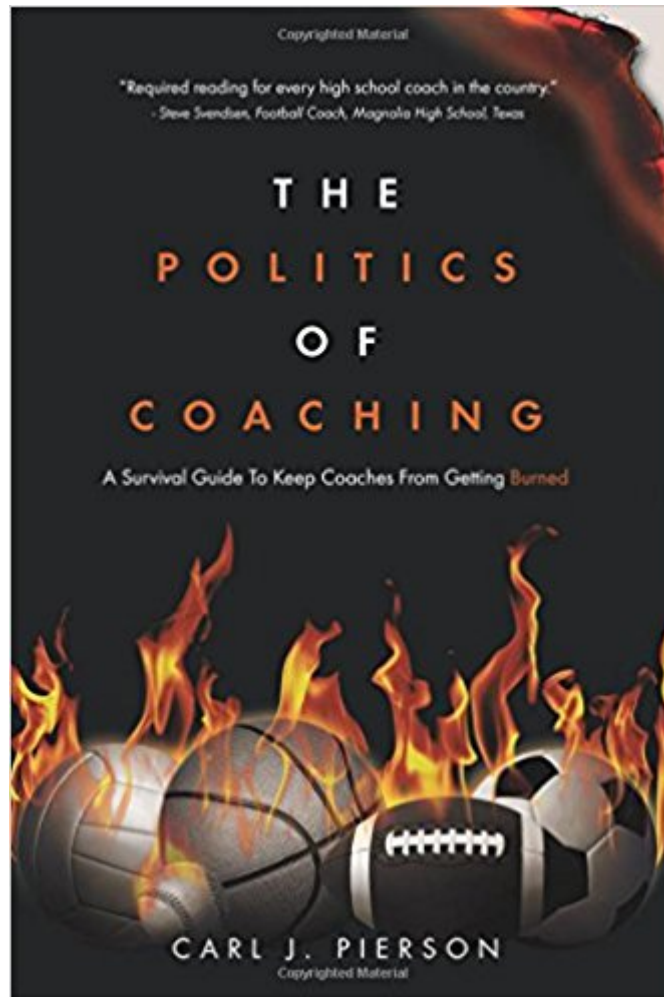


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# The Politics Of Coaching: A Survival Guide To Keep Coaches From Getting Burned



## Synopsis

Politics have always been a part of youth and high school sports. However, in recent years several new dynamics have developed that have increased the pressure on coaches in every sport. As a result, all across America good people are leaving the coaching profession at an enormously high rate. Carl Pierson uses his two decades of coaching and his political science background to offer real world examples and practical advice on eternally troubling topics like picking teams, playing time, powerful parents, booster clubs, and so many other issues that today's youth and high school coaches have to contend with. The Politics of Coaching is nothing short of a playbook to help coaches navigate their way through the perilous, stressful world that has become coaching. To learn more visit [www.politicsofcoaching.com](http://www.politicsofcoaching.com) • Required reading for every aspiring and current head high school coach in the country. • Steve Svendsen-Football Coach Magnolia High School, Texas • Carl says what most people are afraid to say or even admit in the world of coaching. He does a remarkable job in addressing tough situations and answering the difficult questions. When you need help in frustrating situations, you will turn to his book time and again. There will be no unread chapters. I dare you to try and find a book like this out there, it doesn't exist until now! • Debra LaPrath • Girls Head Soccer Coach Maria Carrillo High School, Santa Rosa, California Author • Coaching Girls' Soccer Successfully (Human Kinetics 2009) • Coaches no longer need to be on the defensive. The Politics of Coaching puts coaches in control of relationships with parents, boosters, and administration. • Jeff Jennewein-Boys Basketball Coach West Plains High School, Missouri "This book is a great read, especially for a coach who aspires to run their own program. Regardless of the sport, politics are now a part of the game more than ever. Having this book on the shelf is a must if you want to know the ins and outs of dealing with off the field issues that arise on a daily basis. The Politics of Coaching will make you more prepared and a better coach." Steve Warren-Head Football Coach/Athletic Coordinator Abilene High School, Texas

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I was torn between three and four stars for this book. First, I would recommend it to any high school coach, but I would qualify the recommendation by saying it's spot on in many places but the author's own attitude and methodology sometimes detracts from the book. As a high school teacher and coach, the author clearly comes across as a coach first and teacher second, putting his coaching career in front of his teaching career. He draws parallels throughout the book between the political world and coaching world. While the stories he tells and most of the advice he gives is very accurate and helpful, he takes the political part a little too far sometimes by employing the underhanded backstabbing in politics as a means of gaining or keeping a coaching job. To me this exemplifies everything that is wrong with high school sports and is contrary to the "student first, athlete second" philosophy that is more developmentally appropriate.

This book is a must read for anyone who thinks they want to get into high school coaching. It is very complete and covers almost every potential political land mine that a coach is likely to come up against. Now you just need to have the stomach to deal with the parents.

This is essentially a combat guide for fighting a war against parents. I've been coaching for 46 years and I believe this approach is counter productive. True, we have some problems in coaching and parent / coach relationships are among them. But, isolating from the parents and regarding them as the enemy is not for me.

I am bi-vocational, meaning that I coach varsity sports but have a job away from school. So I'm in tune with some politics thanks to my other job. Most coaches don't have that experience and so I believe this book is a must for them. Just learning how to keep their athletic director and principal in the loop and never caught off guard is priceless advice. The concepts are easy to understand and are given plenty of illustrations. If you know a coach that ever said "I have no idea how I lost that job", you've got to get them this book.

This book is an absolute MUST HAVE for anyone coaching, especially the new coach. I wish I had

access to this gem 30 years ago. It would have guided me to make better decisions. Time and again, I remembered dealing with the exact situations described in this book. My daughter is getting into teaching and coaching and I will be getting her a copy of this book to keep on her desk/shelf! I am also buying some copies for my coaching friends...that is how much I believe this book can help.

I consider my self a vetrian coach. I finally made a move from an urban city coaching position where there was little parent envolment and practically "no politics" to worry about. I inherated a "state championship" program where football is life. This book has helped my out on several occations. The issue that I only thought TV shows thought up have started to surface at my new program. The authors advice was very very helpful on 2 occation thus far. **MUST HAVE BOOK FOR COACHES!!!** the \$10 you spend will save you thousands and your job!.

This author thinks on a totally different level than most of us coaches but there is no doubt the information and advice he offers is helpful. I don't think I'll ever look at coaching the same way again.

A great read... a must read . For young or experienced coaches. read this. You may disagree with some... but knowledge is power. at least you can learn from this book and not on the fly possibly ruining your reputation as a coach. Most especially with this day and age of our athletes and their irrational parents!!! (generation of instant gratification and most difficult challenge us coaches have is the attitudes of entitlement that so many of our athletes carry)

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