SPORT COACH+ RESOURCES

Play-by Play



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PLAY-BY-PLAY

Play 1: Preparing Ourselves and Sport Environments

Know your players	Know your context	Prepare yourself and together with fellow coaches
 ➤ Who are they and where have they come from? ➤ What might they have experienced? ➤ What are their current living situations, particularly for those displaced? ➤ What is their culture / gender / age / religion? ➤ What do you know about their families and communities (e.g., challenges they face, their perception of sport activities)? ➤ What is OK and not OK to say and do? ➤ What particular sensitivities may there be (e.g., political) among players? 	 ➤ What risks may there be within and surrounding the sport environment, and how can you mitigate them? ➤ What resources are there to help during sport activities (e.g., clothing and equipment, community volunteers or assistant coaches)? ➤ What services and supports can you refer to in case a young player needs more support? 	 → How might you be perceived by players? → What ground rules and values will be important for you and players to feel positive and safe? → What well-being strategies do you have in place for your own self care? → How do you and your fellow coaches support each other? → What technical support and supervision is available to you and fellow coaches?

Checklist for Play 1				
Do you have?	Knowledge of the players, including family and community understanding?			
	Knowledge of forced displacement affecting the community?			
	Knowledge of the risks in the context and how to mitigate them?			
	Knowledge of the resources in the context (e.g., community supports, specialised services)?			
	A contact sheet for referrals?			
	A self and team care and supervision plan?			

Play 2: Ensuring safety, dignity and inclusion

Checklist for Play 2			
Do you have?	Sufficient privacy for young players to get changed and ready for sport, and to use bathroom facilities?		
	Clothing and equipment safe and appropriate for players' age, gender, culture and the sport activity?		
	Water, snacks, shaded or heated space for the health and comfort of young players?		
	A list of players' names so you can greet them personally?		
	A schedule for sport activities with warm-up and cool-down routines?		
	A plan for co-creating ground-rules and consequences with young players?		

Play 3: Helping young players in distress: look, listen, link.

Look

Young players	Group dynamics	Obvious danger
 → How are individual players reacting? → Is anyone expressing anger, frustration, sadness, fear? → Is anyone withdrawing, or not participating? 	 → Are there conflicts or tension in the team? → Is the group dynamic engaged and cooperative? → Is the group disengaged or tense/over-energetic? 	 ⇒ Is there potential for anyone to be hurt or disrespected? ⇒ Is their active conflict or potential for conflict to erupt? ⇒ Is anyone seriously distressed to the point they cannot participate in the moment?

Listen

Make contact	Help them feel calm	Listen well
 ➤ Check in if you notice a young player in distress. ➤ Be respectful, ask if you can help, and find space to talk without distractions (and with some privacy, if appropriate). ➤ Make use of co-coaches to keep the group activities going. 	 ⇒ Give practical comfort - water, quiet space. ⇒ Help them regulate their emotions and behaviour and reset. ⇒ If they don't want to talk, offer to stay with the person or to be available to talk later if they like. 	 → Ask their needs and concerns, don't assume you know. → Listen more than talking. → Don't jump to giving advice, take time to understand. → Ask what they feel would be helpful, and how they want to approach solving the problem.

Link

Co-create simple, immediate solution	Access their strengths and resources	Services and supports, as needed
 ➡ Think together about a simple, immediate solution as a starting point (achievable solution). ➡ Suggest options to rejoin and keep participating in sport activities now or at a later time. 	 → Help them acknowledge their own strengths and coping capacities. → Help them to consider supportive resources in their lives and activate them. → Consider together how coaches and teammates can help. 	 Know your boundaries - what you can and cannot offer as a coach. Link with information about where/how to get help or access community supports. Make referrals, as needed for, e.g., social or legal services, psychological support, health care. Create a plan to keep the young player engaged in sport activities after referral.