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Wavelength

BCSSA

PROUDLY PROMOTING AND ENCOURAGING THE DEVELOPMENT OF ATHLETES AND VOLUNTEERS IN AQUATICS SINCE 1967.

Presidents Ponderings

By: Neil Wuolle, President

I've decided, after penning many President's Ponderings, to have this edition focussing on club executive members. It occurs to me that you are, in many ways, the key to the success of this organization. Having said that, I know that in many clubs, the turn-over rate is quite high. It can be daunting to fill those boots! We can help.

The BCSSA continues to offer Boot Camp for Club Executives. This free session, arranged by your Regional Director, has so much to offer. Aside from the obvious opportunity to network with members of your own Region, it covers six basic modules; Governance, Running an Effective Meeting, Legal Issues, Employer Rights and Responsibilities, Building Club Culture, and, Conducting Investigations. Offered in either one day or one and one half day formats, you will come away with helpful resources and a much better understanding of how to have your club function effectively.

The BCSSA also continues to offer Harassment Awareness and Conflict Resolution workshops. While these are offered at the Provincial Championships, we will come to your neighbourhood during the year as well.

The BCSSA website is a wealth of information. From blank forms, to ads for coaches and regular news updates, it is a 'go to' tool for executives. Your Board of Directors for the current year is also listed here.

And lastly, the Office Manager, Michael Hutchinson, can direct your phone calls and e-mails to people that can help. The truth is, he usually has the answer at his fingertips. I think you will be pleased with the response time (keeping in mind the office is staffed part time in the off season).

So, let us help you be a successful executive. Contact the office, or your Regional Director.

On another note, I must once again thank the Fraser South Organizing Committee and the Provincial Director of Competition, for the superb job done in making the 2011 Provincial Championships so successful! They were well prepared, responsive to emerging issues, and fiscally astute (and resourceful!).

Lastly I would like to welcome several new members to the Provincial Board. Welcome to: Jennifer Ng (Sec. Treasurer), Deanna Bogart (Dir. Member Services), James Gardiner (Dir. Water Polo), Kaela Richardson (Coaches' Rep), Pam McGauley (Reg. Dir. Cariboo), Karen Bennett (Reg. Dir. Fraser Valley), Tony Tsang (Reg. Dir. Simon Fraser), and Colette Wood (interim Reg. Dir. Van. Island). Thanks to you all for "filling those boots"!

Relax and rejuvenate in this 'off season'.

