

also provide the expertise required by the NSOs in encouraging, enforcing and promoting drug-free amateur athletics at all levels from the domestic through the national and international levels. Emerging as a central institution in drug testing and anti-doping policies, the Council should be more involved in research on matters compatible with its mandate. In order to preserve its impartiality, the Council should continue to be independent of NSOs.

## F. Coaching

In view of the influence of coaches on the athlete's development, the sports community recognizes their essential contribution to the Canadian sports system. Their association with any sport has an impact on the future of amateur athletes. This important role was acknowledged by the Task Force, which says that the recognition of coaching as a viable career and part of the labour market justifies an increase in the number of qualified full-time and part-time remunerated coaches at selected levels within the sports system.

Insisting that coaching must be of the highest standard, the Dubin Report recommends that all coaches receiving federal funding be certified by the Coaching Association of Canada.

Most of the witnesses who expressed views on this matter stressed the recognition of the coach's role. Some organizations representatives mentioned that success in international competitions depends directly on the strength of coaching at the national level.

The Sub-Committee agrees with the perception that coaching can be a viable career within the sports system and should be promoted as such. In that regard, it recommends:

- 20. That the certification system be a multi-sport agency and teach skills on a broad non-specific basis. Such an initiative could be the basis of the program, which could then become sport-specific as required by the individual NSO.**

## G. Volunteers

As well as the input of athletes and coaches, the contribution of the many volunteers who administer or referee sporting events is essential to the development of the sports system. NSOs, in particular, benefit from the massive involvement of elected directors who