

## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release May 21, 2014

**BC School Sports** 

Burnaby –The Board of Directors of BCSS recognizes and respects the position of teachers during the current labour dispute with government. BCSS views extra-curricular activities including coaching as voluntary and will respect the decisions that individual teacher coaches will make on their personal involvement with school sports. We represent member schools and advocate for student athletes and their participation. As long as there are volunteers (teaching and/or nonteaching) willing to support student athletes and facilitate the leagues, zones and provincials, our athletic programs will continue.

At this point we are going to proceed with the planned spring championship schedule for the students, coaches and volunteers involved in Tennis, Mountain Biking, Badminton, Golf, Rugby, Soccer, and Track & Field. BCSS will continue to monitor this situation and consult with the sports commissions and local athletic associations.

Since Phase 2 has rotating strikes it is important that schools that have qualified for provincial championships consult with their School District to determine their coverage and attendance on the Phase 2 strike days.

The Board of Directors of BC School Sports (BCSS) which is the governing body responsible for the delivery of high school sports and programs across the province of British Columbia through its 425 member schools relies upon the dedication, commitment and efforts of over 20,000 volunteer coaches to run inter-school athletic programs for 19 sports which conclude with the 162 zone playoffs and 53 provincial championships.

BCSS is a voluntary non-profit society with a membership of 425 schools. BC School Sports has served the athletes and volunteer coaches in our province for over 44 years. BCSS is independent from government and BC School Boards. BCSSs mission is to provide governance for interschool competition, encourage student participation in extra-curricular athletics and assist schools in the development and delivery of those programs.

## For more information contact:

Christine Bradstock
Executive Director
604-477-1487

**Deb Whitten** President 250-360-4314