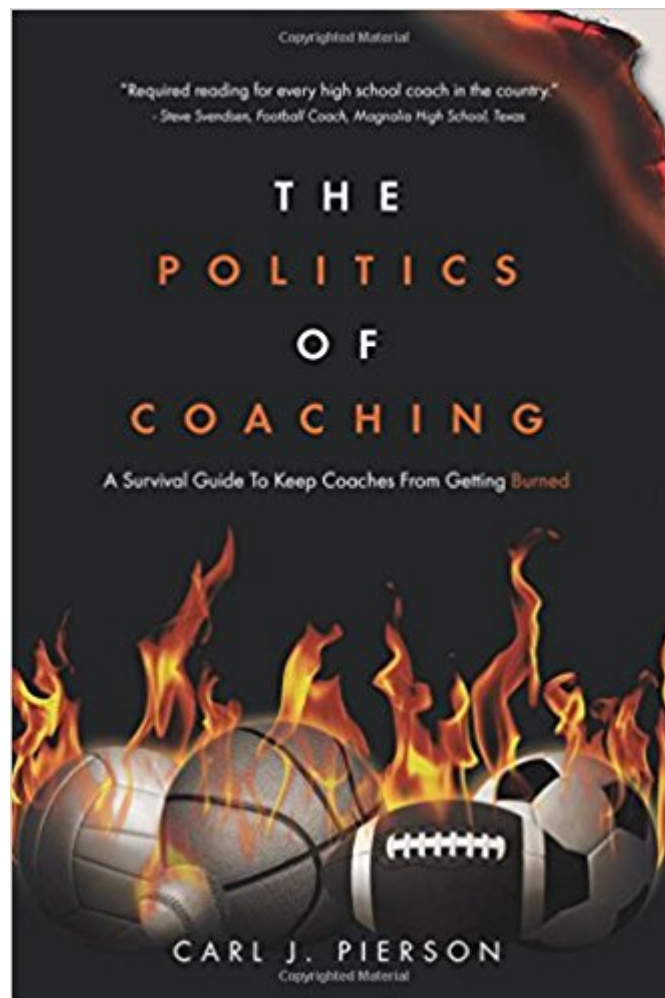




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The Politics Of Coaching: A Survival Guide To Keep Coaches From Getting Burned



Synopsis

Politics have always been a part of youth and high school sports. However, in recent years several new dynamics have developed that have increased the pressure on coaches in every sport. As a result, all across America good people are leaving the coaching profession at an enormously high rate. Carl Pierson uses his two decades of coaching and his political science background to offer real world examples and practical advice on eternally troubling topics like picking teams, playing time, powerful parents, booster clubs, and so many other issues that today's youth and high school coaches have to contend with. The Politics of Coaching is nothing short of a playbook to help coaches navigate their way through the perilous, stressful world that has become coaching. To learn more visit www.politicsofcoaching.com

“Required reading for every aspiring and current head high school coach in the country.”

• Steve Svendsen-Football Coach Magnolia High School, Texas

“Carl says what most people are afraid to say or even admit in the world of coaching. He does a remarkable job in addressing tough situations and answering the difficult questions. When you need help in frustrating situations, you will turn to his book time and again. There will be no unread chapters. I dare you to try and find a book like this out there, it doesn't exist until now!”

• Debra LaPrath Girls Head Soccer Coach Maria Carrillo High School, Santa Rosa, California

Author of Coaching Girls' Soccer Successfully (Human Kinetics 2009)

“Coaches no longer need to be on the defensive. The Politics of Coaching puts coaches in control of relationships with parents, boosters, and administration.”

• Jeff Jennewein-Boys Basketball Coach West Plains High School, Missouri

"This book is a great read, especially for a coach who aspires to run their own program. Regardless of the sport, politics are now a part of the game more than ever. Having this book on the shelf is a must if you want to know the ins and outs of dealing with off the field issues that arise on a daily basis. The Politics of Coaching will make you more prepared and a better coach." Steve Warren-Head Football Coach/Athletic Coordinator Abilene High School, Texas

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Customer Reviews

Carl Pierson holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science and a masters degree in Health, Physical Education, and Coaching from Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota. He has spent the past two decades coaching various levels of football, baseball, and basketball from fifth grade through the high school varsity level, even coaching for two years at the college level. Pierson has enjoyed ten years as a high school government teacher, most recently at Champlin Park, a high school located in the northwest suburbs of Minneapolis, Minnesota. He resides in Champlin with his wife Jean and their son Boston.

I was torn between three and four stars for this book. First, I would recommend it to any high school coach, but I would qualify the recommendation by saying it's spot on in many places but the author's own attitude and methodology sometimes detracts from the book. As a high school teacher and coach, the author clearly comes across as a coach first and teacher second, putting his coaching career in front of his teaching career. He draws parallels throughout the book between the political world and coaching world. While the stories he tells and most of the advice he gives is very accurate and helpful, he takes the political part a little too far sometimes by employing the underhanded backstabbing in politics as a means of gaining or keeping a coaching job. To me this exemplifies everything that is wrong with high school sports and is contrary to the "student first, athlete second" philosophy that is more developmentally appropriate.

I am bi-vocational, meaning that I coach varsity sports but have a job away from school. So I'm in tune with some politics thanks to my other job. Most coaches don't have that experience and so I believe this book is a must for them. Just learning how to keep their athletic director and principal in the loop and never caught off guard is priceless advice. The concepts are easy to understand and are given plenty of illustrations. If you know a coach that ever said "I have no idea how I lost that job", you've got to get them this book.

A great read... a must read . For young or experienced coaches. read this. You may disagree with

some... but knowledge is power. at least you can learn from this book and not on the fly possibly ruining your reputation as a coach. Most especially with this day and age of our athletes and their irrational parents!!! (generation of instant gratification and most difficult challenge us coaches have is the attitudes of entitlement that so many of our athletes carry)

This is a must read for any high school or club coach. It will help new coaches the most but for veterans, it really emphasizes a lot of what you already know but is a great review of what we all need to be aware of while coaching. Great insights on ways to handle different situations based on real life examples. It will help even the best veteran coaches get through a tough year.

This is essentially a combat guide for fighting a war against parents. I've been coaching for 46 years and I believe this approach is counter productive. True, we have some problems in coaching and parent / coach relationships are among them. But, isolating from the parents and regarding them as the enemy is not for me.

I have been the athletic administration business for 35 plus years as both a coach and athletic director. I have seen most of and can relate to all of Carl's chapter headings and specific examples. This is a book worth the time and effort to read and will be a must purchase and read for all of my Head Coaches.

Easy read and opens your eyes! It's not just about coaching anymore.

Very basic information, and not incredibly engaging. Could be for coaching or any career actually. This was a required summer reading book and probably the only reason I selected it.

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