

Teamwork Intelligence

How Smart Teams Turn Knowledge into Action

Dr. Cory Dobbs

"Teamwork Intelligence is the purposeful and intentional relational process of team members together raising one another to higher levels of motivation, collaboration, compassion, and performance."

People are always fascinated by successful coaches. The moment a coach wins a championship he or she is in demand as a speaker ("Tell us how you did it.") and for those at the highest levels a book deal emerges quickly to allow the coach a longer format to detail his or her unique talents ("Tell us

more about how you did it.") It's likely your book shelf is loaded up with biographies and books that chronicle "what successful coaches do." Such information certainly can be very helpful. But learning by reading and learning by attending a speech will only get you so far. Add to this the growth of university-based graduate degree programs for coaches and you're on your path to success. Just add water and stir. Not so fast.

Like you, I've read a ton of books on and by coaches. And I've not only done the graduate degree path, I've spent time as a professor teaching graduate level leadership and organizational behavior at respected universities. But by itself, information cannot make us do anything. It goes into our brain where it is processed and then we decide what to do. While I'm certainly in favor of learning by reading, writing, speaking, and listening, it is the process of doing that ignites the intelligence of a team.

Coaches are forever investing in personal and team improvement through reading books and attending speeches at conferences, and likely a heavy dose of YouTube videos. However, while increasing in knowledge, it is the practice of "doing" that offers deep insight and understanding. For many of us, there is a huge gap between knowing what to do and doing what we know we need to do.

I've studied teams for more than a decade and have seen the knowing-doing gap everywhere I've gone. Let me be clear: I'm not talking about the task side of development; rather, the human side of team building. Two goals of every team are high-commitment and high-performance. Teams work hard, daily, investing blood, sweat, and tears in developing sport specific skills and team offensive and defensive systems—this is the high-performance side of the team equation. However, where coaches and programs fail is on the human side of things—the highcommitment teaming process of relationships, values, and common purpose.

Teamwork Intelligence offers you an opportunity to overcome the pernicious knowing-doing gap. I've created a Workbook (for doing) for the student-athlete, and a Facilitator's Guide (for doing) for the coaching staff. I'm in favor of a ready, fire, aim, approach to creating teamwork intelligence. Jump right in and start developing the savviest team you've ever assembled. Invest time, effort, and energy in building your team's intelligence and see what happens. -Cory

TEAMWORK INTELLIGENCE WORKBOOK (for the student-athlete)

A 10-12 session curriculum for creating a high-performance team culture. Softbound workbook includes activities, case studies, self-analysis, performance assessments and team exercises. Bulk discount when ordering a copy for every team member. Purchase orders accepted.

FACILITATOR'S GUIDE (for the coach or athletic administrator) Softbound book includes a class-by-class format for teaching Teamwork Intelligence.

To Order: Teamwork Intelligence packet = 1 Workbook / 1 Facilitator's Guide \$39.99 Add A Leader in Every Locker: Coach's Guidebook and pay only \$54.99

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