

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2023

VOL. 1

WELCOME BACK!

I hope you all had a wonderful summer and are ready and excited for the 2023-2024 school year. The BCSS team worked hard through the summer to get things ready for what we hope to be another amazing year of school sports. The 2022-2023 school year saw school participation numbers at a 10-year high with **over 117,000 student-athlete registrations** across the 19 BCSS activities and we hope 2023-2024 will see the same or even greater participation.

One area we are prioritizing is the support and development of Athletic Directors, to this extent we have developed a series of short videos to assist Athletic Directors in their roles. The videos, now on our YouTube channel serve as a resource guide throughout the school year. We encourage both new and returning Athletic Directors, Administrators, and coaches to watch these videos.

Our Sport and Events team has been working to secure tournament hosts and venues for our championships eighteen months out to help schools plan their school calendars. We have also created [tournament websites](#) for all our championships, which will host schedules, results, and all information related to the championships.

We continue to work on our communication and the delivery of messaging to our membership and stakeholders. In addition to our monthly newsletters and memos, we have added Monday morning updates to Athletic Directors, providing deadline reminders and details on upcoming events. We've also taken to our social media channels as another avenue of communication.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, and the staff here at BCSS, we wish you the very best for the year ahead. Please don't hesitate to reach out to our team with any questions or concerns you may have regarding school sports in BC.

Sincerely,



Jordan Abney
Executive Director



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BCSS & UBER ANNOUNCE PARTNERSHIP FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR!



BC School Sports is excited to announce a game-changing partnership with Uber, a global leader in rideshare, ecommerce and food delivery technology. Uber will proudly serve as the Presenting Sponsor for the BCSS Girls and Boys Basketball Provincial Championships, our premier event of the year. Further, Uber will be recognized as the official rideshare and food delivery partner for BCSS through its newest offering in the Greater Vancouver Area—[teen accounts](#).

Teen accounts are an Uber account for your teen with trackable trips and highly rated drivers. Designed for families on the go, teen accounts can assist busy parents who can't always be there to pick up / drop off their teens. Parents/guardians must enable the account in order for teens to use it and safety features like live trip tracking for parents and real time notifications for parents are built into the experience.

This partnership between BC School Sports and Uber represents a significant step forward in ensuring convenient rides for young passengers while broadening access for youth to engage in sports within the vibrant Greater Vancouver community.

To celebrate this partnership between Uber and BCSS, Uber is offering the following promotion:

- **60% off (max \$15 off per trip) for your next three rides when using the promo code [BCTEENFALL23](#), where teens accounts on Uber are available. Terms apply.**

Uber will also be hosting a webinar for coaches, athletic directors and staff to introduce Uber teen accounts and provide more information on how families and teens can use it throughout the fall sports season. **Please join the webinar on Thursday, October 19th at 3:15pm PST - details to come.**



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DEADLINE FOR ADDING COACHES TO ROSTERS

Coaches can only be added to STARS roster until the **October 18th** roster registration deadline for the applicable season of play. Schools wanting to add coaches after the deadline will need to request that BCSS staff make the addition for them. BCSS will only add coaches with confirmed CATT certification.

SANCTIONING

HOSTING OR TRAVELLING TO AN EVENT

Competition between two or more BCSS member schools is automatically sanctioned. When you are travelling to or hosting an event with an out-of-province team sanctioning is required.

Complete the [Hosting](#) and/or [Travelling](#) sanctioning forms on the website at least 30 days in advance of the event or fines will apply.

THIRD-PARTY EVENT SANCTIONING

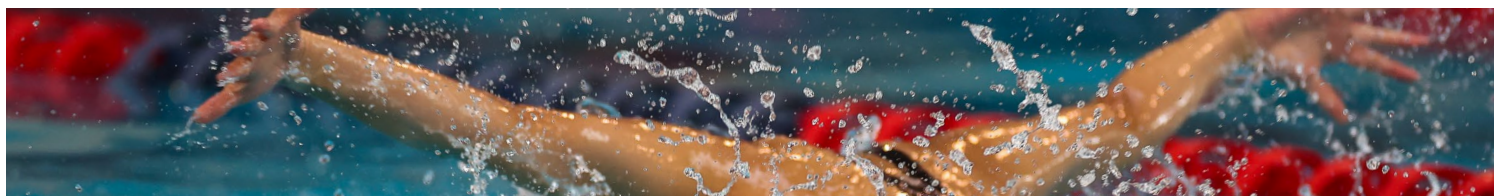
If your school wishes to attend an event that is not hosted by a member school (e.g. university, club, community, etc.) please ensure the event has been sanctioned by BCSS before attending.

An approved list of BCSS third party sanctioned events can be found on the BCSS website [here](#). Participation in a non-sanctioned event may lead to disqualification for post-season play.

MANDATORY COACHES CONCUSSION TRAINING (CATT)



A friendly reminder that all coaches, managers, and assistants must complete the Concussion Awareness Training Tool (CATT). BCSS has mandated this free training for all staff who work in youth sport. Access the course at cattonline.com. BCSS staff have conducted an audit of coaches that have completed the CATT training relative to coaches that have been added to rosters in STARS and noted that several coaches don't have the required CATT certification. BCSS will be monitoring this throughout the school year and coaches that don't have the required CATT will be deemed ineligible to coach until the training has been completed and verification sent to BCSS.



