

## KEY READINGS

### Ongoing Learning for Elite Sport Leaders

#### THE READING

McRae, A.E. (2009). Running head: Coaching styles of championship coaches. Unpublished Master's Thesis. California State University, Fresno.

#### WHAT IS THE POINT?

Describing the coaching styles of professional team sport coaches who have won multiple professional sport championships.

#### HOW WAS THE INFORMATION OBTAINED?

Five prominent professional sport coaches were selected for an in-depth study based on their coaching success in North America. The coaches included: Joe Torre (MLB), Phil Jackson (NBA), Scotty Bowman (NHL), Joe Gibbs (NFL), and Von Chancellor (WNBA). The sources of data used were biographies and autobiographies. Brief summaries on each coach's style were recorded to respect the uniqueness of each coach. As a result, common themes were revealed.

#### WHY IS IT RELEVANT?

- Coaches who have won championships have been successful using different leadership styles and philosophies.
  - **Scotty Bowman** – Authoritarian, controlling, strict disciplinarian
  - **Van Chancellor** – Loyal, empathetic, humble, communicator
  - **Joe Gibbs** – Motivating, committed, moral character, prepared
  - **Phil Jackson** – mindful, open, teacher, compassionate
  - **Joe Torre** – Passionate, individualistic, honest, consistent