

Cool Runnings

Quote

"To accomplish great things, we must not only act but also dream, not only plan, but also believe."
- Anatole France (A French poet, journalist, and novelist)

Plot of the Movie

Based on true events, Cool Runnings is the story of Derice Bannock, a Jamaican Sprinter who fails to qualify for the 100 m sprint at the Olympics due to a freak mishap during the trials. But when he hears of Irving Blitzer, an American Olympian and a friend of his father living also on Jamaica, Derice decides to go to the Games anyway, if not as a sprinter, then as a bobsledder. After some starting problems, the first Jamaican bobsledding team is formed and heads for the Winter Olympics at Calgary. In the freezing weather Derice, Sanka, Junior and Yul are only laughed at, since nobody can take a Jamaican bobsledding team led by a disgraced trainer seriously. But team spirit and a healthy self confidence lead to a few surprises in the upcoming Winter Games.

Answers

1. Derice very strongly believes that he was born to participate in the Olympics. Post his elimination in the selection trials, what does he do to keep his Olympic dream alive?

B- He is ready to look beyond athletics and keen to explore other sports where there might be an opportunity

2. Quite often, success follows those who seize the moment and take a bold decision. What decision of Derice's helps him in accomplishing his Olympic dream?

C- Looking at the next opportunity which could make him an Olympian even if it is in a sport (Bobsledding) he does not know much about

3. List down 2 things Derice does to convince Irving to help form and coach the Jamaican bobsledding team.

1. By following up with him and never giving up

2. By reminding him about his dad

3. By telling him about his athletic ability (Running 100m in less than 10 seconds)

4. In the beginning, Irving is totally against forming and coaching the Jamaican bobsledding team. List down the 2 main reasons why he thinks the idea of having a Jamaican bobsledding team is unrealistic?

1. Lack of Time

2. Lack of Snow

5. A bobsledding team has 4 members. Which of the following is not a role in the bobsledding team?

A- Captain

6. Winning against odds requires individuals/teams to embrace the constraints that exist and work some creative solutions around them. What does Irving do to ensure the team is well-prepared for the games?

C- Get the team acclimatize by making them sit inside a freezer

7. How does Junior make amends for his mistake during the sprint trials?

A- Pools in the money needed for the team to fly to the winter Olympics

8. Breaking perceptions and boundaries- That is exactly what the Jamaican bobsled team did by trying to qualify for the winter Olympics. During this journey, they faced a lot of critics. List down 2 people who did not believe that there could be a bobsled team.

1. The Olympic officials in Jamaica

2. The cops in Jamaica

3. The Olympic officials in charge of registrations

4. The media in Canada

9. How does Irving give the team the confidence that they will do well in the games?

B- He tells them that they have nothing to fear as they have practiced and got things right a 100 times before even though they have never practised on ice

10. List down 2 critical blocks to the team's success at the Olympic games

1. Never giving up

2. Seizing every opportunity that came their way

3. Working around the constraints they had

4. Self-belief

5. Putting in the hard work needed to succeed