

**CENTRAL COLLEGE SOFTBALL**  
**WINNING WITH THE SHORT GAME**

**COACHES PHILOSOPHY**

1. Get players to believe in your “system”
2. When teaching talk about how, why and when
3. Practice situations daily
4. Keep opponent off balance
5. Believe that hitting is only a part of offense, not all of it.
6. Believe that regardless of how well your team hits there is a pitcher that could still beat you.
7. Believe that the book is not always right, use your imagination.
8. Allow players to make mistakes.

**BASE RUNNING**

1. Out of the box
  - A. First step
  - B. Once out be a sprinter
  - C. Infield play
  - D. Hit to the outfield
  - E. Practice in combination with hitting, slapping or bunting.
  
2. Jump of off first
  - A. Time pitchers pitching arm.
  - B. Straddle base
  - C. Move to move
  - D. Same jump every time. Sell it be aggressive.
  - E. Back to base as quick as you left.
  - F. Second and third.
  
3. Dive back to base.
  - A. Teach dive away from tag
  - B. Teach In progression

4. Leaving on contact
  - A. Advantages. Pressure on the defense
  - B. Easier to teach then you can go more conservative in certain situations.
  - C. From second base
  - D. From third Base
  - E. Second and third should always be contact on
  - F. Contact off
  
5. Bunting as part of the offense
  - A. Sacrifice
  - B. Bunt base hit
  - C. Bunt and run
  - D. Squeeze
  
6. First and third
  - A. What are you trying to accomplish?
  - B. Straight steal (What are you asking the runner on third to read)
  - C. Walk down steal (Again what are you asking the runner on third to read)
  - D. Half way and back
  - E. Great squeeze situation.
  - F. Teach how you want to handle the run down.
  - G. When practicing try to give score, inning, etc. Make it game like.
  
7. These things will make you instantly better.
  - A. Teach going on contact
  - B. Teach players to go until stopped
  - C. Teach offense not hitting
  - D. Allow your players to make mistakes especially early
  - E. Getting thrown out is not a mistake (At least not all the time)
  - F. Get runners to read the ball of the bat
  - G. First to third and second to home
  - H. Give late steal sign.

**TRUST YOURSELF AS A COACH AND SOON YOUR PLAYERS WILL TRUST YOU AND THE WAY YOU WANT TO PLAY. BE PREPARED MENTALLY. A COACH MUST BE READY TO PRACTICE EVERY DAY. THE**

**PLAYERS REALIZE WHEN A COACH IS NOT PREPARED. THE TOP COACHES AT EVERY LEVEL FULLY INVEST IN EVERY SECOND OF A PRACTICE**

**Coach George Wares**

**Central College Softball**

**Email: [wareg@central.edu](mailto:wareg@central.edu)**

**Office phone: 641-628-5195**