



Transforming Youth Sports  
So Sports Can Transform Youth

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Phil Jackson and Shane Battier: Honoring the Game And PCA



Anticipating a hotly-contested Game 5 tonight between the Los Angeles Lakers and Houston Rockets, we offer [this video glimpse](#) into what was on the minds of Lakers Coach Phil Jackson and Rockets star Shane Battier after Game 3.

Although the series has been physical, including an accidental gash over Battier's eye in Game 1, these two PCA National Advisory Board Members continue to Honor the Game.



We are proud to have each of them involved with PCA and thank them for their efforts on behalf of the PCA Movement.

## Ask PCA: Player Cuts

This week's "Ask PCA" question delves into a sensitive area of youth and high school sports.

Is there a script for kind and positive ways to talk with a player who has to be cut from a team?

-- **Betsy, Houston, TX**

[Click here to read PCA's tips for coaches on how to handle cuts and to leave your own advice for Betsy on the "Ask PCA" blog.](#)

To Ask PCA your youth sports coaching and sports parenting questions, e-mail [AskPCA@positivecoach.org](mailto:AskPCA@positivecoach.org)

## Latest *Momentum* Newsletter Now Online

The Spring 2009 issue of PCA's print newsletter, *Momentum*, is now online. [Click here to read:](#)

- How hundreds of supporters helped PCA meet a major fundraising challenge
- The latest developments in PCA's work with high school sports programs
- *Sports Illustrated* Senior Writer **Alexander Wolff**...On Youth Sports
- **Jim Thompson's** not-to-be-missed interview with *Mindset* author **Carol Dweck** and Jim's *Director's Corner* column, explaining how notables from Dweck to Shane Battier are helping the PCA Movement.

## Pop Warner Double-Goal Coach of the Year Winners



Thanks to all those who answered our call to nominate Pop Warner coaches as candidates for the inaugural Pop Warner Double-Goal Coach of the Year Award. After much deliberation over some extremely strong candidates, PCA and our national partner, Pop Warner Little Scholars, are proud to announce the winners:

- **Kristin Ciarlone**, Everett (MA) Huskies Cheerleading
- **Kevin Levonaitis**, Hillsborough (NJ) Dukes Football

The coaches will receive their honors at the Pop Warner Little Scholars Awards Banquet, May 23 in Orlando, Fla.

Ciarlone, 26, already is a 12-year veteran of coaching. "I fell in love with cheer, and my coach, Stephanie Cherfo, was my role model," Ciarlone said. "She gave me memories I will have forever, and my main goal is to give the girls on my team memories that will last them a lifetime."

Levonaitis summarizes his approach as, "teaching players to block and tackle properly and emphasizing winning and losing as a team. The quarterback or running back does not gain yardage; the *team* gains yardage."

PCA congratulates these outstanding coaches and looks forward to continued work with Pop Warner to develop and recognize Double-Goal Coaches.

**Positive Coaching Alliance**

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