



To our valuable and esteemed coaching staff - **THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO!**

We hope the start of the season is treating you well and that you and your team are off to the races! It's hard to imagine we're two full months into gameplay. To kick off this year's Coaching Development Blog series, this issue touches on three (3) aspects: Coaching Support, Customized Bow River Coaching Clinics, and our Coaching Corner web page.

**Coaching Support:** Essentially, coaching support is why we're here: to help you. Please don't hesitate to reach out. Direct [email reachouts](#) are welcomed. If you are new to coaching basketball, yes, it can be hard and is often intimidating. We've been asked to come into gyms during scheduled practice times. Under such circumstances, we can play multiple roles: **observer** (with feedback afterwards) or **participant** (if you need a drop-in assistant coach). Sometimes, it takes an outside perspective to change the dynamics or simply 'read the room.' It's easy to fall into the trap of going at it alone, convincing yourself that upcoming practices will solve a problem.

**Customized Coaching Clinics:** New for this year are customized Bow River Coaching Clinics. These clinics will provide beginner and intermediate coaches with tools to be more successful at practices, in games, and in the culture they form within their team. Our clinics will serve as a roundtable to ask questions, seek advice, and collaborate. Furthermore, we will provide help and guidance with specific drills tailored to your age group. If you need any help with a skill or drill, please let us know. We will have drills ready, on paper, and ready for demonstration. Three types of clinics are offered: virtual, classroom, and gymnasium.

- Virtual Classroom - **let us know what you need** - Dec 19th online
- In-person Classroom - **team identity, drills, plays (X&O format)** - Jan 2025
- Gymnasium - **practice, showcase, interaction** - Jan 2025

**Coaching Corner Web Page:** Our Coaching Corner web page has been refreshed and will continue to be updated throughout the season. You will find the [link](#) on the top menu of the Bow River website. The page is for you and includes scheduling information for clinics, copies of these blog posts (previous years, too), Drills, Skills, and Plays for tykes and age groups. The Key Material section covers Policy, Handbook, extra practice booking, etc. If you're looking for an **almost one-stop shop** for everything you need to know, check out the Coaching Orientation Session [Package](#).

**Christmas Break:** We strongly encourage all coaches to hold a team function. This is an excellent opportunity to build team unity and strengthen team culture. Consider the first practice time after the break begins, as it is a time that will have already worked with most families. The function doesn't need to be elaborate or expensive. Even a pizza party at a team member's house will allow your team to bond off the court. Engage your team manager to help set this up.

Thanks for taking the time to read this Coaching Development Blog. Please click here to contact us via [email](#) - **Coach Lee** and **Coach Greg**.