Regards,
Neil Wuolle



History of the Wavelength

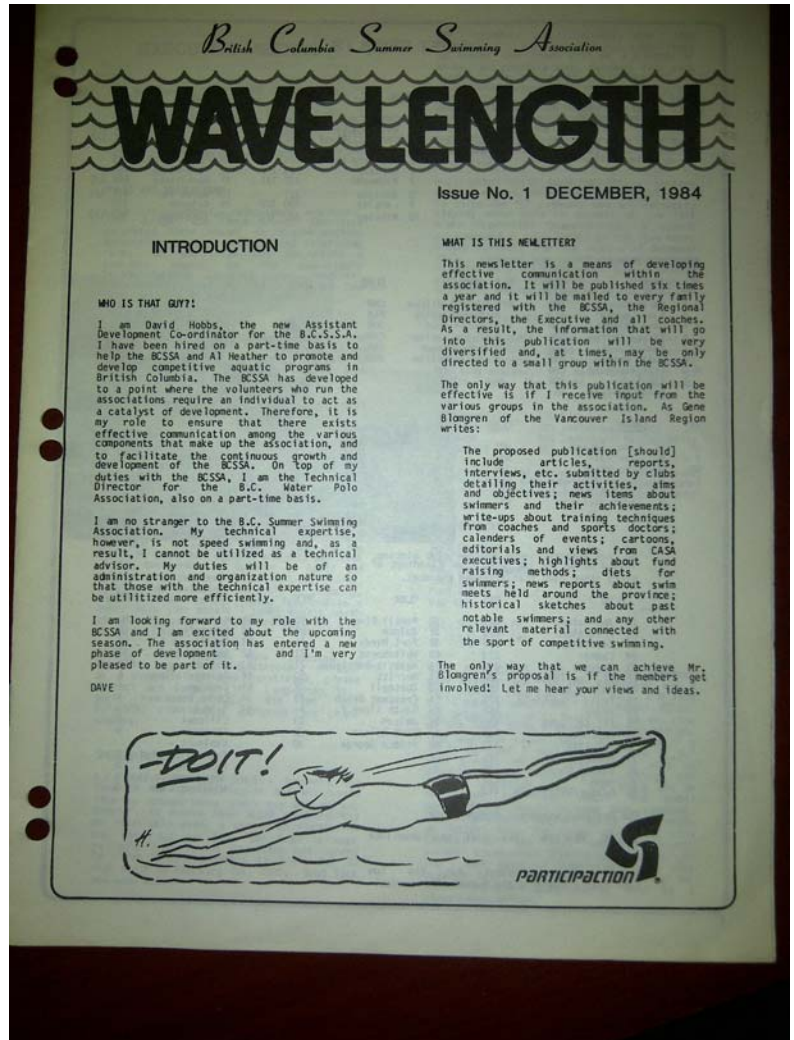
Look what we found! Issue No. 1

WHAT IS THIS NEWSLETTER?

This newsletter is a mean of developing effective communication within the association. It will be published three times per year and it will be emailed to anyone on our email list as well as the Club Presidents and Regional Directors. As a result, the information that goes into this publication is very diversified and, at times, may be only directed to a small group within BCSSA.

The only way that this publication will be effective is if we receive input from the various groups in the association. The only way we can achieve our goal of having an informational newsletter is if we get articles and stories from our members.

Do you have a BCSSA story to tell? If Yes, email it to us and we will put it in the next issue.



Don't forget to find us on Facebook! Stay involved and know about everything right when it happens. We always post interesting things each week.



Provincials 2012

We're going to Nanaimo!

BCSSA is excited to be moving over to the Island for a week during the 2012 Provincial Championships hosted by the Vancouver Island Organizing Committee and BCSSA. The meet will be held at the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre and you can find all of the information currently available on the BCSSA website.

The competition schedule includes: Water Polo on August 13th—15th, Diving and Synchro on August 15th and 16th and Speed Swimming from August 17th—19th.

Do Hotels in Nanaimo still have rooms?

The latest update from the Local Organizing Committee is that rooms are filling up fast and most of the hotels are fully booked right now. The committee is working on getting more Dorm rooms from the University on-site as they currently have secured 150 for BCSSA, but it looks like those are also taken now. Overall, hotel rooms are in short supply and be sure to get your name on waiting lists and if you are able to get a hotel room take it and you can always cancel the reservation if you need too.

The Nanaimo Aquatic Centre is located in the heart of Nanaimo at 741 Third Street, Nanaimo BC, V9R 2B7. The pool will host all four disciplines of BCSSA with the swimming portion of the meet being run as a doubled-ended for heats and single-ended for finals.

If you have any questions about the upcoming Provincials please feel free to contact the BCSSA office.

National Sport Trust Fund

While BCSSA can't issue tax receipt for donations according to the Income Tax Act, donations can be routed the National Sport Trust Fund, while is very simple and the BCSSA Office can assist with this. The NSTF, BC Chapter, administered through Sport BC, will better serve our member clubs who are fundraising and wish to offer Tax receipts for eligible donations to their organization.

If you would like to make a donation to your local club through this program please contact the BCSSA Office. We can give you all of the information and also assist you in processing this donation. We will work with individuals through the whole process right up to the point where the club receives cheque.

For more information please visit the BCSSA website and check out our "Donations" page listed under the "About" tab.



