



MESSAGE FROM THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Learning and inspiration - these are the key words. The discipline and the opportunity offered by such conferences are crucial for the future of a sport. Strategy development requires successful and highly educated professionals.

We should never be ashamed of learning new things. Whether a sentence, a word or just body language inspires the participants, it was already worth organizing the conference. In the summer, we will hold our 6th International Basketball Conference at the National Basketball Academy. These conferences are like six semesters of a master's degree.

Together with the Center for Basketball Methodology and Education we have organised 23 coaching clinics with 170 presentations, 5 international basketball conferences with 73 theoretical and practical sessions, 3 conferences on sport science and innovation with 30 presentations, have held rehabilitation courses and more than 40 workshops and webinars, have increased international visibility by building connection with FIBA Europe NBA, WNBA, NCAA,

EuroLeague, EuroLeague Women, ELPA and with other sport organisations from more than 20 countries, have published 10 books, 8 book of abstracts, have translated FIBA's 1500 page handbook into Hungarian, wrote a textbook for the Hungarian University of Sport Science and the University of Pécs, published reviews, articles - and if this with all of the materials of the six 'semesters' can be implemented into the Hungarian basketball culture, then we will definitely make progress! These are actually big steps, sensational things, the consequences of which we will feel only later in the slow process of culture building.

We could witness fantastic lectures and on-court sessions in Pécs again, as following the NBA coaches this time Sergio Scariolo arrived to this unique conference. I am glad that star coaches enjoy being here and that we could be their good hosts. We will incorporate the philosophies and thoughts of the highly successful and authentic coaches into our daily work thus we could become better tomorrow than we are today.

Only the participants' broad vision and inclusion set the barrier of how much they can benefit from the experiences and interactions at this conference.

Be open-minded and take advantage of the opportunity.

Dr. László Rátgéber, PhD, habil.

Master Coach

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University of Sports Science, Budapest,

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National Basketball Academy, Pécs,

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MESSAGE FROM THE PLENARY PRESENTER

The key development factors are openness and empathy. You have to learn every possible thing from your colleagues. Such conferences and professional trainings offer a great opportunity for this. I am personally constantly learning, analyzing and working with passion. That is my secret. I can handle the pressure and feel blessed to have been given the talent. I accepted László Rátgéber's invitation because I am trying to return part of the numerous things I received from the basketball family.

“Basketball means everything to me. It’s my life. This is what I want to do as long as I live.”

I visited the premises of the National Basketball Academy and the Rehabilitation Center and I have to say, they represent a very high standard. It is impressive for basketball lovers. Not only the buildings, tools and equipments, but also the organization is impeccable. László's footprint is distinctive in Hungarian basketball; everything is mature here at the Academy: the philosophy and concept are clear, state and corporate financial support is given. Although former presenters Nick Nurse and Chris Finch, my colleagues gave

only positive feedback, the reality exceeded my expectations. You can be proud of this establishment.

I advise the Hungarian professionals to be patient, not to expect an overnight success – it will certainly come. The investment will pay off slowly, so it is important from time to time to check whether the direction is right and whether the system is being built properly. During the process, not the numbers on the scoreboard but the clear vision matters.

Sergio Scariolo,

Head Coach of the Men's Nation Team of Spain