

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2020



CONCUSSION MANDATE TRAINING

Completion of the mandatory concussion training (CATT) has been strong, with over 1000 completions by coaches and team staff. Thanks to all who have completed the training. Remember this is mandatory for all coaches, trainers, teacher sponsors and managers prior to any team activities.

This training also offers many resources for athletic directors for concussion symptom tracking and the process of the gradual reintroduction back

into sport after suffering a concussion.

This training is FREE and will only take 30-40 minutes of your time. BCSS does not require proof of your certificate but your school AD may ask for a copy to ensure their coaches have completed the certification.

[Training Outline](#)

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Through our partnership with CIAAA we have many resources and courses for our athletic directors. Email Drew Handson at drew@ciaaa.ca for more information on how to activate your membership.



Already active?
Login and get started!

[Start Learning!](#)[@BCSchoolSports](#)[@bcschoolsports](#)[@bcschoolsports](#)[stars.bcschoolsports.ca](#)info@bcschoolsports.ca

BCSS CROSS COUNTRY PANDEMIC CHALLENGE

The BCSS Cross Country Pandemic Challenge Presented by SUBWAY has hit the ground running. With many schools across the country participating in this one of a kind event, we are extremely eager to announce the top runners in each category. It is not too late to participate in this event. The deadline to participate has been extended to November 7th, 2020 and the deadline to submit your student-athletes times and event apparel order forms is November 10th, 2020.

Review the [BCSS Cross Country Pandemic Challenge Information Package](#) for more details, or email the BCSS office to get the Submission Template.



sentinelathletics

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bnsathletics

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gleneagleathletics

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RETURN TO SCHOOL SPORT UPDATE

On October 23rd, BCSS released Version 3.0 of the Return to School Sport Plan (RTSSP) . While we are NOT moving to a new stage, there are some minor adjustments that should be reviewed.

Our latest RTSSP has been reviewed by both the Ministry of Health and the BCCDC, with some minor changes to ensure consistency of messaging throughout the document.

See the BCSS Return to School Sport V3.0 document for a more detailed explanation of the minor adjustments made to the document.

[Return to School Sport Plan V3.0](#)

FALL CHAMPIONSHIPS AND SEASON OF PLAY CHANGES

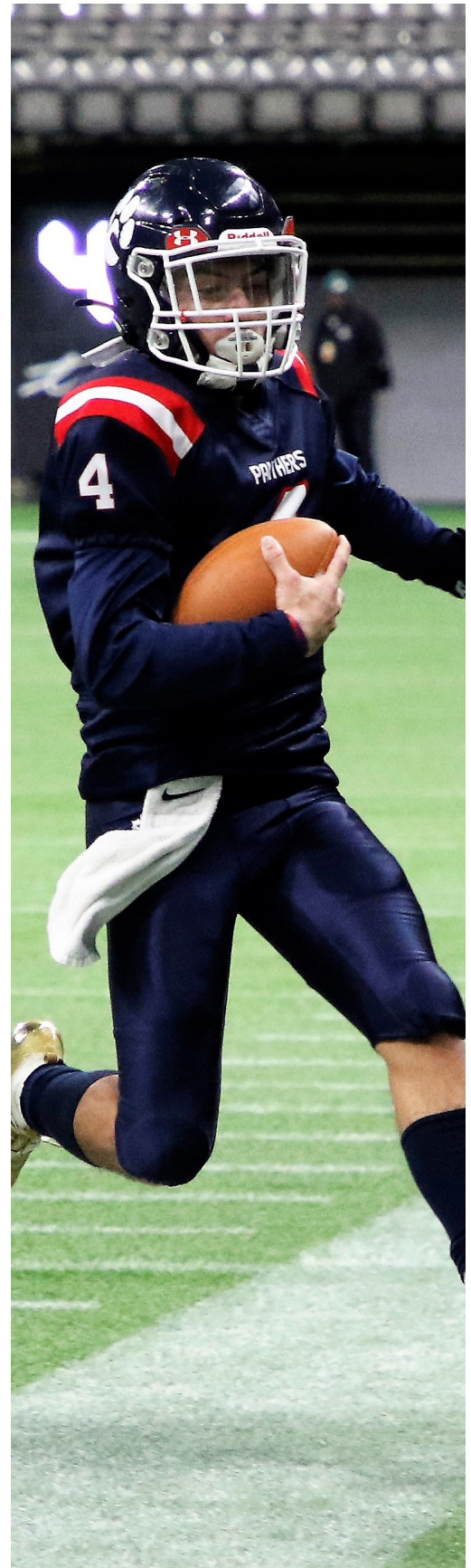
The Board of Directors met in late October to evaluate the fall season of play. When considering the late start of athletics in most schools, while remaining optimistic for some interschool competition for our fall student-athletes, the Board decided to **extend the fall season of play until December 18th, 2020.**

Consequently, the Board decided to **delay the start of the Winter Season of Play until January 4th, 2021.** This was done to preserve the opportunity, if approved by the Ministry of Education, to provide our fall student-athletes, especially those graduating this year, some element of interschool competition.

