



MEMORANDUM

TO: BCSS MEMBER SCHOOL ADMIN & ATHLETIC DIRECTORS
FROM: JORDAN ABNEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: IMPORTANT END OF YEAR UPDATES
DATE: JUNE 17, 2021
CC: BCSS ZONE PRESIDENTS, LOCAL ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS & STAKEHOLDERS

Here are some important end-of-year updates for the membership to review that will assist with planning for the restart of school sport in the fall.

Tiering

We received the final enrollment numbers from the Ministry of Education later than normal due to a change in how the Ministry handles masked numbers. Once we received the data, we performed a thorough analysis of the impact on tiering for next year based on these numbers. The effect was far greater than we envisioned. In most sports there were 10-15 schools that had moved tiers, with a couple of sports with more than 30 schools moving tiers as a result of the changes, leaving the tiers wildly imbalanced. We did some asking around and most districts are planning for a return to, or close to the 2019-2020 enrollment numbers in most cases.

With that in mind, the Board of Directors has decided to **use the 2019-2020 enrollment numbers for the 2021-2022 season for tiering, billing and playing up purposes**. The data from the 2019-2020 year, is pre-pandemic and is therefore unaffected by the changes our schools saw in 2020-2021. This will allow us to return to tiering that schools will be familiar with and comfortable with. Otherwise, we would have a real logistical nightmare trying to facilitate play-up requests across the different sports. It should also be noted that Boys' Basketball who function on a 2-year tiering cycle will see 2021-2022 serve as the 2nd year of the cycle, also using the same numbers as the 2019-2020 year.

Remaining in policy is the option for a school to play up in a specific sport. BCSS will make available a playing up form, that a school may submit to BCSS to play up above their normal tier in certain sports. This form will be available in mid-August when the 2021-2022 forms become available.

Alternatively, if a school has a material change in their enrollment from 2019-2020 next year, the school can file an appeal to have their numbers re-evaluated. A school can submit this anytime between September 20th, 2021, and October 1st, 2021. This generally is done 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.



[The tiering numbers BCSS will be using for 2021-2022 can be found here.](#)

Finally, to assist our member schools and districts in their planning, the Board of Directors at the June 8th, 2021 Board Meeting finalized the membership fees for next year. Please find the 2021-2022 member dues below. A reminder that the enrollment calculation for billing is based on Grade 8-12, and SU students enrolled at the school. Again, for consistency, we will be using the 2019-2020 enrollment numbers for this assessment. There will be no legal levy in 2021-2022.

2021-2022 BCSS Membership Fees						
Class	Category	8-12 + SU Enrollment	Secondary School	Middle/Junior School	Distributed Learning	Alternate School
A	1	1-75	\$475	\$275	\$250	\$200
	2	76-165	\$650	\$325	\$300	\$250
AA	3	166-299	\$875	\$375	\$350	\$300
	4	300-475	\$1250	\$450	\$400	\$350
AAA	5	476-675	\$1700	\$500	\$450	\$400
	6	676-950	\$2200	\$600	\$550	\$450
AAAA	7	951-1350	\$2625	\$675	\$600	\$500
	8	1351+	\$2925	\$725	\$650	\$550

Return to School Sport

It is our understanding that the Ministry will before year-end, provide some high-level on the general expectations for schools in the fall. Following that, work will be done throughout the summer on updating the Health and Safety Guidelines. We have stressed and will continue to do so throughout the summer, the importance of school sport returning in the fall. Barring any setbacks on the path to recovery, we are expecting, and planning a full schedule of events with few to no restrictions. We have made it clear that the Health and Safety Guidelines need to be in place by August 25th, when football camps generally open for their 2-week camp before school begins. The ministry is targeting an early-to-mid August release for these updated guidelines, which should provide BCSS and our member schools the ability to head into the start of the fall season seamlessly.

We want to take this opportunity to remind school and district leaders that it is going to be a big task to fire up the school sport system after what will be 17.5 months of shutdown. Please plan to provide your athletic directors with as much support as possible, as there will likely be extra time and effort required to help restart the programs in our schools. We know the students and the demand to



participate will be there, but it is incumbent on all of us, to ensure the coaches and the necessary infrastructure is in place.

Calendar

The transition into the new governance model has gone very well so far. We've been thrilled by the number of people putting their name forward for the various policy and operating committees. The commitment of people to school sport is amazing; even many of the vocal opponents to the governance changes have decided to come on board to make sure school sport continues to deliver quality programs and services to our membership.

We've had a lot of questions about dates for next year. We would like to provide this **DRAFT** calendar, but please do note that it is a draft, and a few dates may change. We are currently working to finalize dates and venues for a couple of championships, which may lead to a few small changes. There will be a finalized version of this in the Handbook and on our website next year, so please don't plan anything too substantial based on these dates, but it will give you a rough idea for deadlines, meetings and championships.

[Please find the DRAFT 2021-2022 BCSS Calendar here.](#)

Championships

We've had a great deal of interest in hosting many of our championships, with many receiving multiple bids. There are, however, some events that still require hosts. If your school might be interested in hosting one of these championships, please contact BCSS for more information. BCSS provides plenty of support to the school and host committee.

2021-2022	2022-2023
AA Boys Volleyball	Cross Country
Ski & Snowboard	Field Hockey AA
Curling	Field Hockey AAA
Gymnastics	A Boys Soccer
Mountain Biking	A Boys Volleyball
Tennis AA	AAA Boys Volleyball
Tennis AAA	AAAA Girls Volleyball
Golf A	Ski & Snowboard
Golf AA	Curling
Golf AAA	

2022-2023 Championship Bids for the Spring Season of Play will be reviewed and awarded by the Legislative Assembly at the Annual Planning Meeting (November 2021).



Thank You

Lastly, I wish to express my thanks to our member schools, the administrators, the athletic directors, and coaches for your perseverance this year. It has been an incredibly tough go for everyone, and I believe the absence of school sport has demonstrated how important it is both for our schools and for our student-athletes. So many of you found new and creative ways to safely provide engaging experiences for kids. It is a testament to your dedication to your profession and the well-being of our youth. Please enjoy a summer of recovery, respite and renewal shared with those close to you as we plan to return in the fall to something we all are more familiar with and sees kids on the field of play.

As always, our office is here to answer any questions. We will be open throughout the summer and are happy to answer any questions. We transition to a Monday – Thursday workweek in July and August, and the office will be closed August 2-6th to provide staff with some well-earned rest.