

# Muzz Bryant, Belmont Secondary

## Coach

### *About Muzz Bryant:*

Muzz's coaching career stretches back 37 years, with experience coaching track and field, lacrosse, cross country and soccer. But it was basketball that became his year-round hobby. He's currently the athletic director at Belmont Secondary in Victoria.

### *How He Got Into Coaching:*

"I've always been in love with sports; I've played sports all my life. When I started teaching there was an expectation that you had to do something extra. When I came to school I wanted to coach volleyball and soccer. But the principal told me I'm coaching grade 10 basketball!"

### *What Coaching Has Brought to His Life:*

"A lot of things. Fabulous rapport with coaches around the province. Friendships, not just with many of my former players, but players on other teams. Our many trips were rewarding. I've had tremendous opportunities to travel all over Hawaii, Florida, Texas, Arizona, California, Alaska and the prairie provinces."

### *Most Challenging part of being a Coach:*

"Number one is juggling time. We're hired as a teacher, but we so often put just as much into coaching. When you're coaching a game, it's like final exams. Every time you're out there you're being evaluated."

### *What do Athletes look for in a Coach:*

"I think an athlete looks for someone who's committed. Someone who thinks the success of the team is the most important thing. It's important kids identify that you're making decisions on who plays, based not on popularity but on who's getting the job done right now."

### *Proudest Moments:*

"It's when you have teams who aren't expected to excel, and they do. Winning the Vancouver Island championship 2 years ago was a recent one. In the early 90s we played games against Steve Nash where we'd pack a university gym. I'm also proud when guys come back and want to re-pay the program in some shape or form."

