

WAVELENGTH



The Official Newsletter
of the BCSSA

Issue 74 -
February 2011

President's Ponderings

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Special points of interest:

- * RV and Hotel Information for 2011 Provincials.
- * S & O Committee
- * Hotel Reservation Info
- * Provincial Sponsorship Opportunities

The BCSSA Board just had their January Board Meeting and this is a perfect opportunity to update our members on what has been going on. The following is what we have been working on this winter:

- The Board had decided in October 2010 to pursue online registration through a service provider. A decision was made, after consulting with a few board members, to proceed slowly as questions arose that could not yet be answered. It was felt it was better to bring this back to the board table to further consider. The Board has since struck a committee to explore a local option.
- I appointed Vice-President, Danny Schilds, to create a core working group of the S & O Committee. The first task of the group would be to select, from volunteers, the members of the broader S & O Committee. Please read Danny Schilds report for progress with this project.
- A small group of Board Members (Dave Bassett, Danny Schilds, Kerry Sheppard and myself) met with 3 members of the executive from BC Water Polo on Thursday January 20th. There is an excellent level of cooperation in co-developing in-service, rules, and strategies to promote the sport provincially.
- Boot Camp and Conflict Resolution workshops have been organized for the Island Region (in Nanaimo) in mid-February. Cindi Borsoi and myself will facilitate these workshops. A reminder that these workshops are provided, free of charge, to any regions that request them. All you need is 12 or more participants.
- In my role as President, I represented BCSSA at the annual gathering of Sport BC affiliates. The "Aquatics" table was joined by the new president of Sport BC for a working session on ways to enhance the profile of sport in BC.
- My impression is that the members (you) are generally happy with the quick response from our office (Michael Hutchinson) to needs and inquiries.

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Key Deadline for Clubs and Regions

To ensure that the BCSSA can have a successful 2011 season and meet our insurance / legal requirements, clubs must have the following information mailed or faxed into the Provincial Office by the dates specified below. All of the forms can be found on the BCSSA website.

April 1st to 14th, 2011:

Clubs to send their Affiliation Fee Cheques to their Regional Registrar

Friday April 15th, 2011:

Club Affiliation Fees Due (Each region to mail one cheques to the Provincial Office)

Sunday May 15th, 2011:

Coaches Rosters and Signed Code of Ethics must be received by the Provincial Office



Scholarships

In the upcoming swim season BCSSA will be offering 4 scholarships to students who will be entering or are in post-secondary education. We realize that school is becoming more expensive and that is why we continue to offer these scholarships and partner with new organizations so we are able to offer more. New this year is the 'Esquire Wholesale 'The T-Shirt People' Scholarship'. You can find the application packages and criteria for all the scholarships on the BCSSA website, by clicking on the 'About' tab. Please remember that all scholarships have a deadline of July 31st, 2011.



Volunteer Recognition & Pool of Fame

A long standing tradition of the BCSSA is the Pool of Fame as well as the Volunteer Recognition Program. We encourage everyone to read the information packages, which are located on the BCSSA website under the 'About' section.

The Pool of Fame Nominations are due into the Provincial Office by March 31st, 2011, while the volunteer recognition nominations are due by July 5th, 2011. The awards will be presented at the Provincial Championships in Richmond.



President's Ponderings Cont.

—Continued from Page 1—

- Clubs are making arrangements and registering for the 2011 SUMMIT conference at SFU. Don't forget to inform your clubs to register their coaches ASAP to get a spot.
- It has been confirmed that the 2012 Provincials will be held in Nanaimo at the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre. Thank-You to the Vancouver Island Region and the 2012 Organizing Committee. I know it is a big commitment to take on.

If you have any questions or concerns we would love to know about them so BCSSA can continue to improve as an Organization.

