

## 2020 Senior Girls 'A' Basketball Coaches' Meeting Minutes

Saturday, March 7, 2020 - KCS Library, Kelowna, B.C. 8:00 A.M.

Attendance - Shauna Stam, Kayla VanderHorst and Sue Schouten (Credo Christian), Cedar Wechlin (Maaqtusiis), Ron Van Driel (Bulkley Valley Christian), Jen Kennedy and Kara Lightburn (Fernie), Riley Friesen (Grand Forks), Michelle Kelly and Doug Wong (Khalsa), Jennie Currie (Charles Bloom), Mike Campbell (Kelowna Christian), Kevin Bublitz (Northside Christian), Scott O'Dell (Maple Ridge Christian), Kyle Smiens and Krystal Martens (Unity Christian), John Mill (BCSSGBA 'A' Rep)

Missing - Heritage Christian, St. Andrew's, Desert Sands, King David and Sir Alexander Mackenzie

1. Call to order and attendance. @ 8:05 A.M.
2. Explanation of voting power and eligibility.
3. Additions to agenda. - no additions
4. Adoption of agenda. M: Ron Van Driel  
S: Riley Friesen
5. 2019 Coaches' Meeting minutes. Adoption motion M: Kara Lightburn  
S: Kevin Bublitz
6. Financial report. The report was discussed. It looks a little bleaker than it actually is. The LEC funding money came out of the account later than it normally does and the money from the Baden sponsorship was received after the September 30 budget ending. There was also some talk about the Varsity Letters agreement. There was disappointment that, beyond the Top 5 coverage, there was so little recognition of the 1A tier in the publication. Even when our tournament was in Abbotsford at CBC, there was no coverage at all. If we are paying for coverage, shouldn't we see a little more of the smallest tier?
7. President's report. Presented and discussed.

## 8. Tournament report - Mike Campbell.

- With it being the first time at KCS, there are still some kinks to work out. For example, there was a question about scoresheets being posted on the website. It happened later in the tournament and Mike said that now they would be available in a timelier fashion.
- Mike was hoping that all teams remaining would be at the closing ceremonies. SAMS, who finished on Friday when playing King David in their 4<sup>th</sup> game, was already planning to leave.
- Mike was pleased that they were able to work out a way to accommodate King David in getting all 4 games. It was a little more complicated than anticipated. One of the concerns was that more changes had to be made to make sure that all teams got at least two of their games at KCS.
- Mike was asked about the possibility of putting individual player foul totals up on the scoreboard. He assured coaches that it was a problem with the clock itself, which is being replaced before next season.
- There was also some talk about the table location at the banquet for a couple of teams. They had a difficult time seeing and hearing what was happening with the MCs up front.
- At this time, there was some discussion as to whether we should look at joining the other tiers at the LEC or keep moving the tournament around the province. Pros and cons were discussed. Some felt that we were missing out on being part of the big show and all of the benefits that brings with exposure in Varsity Letters that we don't see now. It was also pointed out that while we were meeting that the 1A Boys bronze medal game was taking place with only a few people watching the game.

## 9. Zone reports, concerns, etc.

- Vancouver Sea to Sky - there were 7 registered teams but only 5 were active. Four of those teams attended zones. Zone strength was down from past years and looks to be the same or weaker next season. There should also be a similar number of active teams. There are concerns that the reorganization of zones and the adding of a 4A tier this season has adversely affected the 1A level. Some zones, such as VS2S, now have very few teams participating at zones and have suffered a decrease in quality. Claude feels that this should be a topic of further discussion for the BCSSGBA Executive.

- Vancouver Island - There were 9 registered teams on the Island this season, although only 8 were active. These are positive numbers, as Queen Margaret's returned after a five-year absence and Nanaimo Christian, with a promising young team, participated at zones for the first time. There were six teams at the zone tournament this year and the goal next season is to have at least a full eight-team tournament. Vancouver Island will work next season at getting zone teams to get off the island for games or getting mainland teams to come across the water to play. This has been a hurdle to improve the seeding of teams at Provincials, as there are few or no cross-zone matches to make use of. The zone should be a little stronger, as top teams expect to see improvement and the other programs are on the upswing.
- Eastern Valley - there were 5 teams registered and active, with 4 competing at zones. The strength should be similar next season.
- Northwest - there were 5 registered and active teams. Four teams attended zones. Games were hard to come by, as weather presented transportation problems. Ron found that school boards seemed to be cancelling busses more often rather than leaving the decision to schools or bus drivers. The zone strength will be similar next season.
- Fraser South - there were only 2 registered and competing teams. There should be more teams registered next year, as some schools that normally field teams didn't this season. The strength should be similar or weaker next season, as Khalsa might be pushed up to 2A in the upcoming school year.
- Thompson-Okanagan - there were 13 registered and active teams. The zone finals are whittled down to a final 8, representing the four sub-zones of the Okanagan. Next year's strength will be similar or a little weaker.
- North Central - numbers were down, as there were 8 registered teams this season. Last year 10 teams attended zones but this year there were only seven. Kevin projects a similar number of teams next season, with the overall strength being similar or a little stronger.
- North Fraser - five teams registered but only four were active. Numbers could be up a little next season with strength being similar or a little down.
- Kootenays - there were 7 registered teams but only 6 were active and 5 attended zones. Overall strength will be similar or a little better next season. As with the Northwest, we also found that we were seeing Boards cancelling bus travel more often than in the past due to potential road conditions.

