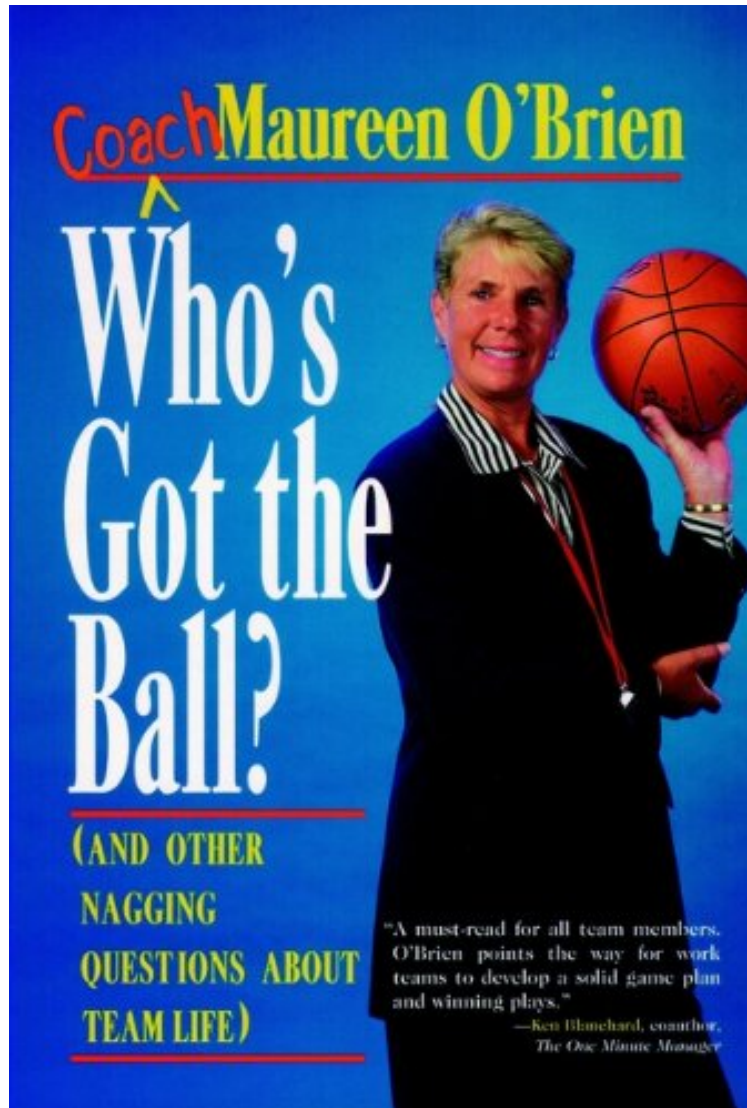


[Library ebook] Who's Got the Ball? (and Other Nagging Questions About Team Life): A Player's Guide for Work Teams

Who's Got the Ball? (and Other Nagging Questions About Team Life): A Player's Guide for Work Teams

Coach Maureen O'Brien

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Coach Maureen O'Brien : Who's Got the Ball? (and Other Nagging Questions About Team Life): A Player's Guide for Work Teams before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Who's Got the Ball? (and Other Nagging Questions About Team Life): A Player's Guide for Work Teams:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Watch a Nike commercial instead. By A Doctoral Student Unfortunately, will not let me give the zero stars this book deserves. It is a waste of your time. This book pretends like it's a new idea that sports metaphors can transfer into other areas of life. It offers no depth, only canned

answers that would be better expressed on bumper stickers. Read absolutely anything else in the mountains of management lit for real, practical assistance in the workplace. Read absolutely anything else in the mountains of self-help lit for real, practical assistance in the rest of your life. For those of you who are assigned this book in class, I apologize on behalf of all educators. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. wonderful motivational book By A Customer A wonderful motivational book that any coach will find useful. It is also designed for business application, but most of the philosophies deal with team sports.