Regards,

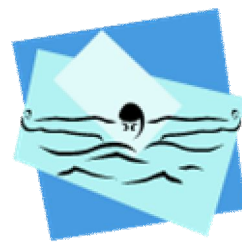
Neil Wuolle

BCSSA 2011 Provincial Championships

BCSSA is excited to return to the Lower Mainland for the 2011 Provincial Championships hosted by the BCSSA and Fraser South Organizing Committee. The meet will be held at Watermania in Richmond. The pool is close to many hotels, retail stores, a movie theatre and restaurants. We have posted all of the information about the Championships on our website and we hope that it will give everyone enough information about the Championships and Richmond. You can find information about the BCSSA discounted hotel rates on page 5. We did this in an effort to get cheaper rates as we have a large membership who will be coming to the Championships.

The competition schedule includes: Water Polo on August 15th - 17th, Diving and Synchro on August 17th - 18th and Speed Swimming from August 19th - 21st.

Watermania is located in Richmond at 14300 Entertainment Blvd. Richmond, V6W 1K3. The pool will host all four disciplines of the BCSSA. There will be plenty of day parking as well as space for RV's. For the most current information check out the BCSSA website as well as our Facebook Page.



The New & Improved BCSSA Volunteer Coaches Program

The BCSSA Volunteer Coaches Program was created to have senior athletes develop valuable leadership and communication skills as well as decrease the swimmer to coach ratio, allowing for increased one-on-one and focus group coaching. It also provides junior swimmers with knowledgeable role models, which contributes to club unity. Overall, it teaches senior swimmers the skills necessary for being an aquatics coach by giving them the experience and provides a positive relationship between the clubs senior and junior swimmers. This is especially important at meets when everyone is together.

This program was administered by the BCSSA, but was organized by individual regions for the last 2 years. The BCSSA has revamped its program including updating its manuals and ensuring that the information is up-to-date. The BCSSA will be offering these courses for the 2011 season and we suggest that all clubs and regions have their volunteer coaches attend one of the courses even if they have taken one in the past. It is a good refresher and a good place for these swimmers to meet other volunteer coaches. Please contact the BCSSA Office to arrange a course in your region.

IMPORTANT!

New Rules! & Rule Books

Some sections of the BCSSA Rule Book will be re-printed for the 2011 Summer Season. There have been many changes to certain sections over the winter, as well as rules that still need to be added from the 2010 Season.

The new rules will be published on the BCSSA website in March so it is the responsibility of members to review these new rules and they will be in effect beginning May 1st, 2011.

The inserts will be available to order starting in April. Please contact your Regional Director of Officials for more details in April.

Thanks, Sidney

When Sidney Crosby scored The Goal at 7:40 of overtime, my 14-year old son and I levitated simultaneously from the edge of our seats in front of the television, then executed a perfectly-synchronized high five/chest slam/hip bump/high five combination, while our voices rose to decibel levels not achieved since Measha Brueggergosman belted out the Olympic Hymn at the opening ceremony.

Recognizing immediately that the rest of Canada would want to share our celebration, my son and I took to the street. Our attire proudly proclaimed, *WE ARE CANADIAN*. My son, in his Team Canada jersey and red Olympic mittens, waved a full-sized Canadian flag on the end of a hockey stick. I, in a Canada hoodie and a stovepipe hat with a maple leaf logo, held a Molson Canadian beer can aloft like a torch (the can was, of course, unopened, as we Canadians respect the Rule of Law even above national celebration).

We raced, our feet barely hitting the pavement, to the closest thoroughfare, Cambie Street. The first vehicle we saw, a transit bus, saluted our waving flag and uplifted beer-torch by blasting its horn for a

full city block. A middle-aged couple with a toddler in a stroller beamed as my son leaned down to high-five their child. A busker yelled, *GO CANADA, GO!* and pumped his fist in the air as we ran by. Virtually every passing vehicle honked its horn, and virtually every passing face smiled.

We settled into an appropriate celebratory-jog pace, and I greeted every honking horn and every high-fiving hand with responses worthy of my several years of post-secondary education, like **OHYAAAAAAH**, and **YAAAHYAAAAHCANADAAAA**, and **OHYAAAAAAHCAN-DAAAYAAAAH!**

For 45 minutes my son and I ran, yelling, up and down the Cambie Street sidewalk, like a couple of jubilant half-wits on National Village Idiots Day. We ran north. We crossed the street and ran south. We ran forward. We ran backwards. We ran sideways. We ran until it hurt to run any more. And it was wonderful.