FALL IMPORTANT DATES

BCSS Membership Fees Deadline	September 30, 2023
Tiering Appeal Deadline	October 1, 2023
Team Registration Deadline	October 4, 2023 at 10:45pm
Roster Registration Deadline	October 18, 2023 at 10:45pm

AD TRAINING & RESOURCE VIDEOS ▶

BCSS will be offering a series of pre-recorded AD videos this year to support you in your role. These videos will cover a variety of topics. Both new and returning Athletic Directors are encouraged to watch all the videos. The videos will be uploaded to our [YouTube](#) and can serve as a resource throughout the school year.

APM RESOLUTIONS

The BC School Sports Annual Planning Meeting will take place on **November 9 and 10, 2023**.

Resolutions to make changes to the BC School Sports Constitution, By-laws, Operating Policies and Procedures or Competitive Rules and Regulations, must be received in the BCSS office by **October 5, 2023**.

Only pre-circulated resolutions will be dealt with at the AGM. Resolutions will not be accepted from the floor.

Resolutions can be submitted by a BCSS Zone, BCSS Policy Committee Chair, BCSS Partner Organization, or the BCSS Board of Directors.

Resolutions will be emailed out and published to the BCSS website 21 days prior to the APM.

ACCOUNTING

All invoices will be sent by email via Quickbooks from quickbooks@notification.intuit.com. Please add this email address to your safe sender list. Payments can be made through EFTs or by cheque payable to BC School Sports. Unfortunately, we do not accept credit card payments.

If paying by EFT, please ensure a remittance notification is emailed to accounting@bcschoolsports.ca to ensure your account is credited to your school. Please include our invoice number on your remittance notification.

TIERING APPEALS

If a school has seen a material change in their enrollment from 2022-2023 to their actual enrollment in 2023-2024, the school can file an appeal to have their numbers re-evaluated. A school can submit this anytime between **September 20, 2023 and October 1, 2023**, when there is a significant population reduction (greater than 5%), or because of a change of school configuration (addition or removal of a grade), or new school boundaries due to a school opening or closure in the district. Tiering appeal forms can be requested by contacting the BCSS office staff.

PLAYING UP A TIER IN A SPECIFIC SPORT

Schools will still have the option to play up in a specific sport by submitting a playing up form which can be requested through the BCSS office.



SPORT ON THE MOVE GRANT - OPT IN

The Province of British Columbia, through the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport, is a proud supporter of amateur sport across the province. The Sport on the Move travel grant provides financial assistance to schools and students to offset the costs associated with travel to BC School Sports Championships. To become eligible to receive available Sport on the Move funds, schools must opt-in to the program each year. **The opt-in window for the 2023-24 school year is October 2 to November 17, 2023.**

BC School Sports will submit grant requests on behalf of all schools that participated in BCSS Provincial Championships. Only those schools that completed the opt-in with Viasport for the 2023-24 school year will be eligible to receive this funding.

Eligible schools are those that have opted-in and either traveled 350 km or more (one way), and/or taken a ferry to travel to their respective BC School Sports Senior Provincial Championship. While exact amounts are difficult to predict, awarded grants generally vary between \$0.70-\$0.85/km (one way, dependent on demand), plus additional funding if ferry travel is required or group size exceeds 5 athletes. Awarded amounts will be transferred to schools via direct deposit, 6-8 weeks after seasonal championships conclude.

The opt-in must be completed between **October 2 and November 17, 2023**. The opt-in can be completed [here](#). For more information about the program please reach out to the BCSS staff or directly to Viasport grants@viasport.ca



FALL CHAMPIONSHIP DATES

SPORT	TIER	CHAMPIONSHIP DATES	LOCATION
CROSS COUNTRY	A/AA/AAA	NOVEMBER 4	SURREY
AQUATICS	AA/AAA	NOVEMBER 17-18	NANAIMO
FIELD HOCKEY	AA	NOVEMBER 6-8	WEST VANCOUVER
	AAA	NOVEMBER 8-10	CHILLIWACK
SOCCER - BOYS	A	NOVEMBER 1-3	LANGLEY
	AA	NOVEMBER 20-22	BURNABY
	AAA	NOVEMBER 23-25	BURNABY
VOLLEYBALL - GIRLS	A	NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 2	SOUTH SLOCAN
	AA	NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 2	WEST VANCOUVER*
	AAA	NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 2	DAWSON CREEK
	AAAA	NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 2	SURREY
VOLLEYBALL - BOYS	A	NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 2	NORTH VANCOUVER
	AA	NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 2	LANGLEY
	AAA	NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 2	VICTORIA
FOOTBALL	AA/AAA	DECEMBER 2	VANCOUVER

**Change in host*

CROSS COUNTRY



The 2023 Cross Country Provincial Championship will be contested for the first time as a tiered event. Moving to a 3-tiered championship provides 'A' and 'AA' schools a direct chance to qualify against other like-sized schools. In the past, smaller schools were at a severe disadvantage, as they were competing against schools that had much larger enrollment numbers. At the 2022 championships only 4 of the 60 qualifying teams were single A schools. This new structure will increase the number of runners that can qualify for provincials. We encourage all schools to begin Cross Country programs.

E-SPORTS

BCSS is no longer continuing its trial of e-sports. PlayVS will continue to offer e-sports opportunities for schools. Registration of teams and invoicing will be handled directly through PlayVS. Inquiries should be directed to eric.sutor@playvs.com.



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