

B.C. High Schools Badminton Association

Minutes from the Annual General Meeting

May 27, 2011-06-23

TCC Fieldhouse, Kamloops

In Attendance: Ross Perkin (South Kamloops), Alison Slater (South Kamloops), Margot Devault (King's Christian), Jeff Hunt (SMUS), Kelly Nelson (Claremont), Riley Trottier (Claremont), Mike Charlton (A.R. MacNeill), John Blair (J.N. Burnett), Tim Cheng (Richmond), Lisa Yasui (Richmond), Andrew Kay (St. George's), Jayson Sun (Crofton House), Yates Lo (Lord Byng), David Tsai (Prince of Wales), Sandro Fracco (Prince of Wales), Jens Berg (Semiahmoo), Mike Hoven (Semiahmoo), David Dryden (Fraser Heights), Lisa Davison (Kelly Road), Cal Bridge (Kelowna), Colin Sherk (David Thompson), Andrew Blix (Centennial).

Call to Order: 7:11 pm

1. Approval of the Agenda (**Nelson/Yasui**)
 - New agenda item added (Lo) – Noisemakers.
 - New agenda items added (Hunt) – Badminton BC, 2nd Place Trophy, Programs, Travel Subsidy, Tournament Coordinator.
2. Adoption of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting (Dryden/Perkin)
3. Financial Report (**Slater/Sherk**)
 - As prepared by Jeff Hunt, treasurer.
 - 4 scholarships of \$200 were processed this past year.
4. Zone Reports
 - A handout was provided with a display of the total BCSS Registration numbers for the current year. The total number was 141 registrations (in 2010 there were 122).
 - Each zone had the opportunity to provide an oral report of how their zone fared, in response to the change in the season of play.
 - Common implications included the following: overall a shorter season of play (7-8 weeks), differing length of spring breaks, athlete conflict with other sports, athlete conflict with Junior National event, athlete conflict with AP & IB Exams.
 - It was concluded that this was our first year in this season of play, so hopefully in time and with further tweaking, we will be able to eliminate or cope with these challenges.
 - The commissioner, Jeff Hunt, will question BCSS on why there is a shorter season of play, and if perhaps it could be lengthened on the front end.

5. Commission Report (**Tsai/Fracco**)

- The commissioner, Jeff Hunt, gave a brief summary of the work that has taken place over the past year. Much time has been spent on communication of new and old coaches getting in line with the new spring season of play. Jeff Hunt has also been active attending the BCSS Fall & Spring Meetings and reporting back to the commission of all the ongoing at that level.

6. Provincial Tournament: 3 Year Plan

- Richmond – 2012 – May 31, June 1, 2
- Richmond – 2013
- Richmond – 2014

7. Elections

- Jeff Hunt stated that he will continue to remain as both the Commissioner and the Treasurer. However, it was made clear that he will no longer continue in either of these roles after the 2012 Provincials.
- All coaches are encouraged to think about the prospect of these two positions and also potential candidates from their zone.
- Directors – all current Directors (Mike Charlton, Mike Hoven, David Dryden) are happy to remain in their roles.
- Zone Reps – New zone reps were found for missing zones. All this information will be posted on the BCSS Website.

8. Business arising out of Minutes from 2010

- **Season of Play:** Everyone agreed that the BCSS Registration Numbers (141) are encouraging. While the Commission is pleased with this number, they do expect this number to decrease slightly in 2012 for a variety of reasons.
 - While not all coaches are pleased with the decision to move to the spring season, the decision has ultimately been made and we need to spend our energy on how best we can make this new season work. By rule, BCSS will not permit our organization to revisit the seasons of play issue for another 3 years. All coaches have been very positive and proactive with the communication (schools, AD's, athletes, etc.) in making this work. Commissioner Jeff Hunt publically thanked everyone, especially the zone reps. for their efforts with badminton in the high schools.
 - Challenges have been identified, and everyone collectively will continue to work on overcoming or coping with these obstacles. All coaches were optimistic that in time, the spring season can be viable.
- **Lower Mainland Tournament:** Mike Charlton reported that the trail of the new tournament was a success, in that many teams had an equal chance to vie for the Provincial Championship berths. The only slight hiccup was that the timing for the tournament (and

the communication that goes along with the event) is very tight. It was thought that next year may be slightly better on this issue. As it stands, this new format will remain in place for next year.

