



NCACE News

April 2011



Dear Christopher,

The glaciers have receded up here in New England and once again we discover there is earth underneath our feet! Plus a great time to rediscover the simple joy of playing and exercising outdoors.

Sincerely,
Christopher Hickey
Executive Director

Aspen Institute's Sport & Society Program

The [Aspen Institute](#) is in the early stages of launching a new program looking at the role of sport in American society. It kicked off this effort with the Tisch Leadership Discussion on 'Athletes, Leadership, and the Transformative Power of Sports' with Mark Messier, NHL Hall of Famer, six-time Stanley Cup Champion, and Tom Farrey in January 2011.

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The Aspen POC for this new program is Ms. Mara Smith who can be reached via [email](#).

National Foundation on Fitness, Sports & Nutrition

On Dec 22, 2010, President Obama signed legislation creating the National Foundation on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition. Founded by former Congressman Tom McMillen, the Foundation's role will be to raise funds and award grants to support the mission and activities of the President's Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition. Contact it via its [website online](#).

New US Anti Doping Agency Research Study

USADA released its latest research study, [What Sport Means in America: A Study of Sport's Role in Society](#) on March 15, 2011. Highlights of the report include:

Of special note to sport coaches, the study reveals that "Coaches rank as the #1 positive influence on today's youth involved in sport." You can request a full copy by emailing media@usada.org.

Also, the full report will appear in the April issue of the [Journal of Coaching Education](#), published by the National Association for Sports and Physical Education (NASPE)

National Coaching Conference 2011

The USOC, in partnership with the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE), National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), is hosting the 2011 National Coaching Conference to be hosted at the Antlers Hilton in Downtown Colorado Springs June 22 - 25. [Registration](#) is open with discounted rates offered until April 15th.

Featured speakers include Istvan Balyi (National Coaching Institute/Canada), Dr. Randy Wilber (Senior Exercise

Physiologist/USOC), Dr. Peter Vint(High Performance

Director/USOC), Patrick Duffy (Leeds Metropolitan University/UK), Bob Murray (Sport Science Insights), Shellie Pfohl (President's Council on Physical Fitness, Sport and Nutrition), Jay Coakley (University of Colorado/Colorado Springs), and Kathy Westdorp (Michigan High School Athletic Association).

The USOC Coach of the Year finalists have also been announced and will be honored at the Coach of the Year

Awards Dinner Friday, June 24th also at the Antlers Hilton. National Coaches of the Year in each category will be announced during the dinner.

The conference will conclude with a celebration of Olympic Day on Saturday, June 25th with workshops and clinics in and around Colorado Springs, including the Olympic Training Center.

Other Coaching Conferences of Interest

Sport Leadership Conference @ Univ of Notre Dame

The Institute for Educational Initiatives and the Alliance for Catholic Education is hosting the Annual Sport's Leadership Conference at of the University of Notre Dame June 24-26, 2011. The conference offers professional development for coaches and athletic administrators at both the youth and high school levels with a special emphasis on developing the whole person through sports. Check out the [Play Like a Champion website](#)

8th ICCE Global Coach Conference

The European Network of Sport Science, Education and Employment (ENSSEE) and the International Council for Coach Education (ICCE) will be hosting the 11th ENSSEE Forum and 8th ICCE Global Coach Conference from 25-27 August, 2011 at INSEP in Paris. Keep an eye on the [ICCE website](#) for more information.

Last Thoughts

I have been told over the past few months that I have been "finding my voice" in my role as the NCACE Executive Director. Finding your voice is not just about your vocal chords but the ability to articulate the ideas, values and passions associated with coaching education in the United States. I will admit that I am feeling more confident speaking about national issues that sport coaches and their training impact as well as becoming an overall advocate for quality trained sport coaches.

So, with that frame of mind, when I read the recent USADA report and its finding regarding the much valued role of sport coaches, all I could think was why do we invest so little in preparing coaches at all levels especially at the youth level???

Sincerely,

Christopher Hickey
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