



MESSAGE FROM THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

The National Basketball Academy in Pécs proudly hosted the 6th International Basketball Conference, maintaining the same high standards as before, with world-class international experts sharing their knowledge with attendees. Over the past three years, these conferences have compiled a complete university-level curriculum.

Thanks to our Methodological Center, we have developed a comprehensive university curriculum in Hungarian. In this unique endeavor for Hungary, the Center has built a professional and scientific team, network, and knowledge base at the level of international basketball elites. To achieve this, we organized numerous conferences and symposia on sports science and innovation. Our outputs include 10 books, 9 abstract volumes, a Hungarian translation of the FIBA's 1500-page handbook, a textbook for domestic sports science and physical education institutions, and several scientific publications.

Mastering this full “university curriculum” –regardless of one’s role in basketball or high-performance teams – equips professionals to elevate players’ performance through versatile, modern, science-based methods. Organizations in the sport must be driven by know-how, not administration.

Embrace this knowledge – it holds the key to Hungarian basketball’s future.

As coaches, we transform lives, and we must ensure only the right influences guide our youth. We are committed to maximizing sports science’s potential. It is up to us to change Hungarian basketball – no one else will.

Dr. László Rátgéber, PhD, habil.

Master Coach

Assoc. Prof. at the University of Pécs, at the Hungarian University of Sports Science, Budapest,
Professional and Strategic Director of the
National Basketball Academy, Pécs,
Director of the Center for Basketball Methodology
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MESSAGE FROM THE PLENARY PRESENTER

Dimitris Itoudis

I was delighted and honored to be invited by László Rátgéber and my friend Igor Jukic to the 6th International Basketball Conference. I only wish I could have met László sooner, but it was here that I truly witnessed the passion he embodies. He gave me a tour of the academy, the rehabilitation center, and showcased the outstanding work of the Methodology Center. I can confidently tell the basketball world: this is a thriving, impeccably organized hub where young talents develop their skills under excellent coaches who attend to every detail. I was thrilled to participate and encourage everyone to visit.

In my presentations, I emphasized the critical role of individual training, which varies by context - whether managing a junior team, cadets, a recreational side playing once a week, or a Euroleague powerhouse. Elite teams have limited time: just one session per day, blending individual work and tactics amid heavy travel, video analysis, and the need for mental and physical recovery. Constant repetition of fundamentals is essential, and it's far easier with

well-trained, educated players. This allows precise tactical implementation, especially when youth teams are expertly coached by dedicated colleagues. Top players, meanwhile, carve their own paths, honing skills through extra hours beyond team sessions.

Regardless of offensive system, all coaches seek positional shots, scoring opportunities, or free throws. My core philosophy: achieve this by drilling fundamentals until they become second nature.

Dimitris Itoudis

Two-Time Euroleague Champion Coach, President of the Euroleague Head Coaches Board