

## WHAT IS AN “FCA CHARACTER COACH”?

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*“Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.”  
Proverbs 4:23*

This ancient wisdom still holds true! If anyone knows this, it is the coach. The content of a player's heart will eventually play itself out in some way. One of the most important roles coaches play in preparing players for competition and life is to give them a chance to develop good character.

We expect a game plan for coaching the x's and o's of our sport. What isn't always clear is how to coach character. Individuals who are serving teams in the capacity of Character Coach or Chaplain have been around for 100-plus years. Our military learned, as far back as the Revolutionary War, that during times of war Chaplains were critical to counsel and motivate fighting men. As you prepare your athletes for the battle of competition, a Chaplain that comes alongside you to serve you is a time-tested game plan of success.

## WHAT DOES AN “FCA CHARACTER COACH” LOOK LIKE?

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Character Coaches/Chaplains could take on a number of different roles, but listed here are many of the common ones.

- Lead and coordinate chapel services.
- Provide personal care to players, coaches, and support staff.
- Alert the coach to critical issues that could affect his/her program.
- Be available and equipped at all times to help in crisis situations.
- Provide training and resources for character development and life management skills.
- Pray for, encourage and exhort players, coaches, coaches' families, and support staff.



## WHO ARE “FCA CHARACTER COACHES”?

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A wide variety of people can serve the people of sport as Character Coaches. One need not be a sport ministry professional to faithfully serve and to significantly impact the lives of this underserved people group. Among those who could serve as in these roles are:

- Parents of players (school based teams or clubs sports)
- Former high school, college, or professional athletes
- Business/Community leaders with interest in ministry through sports
- Athletic trainers or other support personnel with sport teams
- Ministers, youth ministers, or other members of a church staff

## WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE AN “FCA CHARACTER COACH”?

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FCA wants to provide teams with the best trained, most effective Character Coaches that they can, so we have created a process:

1. Completion of the “Ministry Leader Application” (MLA) at [www.fcurocks.org](http://www.fcurocks.org). You can find the MLA link under “Hotpicks”, scroll down to find on the right side.
2. Attend your local area's FCA Character Coach Training (breakfast/lunch).
3. Contact and develop a relationship with an FCA staff member in your area for further training, encouragement, facilitation, and accountability.
  - Communication with the FCA staff prior to the season for planning, prayer, resources, etc.
  - Communication with the FCA staff during the season for encouragement, problem solving and further direction.
  - Communication at the end of the season for evaluation, reporting of results, etc.

## HOW DO I GET STARTED?

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Getting started is easy. Simply contact Chel Dill, FCA Area Rep/Character Coaches/Teams or any other FCA staff. You can find their information on the back page of this brochure.



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### **The FCA Vision**

To see the world impacted for Jesus Christ through the influence of athletes of coaches.

### **The FCA Mission**

To present to athletes and coaches and all whom they influence the challenge and adventure of receiving Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, serving Him in their relationships and in the fellowship of the church.

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# **FCA Character Coach**