More than a fad, teaming is proving to be a new way of organizational life, with eight out of every ten employees now involved in some kind of teamwork. But how exactly does one play on a team at work? While there are plenty of manuals, trainers, and theories that help managers create, lead, and reward teams, actual team members are often left struggling without a handbook or a coach. With refreshing clarity and common sense, Maureen O'Brien, a team expert with more than twenty years of experience as a player, coach, and business consultant, offers one-on-one coaching tips to team players in *Who's Got the Ball?* The author covers all the bases, from setting a team's goals and articulating its noble purpose, to banishing boring meetings, deciding how to make decisions, and even using flip charts effectively. Friendly and conversational, O'Brien offers experience-based, easy-to-implement guidelines that are eminently practical and surprisingly fun. Her concise coaching notes, wonderfully illustrated by real-life organizational situations, address every aspect of daily team life, including: creating a workable team structure * being a valuable team member * avoiding common teamwork traps * running an effective team meeting * making and implementing decisions * leading a team. From developing a new team and determining just what kind of game your team is playing--individualistic baseball, interdependent basketball, or tightly orchestrated football--to dealing with personality-based conflicts, knowing when to take a time-out, and honoring a project's most valuable player, *Who's Got the Ball?* is an invaluable guide to surviving--and thriving--on today's work teams.

From Library Journal Consultant O'Brien has done managers a great service by writing a down-to-earth guide to coaching and facilitating teams in organizations large and small. What distinguishes O'Brien from other writers on teamwork is that she offers practical advice rather than theories and exhortations. From her many years as a basketball player and coach, O'Brien has arrived at an understanding of the factors that inhibit individuals from engaging successfully in teamwork. She offers solutions to common team problems in simple, jargon-free language. O'Brien is a coach who clearly understands that management cannot win while the players are losing. A most welcome addition to the literature on team management; recommended for public libraries. Andrea C. Dragon, Coll. of St. Elizabeth, Convent Station, N.J. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Finally, a book for team members--three cheers for Coach O'Brien! *Who's Got the Ball?* is an easy, enjoyable, and invigorating book filled with powerful, useable, common sense coaching tips. This book should be required reading for all team members in today's workforce." --Freda M. Peters, vice president, Human Resources, Branson Ultrasonics Corporation, subsidiary of Emerson Electric Company "Who's Got the Ball? is one of the best books on teaming that you will ever read--clear, insightful, humorous. An excellent handbook for any business or organization struggling and/or coping with breaking down barriers and building teams." --Hellene S. Runtagh, president CEO, GE Information Services, Inc. "Maureen O'Brien is the quintessential coach. She gives team members the confidence and motivation to play, helps us build a gameplan, shows us the moves, and cheers us on to victory." --Laura Northup, team member, General Electric From the Inside Flap More than a fad, "teaming" is proving to be a new way of organizational life, with eight out of every ten employees now involved in some kind of teamwork. But how exactly does one "play" on a team at work? While there are plenty of manuals, trainers, and theories that help managers create, lead, and reward teams, actual team members are often left struggling without a handbook or a coach. With refreshing clarity and common sense, Maureen O'Brien, a team expert with more than twenty years of experience as a player, coach, and business consultant, offers one-on-one coaching tips to team players in *Who's Got the Ball?* The author covers all the bases, from setting a team's goals and articulating its "noble purpose," to banishing boring meetings, deciding how to make decisions, and even using flip charts effectively. Friendly and conversational, O'Brien offers experience-based, easy-to-implement guidelines that are eminently practical and surprisingly fun. Her concise "coaching notes," wonderfully illustrated by real-life organizational situations, address every aspect of daily team life, including: creating a workable team structure * being a valuable team member * avoiding common teamwork traps * running an effective team meeting * making and implementing decisions * leading a team. From developing a new team and determining just what kind of game your team is playing--individualistic baseball, interdependent basketball, or tightly orchestrated football--to dealing with personality-based conflicts, knowing when to take a "time-out," and honoring a project's most valuable player, *Who's Got the Ball?* is an invaluable guide to surviving--and thriving--on today's work teams.