



# **Coaching from an EFA perspective**

Lars Gunnarson Vice President, EFA

Lars Gunnarson





### Learn to drive

- It is an easy task
- Practiced in driving schools for at least 80 years in most countries
- In some countries the training is delivered by laymen
- The fewer lessons, the better driver?
- Changing gear and braking smoothly wonderful driver?
- Some beginners are really skilful they quickly adopt the same speed as experienced drivers
- Some are not so good, they stall the engine and drive slowly – they have to practice a lot





# You simplify the task!

- Do I?
  - I am not so sure
- What is the general opinion about a skilled driver?
- What is the policy makers opinion?
- How does the test assess?
- How do we professionals teach?





#### Yes, I agree

- I am simplifying
- The task is not so easy
- Despite all efforts with training programs
- Young drivers are still involved in accidents
  - Statistically they are at much greater risk of being wounded or killed than the average driver
- We must do better





#### How?

- All are trying to improve
- Driving licensing systems have changed
- Law and enforcement is used
- Testing procedures are improved
- As driving teachers we have to focus on the training system
- What can we contribute?





# **Driver training**

- Driver education is not harmonized in Europe
- Generally it is focused on manoeuvring
- In most countries the basic training is at an acceptable level
- It could probably be even more effective, but the achieved manoeuvring skills are sufficient
- This should be maintained
- But we need to add something





# **Driver training**

- Some countries try to add more experience and routine behind the steering wheel
  - These are crucial components to become a safe driver
- But even this is not enough
- Skilled drivers are not necessarily safe drivers
- Accidents with young drivers are not caused by bad manoeuvring skills
- They are caused by bad decisions





### **GDE Matrix**

- According to the GDE Matrix, traditional training is focused on level 1 and 2
- More emphasis has to be on level 3 and 4

#### **GDE matrix**

(Goals for Driver Education) (Hatakka, Keskinen, Glad, Gregersen, Hernetkoski, 2002)

	Knowledge	<b>Risk increa-</b>	Self asses-
	and skill	sing aspects	ment
Goals for life	Lifestyle, age,	Sensation seeking	Introspective con-
and skills for	group, culture, so-	Rick account	petence
living	cial position. driving behaviour	Ň	Own preconditions pulse control
Goals and	Modal choice Choice of time		otives in-
context of driving	Role of motives Route planning		ritica
Driving in traffic	Traffic rules Co-operation Hazard perce		bration of dri- g skills vn driving style
	Automatizati		vii dirving style
Vehicle control	Car function Rrotection System		Calibration of car control skills
	Vehicle control Physical laws	Worn-out type	





### **GDE Matrix**

- This has shown to be a difficult task
- Efforts to find training and testing methods have not been very successful
- This is understandable when reading the content in the Matrix
- How do we provide education on the influence that lifestyle, the age group or the social position has on the driver behaviour?





# Train to be a safe driver

- How can we help young drivers to take responsibility?
- One of the answers could be coaching
- Good decisions require
  - Self awareness
  - Awareness of the situation
  - Responsible actions
  - Confidence
- Traditional teaching can counteract this
- But coaching is built on it





### What is coaching?



Lars Gunnarson





# What is coaching?

- Raising the learner drivers awareness, selfawareness and responsibility through effective questions and active listening
- Building confidence in the learner driver improves the ability to make good decisions
- In the HERMES project there are useful practical examples
- They can be used and further developed by each driving teacher





### Conclusions

- Transforming your way of educating from the telling culture to coaching is not so easy
  - But it is worth trying
- I think experienced driving teachers
  - use coaching techniques on and off
  - could be even better with a little effort
  - and will find many useful ideas in the HERMES project
- My hope is
  - That all EFA member associations will take the initiative and arrange training courses
  - Training institutes will introduce coaching in the basic training of driving teachers





### Thank you for your attention

"It is a miracle that curiosity survives formal education." Albert Einstein (1879 – 1955)

Lars Gunnarson