# ENHANCING THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT TO IMPROVE ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE

### CRAIG HARRISON, PHD



"I knew every Tuesday and Thursday was going to be hell, training with him, like, as in painful, but l always felt so good about myself when I hopped back on the train to go home, even though I always had the anxious feeling beforehand."

- Dame Valerie Adams



"I used to sneak into the gym when I probably wasn't allowed, when I probably should have been in bed or studying. And my coach, a guy called Gordon Trevett, saw that passion and he really fuelled the flame."

- Rob Waddell

# What is our job?

# AUT MILLENNIUM





Moving towards **TRUE SKILL**...



#### Efficient, adaptive and resilient movers

Fitter, faster, stronger athletes

### MASTER THE FUNDAMENTALS



#### **ACCOUNT FOR GROWTH AND MATURATION**









If they don't turn up excited and willing to engage in training tomorrow, what we do is redundant.



Moving towards...



- 1. Efficient, adaptive and resilient movers
- 2. Fitter, faster, stronger athletes
- 3. Confident, committed and consistent behaviour

# Understand their formative years



#### Gateway Questionnaire

Name: Sport:						D.O.B. Ethnic		
(You might play m	nore than one s	port – and we t	hing that's g	jreat! But i	for this questio	nnaire, please	e answer t	the questions for your most favourite sport right now).
1. Why did yo	ou first cho	ose your s	port and	why h	ave you co	ntinued ir	n this s	sport?
2. If you coul	d achieve	anything y	ou wish f	for in y	our choser	n sport w	vhat w	vould it be?
3. What wou	ld be your	ultimate a	chievem	ent in g	your chose	en sport in	the ne	ext 12 months?
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								ext 12 months? mportant!" to 0 "Couldn't care less!"

# Start with a connection

### HOW WE DEVELOP TRUST

- **1. Competence** 
  - Do they believe we know our stuff?
- 2. Integrity
  - Do we show our intent in our behaviour?

#### 3. Compassion

Are we motivated by genuine care and concern?

#### 4. Predictability

Can our reactions and behaviours be reliably anticipated?

Mayer et al. (1995)

### **AND WITH OUR PARENTS**

- 1. Declare our intent
- 2. Express our agenda and motives



# Explore important ideas







Mind 'The Gap'

#### **SELF-CONCEPT IS CONFRONTED**

- Self image "I'm a ballet dancer but my body is changing."
- Self esteem "I'm bigger and stronger than the other boys" or "I'm not as good as I thought I was."

Ideal self - "I want to be a top sailor."

#### **SELF-CONCEPT IS CONFRONTED**



As they mature, help them find purpose.

# **Identify their 'why'**

- Who are their heroes?
- What are their aspirations?
- Language is everything
  - "I want to be an athlete like..."
  - "I want to be an athlete who is able to..."

# Bring there why into focus







"The main job of educators is to teach young people how to have pleasure in the right things."

- Plato



JADE	Post - PHV
Goal	Hockey Blacksticks
Key work ons	Acceleration
	High pull technique

# Help them develop their 'why'.



#### Demois

#### O Prep.

"End Zone" w/ prep movements mixed in.

- Monkey Squat
- coffee table
- Scorpians
- Giute drop
- Bear Crawl
- Drop + Catch.

② Session (x3)
Stop Squatx8
SL ROL→Box Step Up→ Deceleration Lunge. (x8 e.s)
Ecc. Pull ups (10 sec x10)
Canadian Press (x8 e.s)
Sport Specific 1
(come to a coach w/a'moment' from a game/training you want to Work on)

Rugby-Scrum (hallenge (x3/30sec) Football-Copenhagen Side Plank (3×10sec) Downhill-SB Pike (x10)

Hockey - lateral lunge w/ 180 land (x 80.5)

Ultimate-lateral lunge w/ shoulder exise (x 8es) Rowing-See Pat! Basketball - hip Mobility work on. Netball - Med ball slam > CMJ > Box landing (+ 8) Sailing - GHD-see Tom! Running - Antirotation lunge w/ knee drive (x 8es)



# Skill Level

#### Internal

## Challenge External

Flow Theory - Csikszentmihalyi, 1997



Flow Theory - Csikszentmihalyi, 1997



# Listen to what they're thinking





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