The following morning, as my knee and hamstrings reminded me that I am 50-something, I realized that we encourage our children to participate in



sports *not* because we expect them to become Olympians. No, we rise at early hours and drive our children to the rink, we huddle under umbrellas on the sidelines of soccer pitches, we sell 50/50 tickets at little league games for another reason: to encourage our children to become, and remain, active so that they, too, will run like jubilant half-wits when they are 50, or 40, or 70, and the Next Sidney Crosby has given Canada another reason for unrestrained celebration.

And so thank you, Sidney, for helping me to understand that it *does* make sense to arise at an ungodly hour on summer weekends, to pitch a canopy tent on a field, to find a spot in the poolside bleachers, and to cheer like a jubilant half-wit as my child flies off a starting block.

Kerry Sheppard
Vancouver & District
Regional Director

Hotels & RV Information for 2011 Provincials

The BCSSA has partnered with a few hotels in the Richmond area to provide our members with discounted room rates. These hotels are supporting the BCSSA Members as well as BCSSA through sponsorship so we encourage our members to stay at these locations. We have personally visited every site and believe that the hotels are providing us exceptional value during the Championships.

There are currently, no blocked sets of rooms for any of the hotels, but clubs may phone and reserve a block for their club, just remember to say that you are with the BCSSA Provincials. Also families can call individually to make a reservation. For more information please visit the 'Provincials' page on the BCSSA website. The website gives you all the information for making a reservation as well as the hotels fact sheet.

In terms of RV Parking, it will be allowed on-site at Watermania. Anyone who wishes to bring their RV must make a reservation online. You can find the reservation system link as well as more information on the BCSSA website on the 'Provincials' page.



FIND US ON FACEBOOK & TWITTER

Like Us!

"BC SUMMER SWIMMING ASSOCIATION (BCSSA)"

FACEBOOK is going to become our main communication tool other than our website. Updates will be posted on our Facebook page. Don't forget to join the "2011 Provincials" event as we will be sending out messages with important information and updates throughout the summer.

S & O Review Committee Update

This past summer, at the 2010 AGM in Kamloops, the membership directed the Board of Directors to "assemble a committee with the directive to review the eligibility of swimmers in "S" and "O" categories as it relates to the four aquatic activities and for the best interest and intent of the BCSSA."

As directed by the membership, President Neil Wuolle has appointed a committee that is in three levels. The first level is a small core group of people that will be charged with doing the majority of the ground work, research and surveying. The second level is a much larger group from within our organization. This second group will consist of representatives from different regions and aquatic activities. The third group is the rest of the membership of the BCSSA. The message is that everyone is a part of the process and the work to find a possible alternative to our current tiering system with the understanding that we may already have the best compromise possible. At any time, if any member has a suggestion, idea, or question, they are urged to contact the chairperson or any member of the committee(s). We want everyone to be heard.

The members for the first level have been appointed. Chairing the Committee will be Vice President, Danny Schild. The rest of the members of the first group are: Mike Slinger, Heather Stein, Kathy Woolverton, Susan Rosec, Tiarnan

McMillan, Steve Roosdahl and Wendy Jordan-Olive.

The second group of the committee has 29 names so far but there is room for many more. If you would like to receive updates on the findings of the committee and would like to have some direct input, please send an email to Danny Schild. Remember, everyone in the BCSSA is a member of the third group of the committee. We want to hear what you have to say.

The core group has been comparing the times of O and S swimmers as well as SNC swimmers in the different age groups. They are compiling data on the times of water polo players that speed swim, how many of our kids take part in more than one aquatic activity and how much time they are spending with each. As well as looking at times, both the BCSSA and SNC Athlete Development Models are being studied to better understand what happens physically to swimmers of different ages. All this research will be brought together at our March meeting.

So far there have been 21 written submissions to the committee and we welcome more.

The Committee also reviewed our Mission Statement and Guiding Principles and confirmed that the statements are still current with the practices and goals of the BCSSA.

So where did this tiering thing come from?

At this point in time we have a tiering system within the BCSSA. This is not new to the organization and not unique. We have been a tiered organization since our inception.