10. 'A' Coordinator's report. Presented and discussed.

11. Old Business.        None discussed.

12. BCSSGBA 2019 AGM Minutes.

- The Executive motions on the Junior tournament structure and host berths at the LEC were discussed.

13. New Business.

a. 1A Tier Top 5.

<https://varsityletters.ca/b-c-s-poys-for-2019-20-from-quad-to-triple-from-double-to-single-heres-our-fab-five-girls-hoops-picks-from-every-tier/>

- there was appreciation that 1A was being recognized with a Top 5. The process was discussed a little. It was suggested that in John's pre-season email to zone reps and coaches, that the Top 5 be mentioned. A list of potential candidates could be accumulated, as coaches from other zones may not see players from other zones. Even within the Kootenays, Fernie and Grand Forks, because of distances, had not faced each other this season until zones.

b. Cross-Zone Invitationals.

- John Mill was once again the coordinator of the two tournaments, with Merritt Secondary and Unity Christian taking on the hosting responsibilities. It was once again difficult to fill each tournament with 8 teams. John tried to get representation from as many zones as possible at each tournament. Part of this difficulty stemmed from the slow start in arranging hosts and then identifying and inviting teams. It was also very frustrating even receiving answers from ADs and/or coaches.
- Two 6-team draws were finally put together and then a couple of schools withdrew within weeks of attending. Replacements were fortunately found but then Merritt's fell prey to a few days of bad weather. Coaches were fantastic in working out an alternate date on their own. John was able to find a couple of teams to

replace ones with other commitments. Panic ensued when a team dropped out at around 8:00 A.M. on the Friday of the tournament. We were able to work out a quirky draw with all cross-zone matchups. Thank you to Kevin and Northside Christian for agreeing to play four games to make this draw work.

- John promises to get an earlier start on hosts and teams for next season. He stressed that it does not have to be the top team from each zone. It is important to get some representation from all zones whenever possible. The North Central and Kootenays have travelled extensively to represent at all cross-zones whenever possible.

c. Rankings and the reporting of results.

- John Mill thanked coaches for submitting results. There was consensus that the reporting tool and results spreadsheet devised by David Prissinotti this season was a big help. John suggested that adding a spot for the tier of the losing team would be helpful to him when sorting results. Coaches liked the transparency of being able to access scores.
- John liked that more results were being reported, but was concerned that it was important to have more schools buy in. One zone in particular did not report any scores until almost February. He believes that it will be better next season.

d. BCSS Governance Committee Review and Recommendations

- John gave some background on the on the review and recommendations being voted on at April's BCSS AGM. He laid out some of the concerns of the BCSSGBA Executive and how the basketball landscape might change as a result. From a small school perspective, Shauna Stam pointed out that if the new Legislative Assembly only has 3 members from each provincial zone, our voices may not be heard.
- Mike Campbell forwarded the document to the coaches to review at their leisure. John told the meeting that members of the BCSSGBA Executive was meeting with the Boys' Executive and we will be gathering on a conference call on Tuesday to discuss further steps.

14. Zone reps and nominations to the BCSSGBA Executive.

- John Mill was endorsed to return as the 'A' representative on the BCSSGBA Executive.
- Zone reps were also confirmed for the 2020-21 season.
  - Vancouver Sea-to-Sky - Claude Leduc
  - Vancouver Island - Brian Nishi
  - Eastern Valley - Shauna Stam
  - Northwest - Ron Van Driel
  - Fraser South - Michelle Kelly
  - North Fraser - Scott O'Dell
  - Thompson-Okanagan - Jennie Currie
  - North Central - Kevin Bublitz
  - Kootenays - John Mill

15. Adjournment.

@ 10:00 A.M.

M: Jennie Currie

S: Mike Campbell