

USATT Coaching Newsletter



From the USATT Coaching Advisory Committee

SIXTH EDITION

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Welcome to our sixth edition of the USATT Coaching Newsletter. This year was a busy one for USATT Coaching as we conducted five regional Level 1 Courses as well as our first ever ITTF Level 2 Course. Read on for complete information.

USATT Coaching Advisory Members: Richard McAfee, Larry Hodges, Ernesto Ebuén, Daniel Rutenberg, and Nan Li (Athlete Representative) are proud to bring you this newsletter.

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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 2012. 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.teamusa.org/USA-Table-Tennis/Features/2012/September/27/Call-for-Nominations-Annual-Coach-of-the-Year.aspx>

Deadline for submissions is December 15, 2012!

USATT HOLDS FIRST EVER ITTF LEVEL 2 COURSE

From October 30-November 6, 2012, USATT Coaching held its first ever ITTF Level 2 and Level 2 Course Conductors Courses at the US Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. Seventeen coaches, including three foreign ITTF Course Conductors, took part.

The ITTF Level 2 Course uses the ITTF Advanced Manual as the course textbook and the material covered is a big step-up over the Level 1 Course. While the Level 1 Course deals with a wide range of general knowledge to prepare a coach to work mostly with juniors and beginners, the Level 2 Course is far more technical. The Level 2 Course is designed for coaches working with players from USATT 1750-2350 rating levels. All strokes and how to teach them are covered in great detail. In addition, the Level 2 Course goes much deeper into the details of planning both physical and physiological training.

After six days of hard work and long hours at night spent studying, all the USA Coaches passed the extensive oral and practical exams. Each coach must now finish 50 hours of post-course coaching work and receive a positive grade from his/her supervisor to complete their requirements and achieve ITTF Level 2 Certification. For the complete story, please see: <http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Table-Tennis/Features/2012/November/05/ITTF-Level-II-Coaching-Course.aspx>

FIRST USATT COACHES CERTIFIED AS LEVEL 2 + LEVEL 3 ITTF COURSE CONDUCTORS

Three USATT Coaches also participated in the recent ITTF Level 2 Course Conductor Course. Congratulations to Christian Lilleroos, Dennis Davis, and Richard McAfee for passing an extensive series of exams involving a practical, a theory, and written tests and becoming certified by the ITTF as Level 2 Course Conductors.

In addition, Richard McAfee recently attended the first ever ITTF Level 3 and Level 3 Course Conductor Training in Malaysia. After ten days of hard work and extensive practical and written testing, Coach McAfee is now one of only eight ITTF Level 3 Course Conductors in the World. You can read more about the course at:

http://www.ittf.com/front_Page/ittf_full_story1.asp?ID=29381&Category=train&Competition_ID=&

USATT REACHES HISTORIC MILESTONE – 100+ ITTF COACHES

In only two years since the program's inception, USATT Coaching now has more than 100 Certified ITTF Coaches. In addition thirteen USATT Coaches are now finishing up their Level 2 requirements. While this is a great start, we have only reached a small percentage of our current coaches and potential coaches. Check out our certified ITTF Coaches on the ITTF Coaches Registry at: http://www.ittf.com/front_page/ittf1.asp?category=dev_coach_reg

USATT LOOKING FOR CLUBS TO HOST ITTF LEVEL 1 COURSES

Looking for a fund-raising activity for your club? What to energize your club's coaching programs? 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

TOWARDS THE FUTURE!

With more than 100 ITTF Certified Coaches, USATT Coaching has made a good start to raising the level of our grass-roots coaches. We firmly believe that by raising the level of our coaches we will also raise the level of our athletes at the same time. Coaches are the backbone of any sport and coaching education is a "key" component of any effort to build a sport. We need many more coaches and many more "educated" coaches.

USATT Coaching plans to continue to build this program of coaching education in 2013 by offering between 4-6 regional Level 1 Courses and also 2-4 Level 2 Courses. Level 3 Courses will start in 2014. By ITTF rules, a coach must wait a minimum of 1 year between taking each course.