

10 Teambuilding Tips – Part 2

How can you help build a strong, productive, and supportive team?

In the last article, I gave tips 1-5:

- 1. FIND OR CREATE A TEAM LEADER**
- 2. DEVELOP GOOD COMMUNICATION**
- 3. FIGURE OUT WHAT YOUR COMPANY NEEDS TO BE SUCCESSFUL**
- 4. ASSESS THE STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES AND NEEDS OF THE TEAM**
- 5. AGREE ON TEAM RULES**

Now, we're going to focus on:

6. SUPPORT THE TEAM—EVEN WHEN THERE'S CONFLICT

It's easy when everybody gets along ... the real test of a team is when there's disagreement. If team members learn to mediate differences of opinion, then you know you have an effective team.

7. ENCOURAGE CREATIVITY AND RISK-TAKING

No one wants to make a mistake, especially if coworkers are going to be punitive. However, only those who are willing to fail will be willing to try new things. Team members need to support creative ideas, learn from the ones that don't succeed the first, second, or even tenth time, and try again.

8. GIVE POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE FEEDBACK

I never met a person who started the day by saying, "I think I'll be terrible at work today." Nearly everyone wants to be liked and accepted. If the team keeps this in mind, it'll become natural to give positive and helpful feedback. People will want to contribute to a team that recognizes their strengths and offers to help with weaknesses.

9. MOTIVATE THE TEAM

People are motivated by what they want. It could be money for me, but a trip to a resort for somebody else. So how do you find out what makes a person happy? Just ask them! Compile a list of rewards, and let the team know how they can win them.

10. LEAD BY EXAMPLE

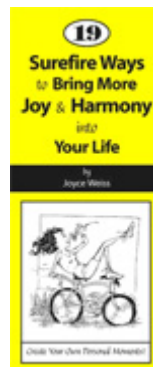
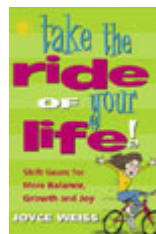
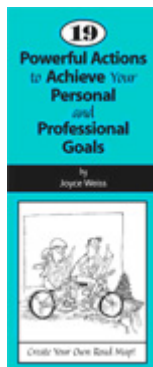
If you don't follow the team rules, but expect everyone else to, eventually they'll stop, too. If you're critical, expect your team to be that way. If, on the other hand, you arrive early, take on more than your share, help out, and are supportive and positive, you'll be modeling the kind of behavior that you want your team to display.

An empowered team can do what others thought was impossible – get started today!

Joyce Weiss, author of *Full Speed Ahead* and *Take the Ride of Your Life!*, is a world renowned certified speaker professional, executive coach, and facilitator on employee performance and group dynamics. She's motivated more than 50,000 people in over 500 businesses, captivated countless listeners on radio talk shows, and written for hundreds of publications.

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