At this meeting the Board also formally cancelled all 2020 Fall Season of Play Zone and Provincial Championships. This was a decision the Board did not take lightly, and we share in the disappointment to our student-athletes and member schools who work year after year for the opportunity to compete at a BCSS Provincial Championship.

Visit the link below to read the full Membership Update sent out October 23rd.

[Membership Update](#)



GOVERNANCE PROPOSAL UPDATE

After considering feedback from BCSS stakeholders, BCSS released an updated version of the BC School Sports Governance Proposal that was originally circulated in February 2020. The updates to the proposal fill some of the gaps that were identified with the original version, including where many of our current volunteers could fit into the new structure. While the overall premise is similar to the original version, we recommend our stakeholders review the entire document. The Board of Directors have indicated the proposal will likely come forward this year at the 2021 AGM.

To further discuss the changes to the recently released governance proposal, we will be hosting a Virtual Governance Q&A Session open to all BCSS member schools and our stakeholders, on November 7, 2020 from 10am-12pm. This session will provide the opportunity for questions and answers around the governance proposal that was reintroduced the last week on October 2020. More information on how to register for the Virtual Governance Q&A Session can be found in an email sent to on AD's and Administrators on October 30, 2020. It is important to note that this is **NOT** an extraordinary meeting and no voting will take place, it is simply a chance to restart an important dialogue.

[Governance Proposal V2](#)

BCSS ESPORTS TRIAL INVITATIONAL



BC School Sports has recently published information on our 2020-2021 BCSS Esports Trial Invitational. This announcement comes after a strong response from a call of interest sent to member schools during the last school year.

This trial will be presented in partnership with GameSeta, a BC-based interscholastic esports company. They will be providing the platform for the League of Legends trial to be split into four 2-week sessions throughout the school year.

It is important to note that this is strictly a trial, Esports is not an official activity under the BCSS mandate and will not be using STARS registration as it is strictly a trial. Participation and feedback are encouraged in order to measure the success of Esports in British Columbia and the potential of introducing it as a BCSS activity in the future.

Schools must complete and submit their Intent to Participate Form to the BCSS office by no later than November 4th, 2020 to register their team for the trial.

[Esports Info Package](#)

BOB JACKSON RETIRES AFTER 45 YEARS OF INVOLVEMENT WITH BCSS



Many of you will recognize the name Bob Jackson from the signature at the bottom of eligibility application rulings over the past four years; however, Bob has been heavily involved with BCSS for much longer than that. Having competed in both high school and collegiate level athletics, Bob grew up understanding the important impact school sport has on the success of students. After having a successful career as an athlete, and a move to BC, Bob decided to share his knowledge of sport by becoming a multi-sport coach; coaching volleyball, soccer, cross country, badminton, and track & field.

After coaching in Richmond for many years, Bob took the next sport leadership opportunity by becoming the Richmond Secondary School Athletic Association President, making him the association delegate at the BCSS Annual General Meeting, a role he had held from 1975-1976 and 1981-1982. Bob decided to get more involved with BCSS by putting his name forward and being elected to the BCSS Board of Directors from 1981-1987, including a term as President in 1985-1987. In addition to his time on the Board, Bob was the Table Tennis Commissioner, a member of the BCSS Soccer Commission Executive and even served as interim Executive Director for nearly a year. Bob saw many changes across the organization.

In 1993, Bob ventured into the world of BCSS Eligibility, sitting on the BCSS Eligibility Committee. During that time, each local athletic association and sport commission had its own eligibility rules making the job of the Ad-Hoc Committee a difficult one, having to adhere to many different sets of eligibility rules based on geographic location around the province. After 3 years on the Ad-Hoc committee, BCSS formalized an Eligibility Appeals Committee where Bob contributed to rulings for 10 years.

Bob remained on the Soccer Commission after his retirement from teaching, and was involved in the provincial championships each year until 2017 when he took on the role of Eligibility Officer for BCSS. This role would be one of his most difficult roles due to the impact his rulings would have on student-athletes' athletic careers. Over the past 4 years Bob has reviewed and ruled on over 600 eligibility applications.

When asked how he has seen BCSS evolve over the past 40 years, Bob highlights many positive changes he has seen throughout the organization. He has seen sports triple/quadruple in size, adding many tiers to what he remembers as small one tier sports, he also highlights the addition of many non-traditional school sports such as ultimate, mountain biking, and now rugby 7's showing the diversity and growth within the organization. He also points out the heightened commitment level of BCSS staff, Board of Directors, and Athletic Directors, showing the increased dedication to school sport around the province.

We would like to thank Bob for over 45 years of service to the BC School Sports community, he has been an integral part of the organization. His thoroughness to his eligibility rulings has set a standard for BCSS Eligibility for years to come. On behalf of the BCSS Board of Directors, staff, and stakeholders across the province, we wish to thank Bob for his over 4 decades of servant leadership to BCSS and student-athletes across the province. We wish he and his wife, Michelle, the very best in what is now his 2nd retirement.



BCSS would like to acknowledge the following sponsors for their generosity and support:

