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Managing teacher/coach role conflict

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Preparing pre-service physical educators to manage teacher/coach role conflict

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Abstract:

Teacher education programs place a great deal of emphasis on proper pedagogy and the effectiveness of a teacher. However, if novice teachers are unable to identify, process, and confront socialization issues then there is a significant chance that reality shock and washout will set-in. Physical education teacher education curriculum needs to place importance on socialization issues and proper pedagogy, because one without the other decreases the chances that pre-service teachers will have a holistic view of the process of teaching. Physical educators are often asked to coach because of the perceived similarities between physical education and coaching. Teacher/coach role conflict is a socialization issue that does not receive enough attention in university curriculum. Teacher/coach role conflict is when an individual experiences time conflicts, differing role expectations, and differing rewards and accountability that favors coaching. Due to the incompatibility of the roles, teacher/coaches often choose one role to focus their efforts, while the other role receives less attention. The purpose of this presentation is to offer some suggestions on how to prepare pre-service teachers to manage teacher/coach role conflict.