Remember that the BCSSA was formed as a protest by three clubs that were operated out of outdoor pools and were tired of competing against clubs that had the advantage of using indoor or in some cases heated pools. In 1958 there were very few indoor pools outside of the lower mainland and most clubs did not get into the water until well after May 1st, some not until June after the ice had gone out. To try to make competition as fair as possible for their children, the founders of the BCSSA made it a tiered organization. If you swam in the winter between Sept 30 and May 1, then you couldn't swim with the BCSSA. You were in the Omitted tier. You were either a summer swimmer or a winter swimmer and the two would not mix. Of course there were other circumstances at the time that helped to build animosity between organizations and kept the two seasons separated.

From 1965 through to 1980 a BCSSA summer swimmer (there were no O swimmers, you were either a summer swimmer or you weren't) was allowed to take part in Red Cross lessons, School swim-

S & O Review Committee Update Continued.

ming lessons and some High School Swimming. Remember that through the 60's and into the 70", an Olympic swimmer would not have been allowed to make money from their sport, not even as a swimming instructor, let alone doing endorsements. (Do you remember Nancy Greene having her skis taken away after a race so no pictures could be taken of her holding a name brand ski?)

By 1980 the BCSSA was looking at being more inclusive and began debate about having two tiers that both took part in competitions. There was a lot of very heated debate for several years with fears that the 'O' swimmers would take over the organization and the 'S' swimmers would be out numbered. At that time the debate centered around the advantage that extra practice would give a swimmer over the winter season. As

we know now, the fear of 'O' swimmers taking over the BCSSA was unfounded. We average about 100 'O' swimmers registered each year. Water polo was not really part of the debate because it wasn't introduced to the Championship meet until 1983. Initially a 2 hour allowance was made for winter practice time along with acceptance of swim lessons and High School swimming. Anything beyond the two hours and the swimmer became a 'O' swimmer.

Over the last 30 years changes have been made to at first allow more hours for diving and then not put any restrictions on diving as it relates to speed swimming. Up to 4 hours have been allowed for water polo and then that allowance was pulled back to 2 hours. Other special allowances have been made for Northern winter games,

Yukon games, and special swim camps.

The bottom line is that we are working with a system that is 30 years old. Our world is different, families are different, and access to water is different. The question is, has our sport and organization changed in such a way that it is time to put into place a new tiering system or does what we have right now still work the best for us?

Hopefully by this summer's AGM, we will have some suggestions for the membership.

If you have any questions or thoughts, please send them to me, Danny Schildts, dschildts@telus.net

Yours Truly,
Danny Schildts

Our Mission Statement

The BC Summer Swimming Association (BCSSA) promotes, and encourages the development of athletes and volunteers through participation in speed swimming, diving, water polo and synchronized swimming.

Our Guiding Principles

- Through its member clubs, BCSSA will provide opportunities for training, competition and activities in communities throughout BC and surrounding areas.
 - BCSSA promotes the development of an individual's capacity to achieve excellence and life skills through participation in competitive aquatic activities.
-

2011 BCSSA Spring Summit - Swimming Component

The 2011 BCSSA Spring Summit will bring the summer aquatics community to beautiful Simon Fraser University for 3 days.

The speed swimming component will include a camp for swimmers and a coach's clinic. Weekend highlights include:

- Swimmers camp includes development of technique and fitness in the pool, gym, and classroom
- Coaches clinic includes classroom instruction and practical training in the pool and gym.
- All presentations will assist coaches and swimmers in preparation for peak competition and long term competitive success.
- Sessions will be conducted by our world renowned guests.

This is the first time ever that swimmers, coaches, officials and parents have come together to have an amazing BCSSA weekend to kick off the competitive summer 2011 season.

Currently, our list of guest speakers include:

- Bruce Brown, who is an award winning speaker who engages and entertains his audiences. He teaches how character can be developed through sport.
- Stephen Price, who is currently the head coach of the Edmonton Keyano Swim Club. Steve is an experienced international coach having coached at the Olympics in 1996 and 2000.
- Alan Wrigley, who works for the Canadian Sport Centre, Pacific Performance Lab in Victoria. Alain specializes in monitoring and analysis of starts and turns in swimming.
- Brian Johns, who is a current Canadian Record Holder and a 2 time Olympic swimmer. Brian will be chaperoning and mentoring the swimmers through the camp.