- **Permanent Tournament Host Site:** Jeff Hunt reported that Clear 1 / Clear 2 has been solidified as our host venue in Richmond for 2012. While there is a considerable facility cost, the facility is one of the best in the Province and would be totally ideal for our tournament. Pending the success of next year's tournament, the Commission may look into "locking into" a multi-year agreement with C1/C2.
 - Jeff Hunt stated that in order to make this work, a financial plan needs to be in place. Two proposals were provided: (1) The Provincials have a "graded" entry fee, so that the teams from far away who continually incur the most expenses would have a decreased entry fee, and (2) The Provincials have the "regular" entry fee, but still have a host school (from a 'rural' zone) every 4th year, so that teams can benefit from travelling once in a while.
 - It was unanimously agreed that Proposal #1 would hold for next year's Provincials, and that the Commission & Zone Reps. would be in discussion regarding the exact details of this graded entry fee. It may be that the Provincials from this point onward have the entry fee and the banquet fee as two separate expenses.

9. Updates

- **Black Knight Sponsorship:** All teams were reminded that we must all collectively be promoting Black Knight. There are still some schools not using the SH4000 birdie, which is an issue, since it is our "official" bird. Jeff Hunt will ensure that the bird goes up on the BCSS Website, as well as promoted front and centre on Team Skyline's Website.
 - Teams were reminded of the simple business fact that the more we can generate for Black Knight, the more Black Knight will be able to generate for us. The current partnership is going great, and we currently have 2 years left on our contract. The commission will be looking at perhaps having some significant scholarship money come from Black Knight in the future when we renegotiate the partnership.
- **BC School Sports:**
 - An update on the current standing was provided. BCSS has shifted to a self-sufficient organization through collecting fees from the schools. BCSS no longer has to rely on the government for funding.
 - BCSS continues to provide our Commission with Insurance (for the coaches and officials at the Zone Playoffs and the Provincials), and this continues to be a major priority for BCSS. Coaches were reminded that insurance for league play, tournaments, practices, etc. are not provided by BCSS, but the school district. Each school district has their own policies, so it was stated that checking into these policies might be a wise thing to do. Some larger facilities require a specific amount of insurance to be in place (ie. 2 million vs. 5 million), so again, coaches are asked to check into this where this could be an issue.

- Scholarships – coaches were reminded that our Commission provides up to 4 scholarships of \$200. All the info for these is available on the BCSS Website. The deadline is June 15, 2011.

- Coaches' Code of Conduct – all coaches were reminded that we all must adhere to the BCSS Coaches Code of Conduct. In short, coaches should be professional at ALL times to officials, players, and the opposition.

10. New Business

- **Badminton BC** – An update was provided regarding the status of Badminton BC. The leadership has changed with their organization, and they are keen to meet and discuss a new partnership with our organization.
- **2nd place Trophy** – We are currently missing it. Mike Charlton stated that this has been the case for well over a decade, so there is little hope that we will find it. The Commission decided that perhaps we put our current 3rd place trophy onto the shelves, as the finishing plaques are great enough as finishing trophies.
- **Programs** – Jeff Hunt raised the idea that perhaps in this day and age that we move out of printing programs for all the teams. Environmentally, it would be best to reduce and financially, it would also be nice. Coaches were asked to think about this for next year (agenda item tabled).
- **Travel Subsidy** – An email came through a few weeks ago from the BC Government (Sport Alliance) whereby teams travelling a significant distance to attend a Provincial Championship will have the opportunity for a rebate. It is unknown how long this will last, but Jeff Hunt, will send all teams a copy of this email.
- **Tournament Coordinator** – Jeff Hunt stated that it makes sense for our organization to coordinate all of our tournaments so there are no conflicts, and so that the information is distributed to all. The coaches agreed that this is a good idea for next year, and David Dryden volunteered to take on this role. From this point on, all coaches are strongly encouraged to communicate to David the details of your various events.
- **Noisemakers** – Yates Lo made the point that the noisemakers at the Provincials and also the various Zone Tournaments are excessive and are simply a distraction to the players. While some coaches agreed, a few (Davison/Charlton/Blair) stated that it not only creates excitement, but it also gives our sport some credibility. Discussion ensued.

Motion (Lo/Kay) : Be it resolved that we not permit the use of artificial noisemakers during the Provincial Championships.

7 for, 8 against. **Defeated.**

11. Adjournment – 9:58 pm.