

# Ron de Haan, Credo Christian HS

## Coach

### *About Ron de Haan:*

Ron de Haan has been coaching volleyball at the high school level for 20 years. His first coaching experience was with a grade 8 girls volleyball team. “I liked the sport, but didn’t know much about coaching. I thought everyone had the same view of volleyball as I did. It’s not that simple.” He described this first coaching experience as a challenging one, but he learned a lot. “I’ve had so many great years since then.” This past season he announced his retirement from coaching.



### *Why He Became a Coach:*

“I really believe that good educators should do something outside the classroom. You have to see people outside the classroom environment if you’re prepared to impact the whole student. If you like the sport and you like working with people – the kids gain so much, and schooling is more than just being in a classroom.”

### *His Most Rewarding Experience:*

“When we started the volleyball program we had a hard time getting teams together. Now our program is in good shape. We don’t win every year obviously, but we go to the final four quite often. Our volleyball program is an element of our school that’s very important, and I was part of that.

I’ve really enjoyed coaching girls. I’ve done that for the last 3 years. The girls have a different level of excitement. They’re quicker to show appreciation, and that goes a long way with me. We’ve gone to provincials for the last 2 years, and finished 2nd in Fraser Valley two years in a row.”

### *What Athletes Look for in a Good Coach:*

“Athletes look for passion, fairness and fun. I told my players many times over the years that fun isn’t acting silly, fun is performing well and executing well, and bonding between matches. Winning is fun, of course, but when a player pounds the ball at the right time or makes a great play, it’s just awesome!”



### *Proudest Moment as a Coach:*

“The 2007 provincial championships in Smithers. The entire town came out for that final game. We won the silver, but it was the best atmosphere I’ve ever seen.”