???

A1: I decided to become a coach because I love basketball, love competition and felt like helping young people would be a rewarding profession and coaching basketball seemed like a way to stay involved in the game.

Q2. How did you begin coaching and how did you work your way up???

A2: I started coaching in college following my second knee surgery, which ended my playing career. So I started out as an undergraduate coach so I could maintain my scholarship. I worked my way up in the profession starting out as an undergraduate coach, women's assistant coach, head junior college men's coach and then as a full-time coach on the Div. I level. Moving up the ladder in coaching involves networking with coaches, athletic directors and other scholastic personnel.

Q3: Do you have a coaching philosophy???

A3: Yes. My philosophy of coaching is to have a sound knowledge of the skills for players to master, the ability to coach/teach these skills and to integrate skills and individual desires and objective to mesh with the group - for the good of the team. Skills are mastered through constant repetition and teams are built through self-sacrifice of individual desires for the good of the group.

Q4: Did you start with a philosophy or did it develop over time???

A4: I started with one but it has been revised and added to over time... as players change, scholastic expectations change and social mores change one must be able to change as well.

Q5: What is your favorite aspect of coaching??? What is your least favorite part.

A5: The least favorite aspect for me in coaching is when a student-athlete clearly does not reach his / her potential... It is ok not to be good but it is really a bad deal when athletes fail to maximize their potential. The most favorite part of coaching is when teams and individuals over-achieve... Winning is a bench-mark that coaches are held to but sometimes it is more satisfying when a lesser player or team does more than they should, given their abilities.

Q6: How do you handle academic or behavioral issues with your players???

A6: It is important that academic and behavioral issues be tended to with consistency & fairness yet consequences may be handed out on each individual situation... Seldom are two situations completely the same. There are confidentiality issues that must be considered

with academics. It is important to keep families (parents & guardians mostly) aware of the situations when appropriate. It is important to be fair and consistent to to ACT & issue discipline as if the student-athlete was your own child.

Q7: Have you ever had a player with an eating disorder???

A7: Yes... When coaching women's basketball there was a young woman who was constantly worried about her weight and she would induce vomiting. We became aware of the issue and had the training staff give her guidance and education to change her behavior... On the men's teams I have coached there have been some players who needed some nutritional advice and guidance but not what I would consider disorders.