

USATT Coaching Newsletter

From the USATT Coaching Advisory Committee

FOURTH EDITION

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Welcome to our fourth edition of the USATT Coaching Newsletter. Our efforts to bring the ITTF Coaching Education Program to the USATT have reached a new milestone in 2011 with the beginning of regional ITTF-PPT Level 1 Courses. Read on for complete information on our progress.

USATT Coaching Advisory Members: Richard McAfee, Larry Hodges, Ernesto Ebuena, Daniel Rutenberg, and Nan Li (Athlete Representative)

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LAST CALL FOR “COACH OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS!”

We are quickly reaching the deadline to nominate USATT “Coach of the Year” Awards. As USATT Coaches, each of us has a responsibility to help our association recognize those coaches who have gone above and beyond to help our sport grow in 2011. There are five categories for these awards and they include:

- Volunteer
- Developmental Coach
- National Coach
- Paralympic
- Doc Counsilman (Technology Area)

Please look around at the work your fellow coaches are doing and take the time to fill out a nomination form for those that you feel are deserving. Every year, good coaches are overlooked for these awards because no one took the time to nominate them. For complete information on the awards and on the nomination process, please follow this link:

http://www.usatt.org/news1/2011_coach_of_the_year.shtml

STEFAN FETH TO CONDUCT USATT COACHING SEMINAR

Our annual US National’s Coaching Seminar will see some major changes in content and presentation this year. We will be holding the seminar at the beginning of the first day of competition in the hope that more coaches will be able to attend before they get too busy coaching during the tournament. In addition, this year we will move out of the lecture hall and actually out on the tables so that the seminar will be “hands-on” and much more active for those attending.

I would urge each of you to come and join our US Men's Team Coach, Stefan Feth, as he teaches the latest serve and serve return techniques found at the elite level of play. The Seminar will take place on Tuesday, December 13, 2011, 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm, at the US Nationals in Virginia Beach. This will be a “hands-on” seminar and will be conducted on tables 52-55 within the venue.

In addition, Richard McAfee, Chairman of the USATT National Coaching Advisory Committee, will present on the topic: “The Use of Half-Pattern Drills to Teach Anticipation Skills”. Come and learn what “half-pattern” drills are and how they can prepare your athletes for tournament play.

For the complete announcement and to sign-up to attend, please follow the following link:

<http://tabletennis.teamusa.org/news/2011/11/07/2011-usa-coaching-seminar-at-us-nationals/45375>

ITTF COACHING EDUCATION PROGRAM - UPDATE

This was an historic year for USATT Coaching as we successfully conducted our first regional, self-funded ITTF Level 1 Courses. Four Level 1 Courses were held and 74 coaches went through either the 30-hour or 24-hour ITTF Course. To date, 55 USATT Coaches have finished all their post-course requirements and achieved ITTF Level 1 Certification. You can see their names listed on the ITTF Website at:

http://www.ittf.com/front_page/ittf1.asp?category=dev_coach_reg

Their ITTF Certification is also listed on the USATT Coaches Database. The balance of 19 coaches are still working on finishing up their coaching hours and we expect that most/all will be certified very soon.

Our plans to continue the ITTF Development Program for 2012 call for conducting another six ITTF Level 1 Courses next year. In addition, we will hold our first ITTF Level 2 Course in Colorado Springs sometime in September 2012. ITTF Certification is recognized worldwide and I urge every coach to take advantage of these courses to upgrade your knowledge and also to get in on the ground-floor of this certification system.

YOU CAN SCHEDULE AN ITTF LEVEL 1 COURSE AT YOUR CLUB!

Want to become an ITTF Coach? Looking for a fund-raising activity for your club? You can achieve both goals by having your club host an ITTF-PPT Level 1 Course. To host an ITTF Course, your club will need to be able to offer the following:

The course is 30 hours (5 days x 6 hours a day generally). The course can be given over 5 straight days or even over two separated weekends.

The minimum number of participants is 10, and the maximum number is 30 with the following conditions:

- Each participant must have their own copy of the ITTF Coaching Manual at the commencement of the course
- A maximum of 4 coaches per available table tennis table
- A minimum of 50 balls (more is better) and 2 containers per table for multiball work

- At a minimum, a whiteboard or blackboard and sit down theory area
- Preferably a projector and laptop for presentations as required
- One wheelchair per table - day 5 only
- One pair of crutches, Canadian crutches and walking sticks per table (at least one of each) - day 5 only

This means, if you have 30 participants, you must have **at least** 8 tables and 400 balls.

The suggested fee for the course is \$225 per coach. It is up to the host club and the ITTF Course Conductor to decide how the profit from the course will be shared. There are currently 11 ITTF Course Conductors in the USATT. For more information on how your club can host a course please contact Richard McAfee at: rmcafee@comcast.net