- Cory Beatt, who coaches with Simon Fraser University. Cory's experiences include coaching at the 2003 Olympics and 2005 world champs, where his swimmer earned 2 medals.

Registration and payment is available online as space permits or call Dave Roesch, SFU Recreation at (778)-782-3611. Further information is available at www.simonfraseraquatics.com. And on the BCSSA Website.

Costs for the camp are \$175.00 per swimmer or coach. For other pricing information please visit the website above.

For information on the diving, synchro or water polo component of the summit please visit the SFU website above.

Event Hosted By:



Industry Partners



[Are you familiar with the BCSSA Privacy Policy?](#)

On January 1, 2004, the Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA) came into effect. PIPA regulates the way private sector organizations (including businesses, charities, associations and labour organizations) collect, use, keep secure and disclose personal information. PIPA ensures organizations that hold information about individuals handle that personal information responsibly. It also gives individuals control over the way information about them is handled and a right to request access to and correction of their personal information. BCSSA has an established policy (published on the website) to ensure our organization complies with the Act and provides direction for the member Clubs.

What are our responsibilities as a BCSSA Member Club?

Each member Club is legally responsible for all personal information in its custody or under its control.

So who is responsible for compliance with the Act?

BCSSA has a provincially appointed officer. Each Club President or their designate is responsible for PIPA compliance at a Club level.

According to the Act, each organization is legally responsible for all the personal information that is either in its custody or under its control. **[Section 4(2)]**

What information can we collect?

An organization may collect personal information only for purposes that are reasonable and may only collect information that is reasonable for fulfilling out those purposes. **[Section 11]**

What are examples of what requires consent?

Unless PIPA says that you don't need consent, you must get consent to:

- collect personal information,
- collect personal information from a source other than the individual,
- use personal information, or
- disclose personal information. **[Section 6]**

What information am I accountable for under PIPA?

Organizations are accountable for the personal information they collect, use and disclose. They are accountable for all personal information in their custody or control. Organizations have custody of personal information when it is in their offices, facilities, personal homes, file cabinets and computers, and so on.

Where an I learn more?

The information above is from the BCSSA Privacy Policy. We do our best to ensure that our member clubs are abiding by this policy. BCSSA suggests that this policy be reviewed by clubs on a regular basis as executive boards are constantly changing. Members can also take a look to see what BCSSA has in place to ensure your information is secure and used only for operating the programs, which we offer. To find out more you can contact your club president or refer to the policy on the BCSSA website @

www.bcsummerswimming.com/privacypolicy.html.

**We want to
hear from you!**

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**Our New Website Address:
www.bcsummerswimming.com**

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Website Update

Over the 2010 summer season many more additions were made to the BCSSA website to provide an up-to-date resource for BCSSA members. We hope that we have provided all of the necessary information to BCSSA members and encourage you to send an email to the Provincial Office if there is something that should be added.

A Few of the Major Additions include:

- BCSSA Board Minutes, Annual Reports and the Financial Statements.
- Regularly maintained coaches employment section.
- Our new Google™ BCSSA Meet & Event Calendar (this is an excellent resource for parents and clubs to see what is happening)

Seeking Sponsors for the 2011 Provincial Championships !

As most of our members are aware, the amount of money it takes to put on the Provincial Championships is substantial and we seek sponsorship for the meet to offset the costs. The BCSSA Provincial Championships are one of, if not, the largest aquatics competition in all of Canada. The 2011 Championships will take place in Richmond and BCSSA is excited to return to the Lower Mainland. The Provincial Office has already begun to seek sponsorships and we are asking for your help. If you know of any organization who wants to sponsor this type of event, or have any connections, could you please have them email the Provincial Office at office@bcssa.bc.ca or call me at (604)-473-9447. In return BCSSA can provide advertising opportunities at the Championships, and lots more. Our sponsorship package can be found on the BCSSA website, under the 'Provincials' section.



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Thank-You,
Michael Hutchinson
BCSSA Office Administrator