Sandman Hotel Group Partnership



BCSSA is excited to announce that we have signed a National Partnership with the Sandman Hotel Group. This partnership will benefit both BCSSA as well as the individual member clubs. The purpose of the partnership is to capitalize on the large number of rooms that are booked each year by members of the swimming community, both for competition, as well as for business and personal stays, offering BCSSA members better than “Best Available” rates at any time. This will provide BCSSA and our member clubs with an alternate revenue stream opportunity.

How it will work:

1. BCSSA members and friends of members can book their hotel room through the Sandman Reservation Link on the BCSSA website or call 1-800-SANDMAN.
2. There will be a booking/corporate code on our website that you must provide to the agent if you call in or enter it in the correct field if you are booking online. Once this is completed, BCSSA rates will appear and you can complete your reservation. Check out our website for more details.
3. Best part is a 10% commission will be paid on all booked rooms to BCSSA. 6% of the 10% will be given directly to the local club that the member belongs to. *Note: For a club to receive their portion of the commission the traveller must fill out the short form on the Sandman Partnership page of the BCSSA website.*

This agreement is NOT limited to only travel during BCSSA events. You can use this partnership arrangement at any time of the year for personal, business or vacation travel and it is valid at any Sandman Hotel or Sandman Signature Hotel in all of Canada.





Good Swims at Provincials

There's no place to view speed swimming like on deck as a Deck Official. What a view from the bulkhead, or side of the pool. Along with a close view comes the responsibilities a deck official commits to and serves a purpose to be standing there for, as deck officials see everything from good to incorrect swims.

With years of deck officiating, but never wanting to pursue the 'big role' at Provincials, I knew it was about time to "step up" and serve—to do what I do. An Officials' meeting is held the day before (Thursday) the meet begins. I noticed the newest officials, like myself, feeling a bit nervous, and those who had been on deck before, reconnecting and seeming happy to be together again.

By the time a swimmer arrives at Provincials, they've worked hard all season, and are most likely on track for achieving a good swim. A deck official's role may not be too busy, in other words. But, then, during my first shift in the junior pool, it happened! A swimmer on his front—but shouldn't he be on his back? - did his best to correct his position, so quickly that I wondered if I were seeing things. Not having seen if his feet (a toe maybe?) had left the wall, the benefit of my doubt went to the swimmer, and he was safe.

My first experience on deck at Provincials, fortunately, had no further sightings and/or other stories to tell you, most thankfully. Now my jitters are behind me and I can join those at Provincials who are happy to be reconnecting, ready to serve again.

Y.M.A Platson,
S&T Official
Vancouver & District Region

Attention All Coaches

The BCSSA Coaching Committee is in the planning stages to host a 2012 Coaches Conference in the New Year. We don't have any specific details currently, however it will take place on the last weekend of April 2012, so book that weekend of on your calendar. Please keep checking the website for more details to come in January 2012. We look forward to a truly BCSSA Weekend.

Attn: All Officials New Resources on the Website!

This is just a reminder that we continue to enhance our officials section of the website with great reference materials as well as PowerPoint presentations that are to be used in clinics that are taught throughout the province.

We have just completed updating the Officials Handbook and it is available on the main page of the "Officials Area".

In the coming months we will be adding Quizzes to test yourself as well as more PowerPoint presentations for different jobs necessary to run a meet.

If you have any questions please contact your Regional Director of Officials or the BCSSA Office and we would be happy to help.



From the October Board Meeting...

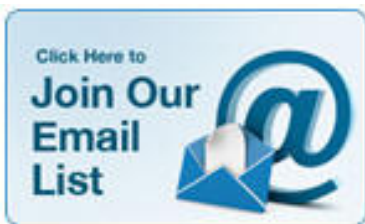
The Provincial Board just held their October Board Meeting a few weeks ago and we welcome all of the new members to the Board. Each year the board changes and it is great to see new blood stepping up and taking on these roles at the Provincial Level.

A couple of the highlights from the meeting include:

- It was decided that BCSSA would host a 2012 Coaches Conference. This conference would be for coaches only, unlike the 2011 Summit this past April. The 2012 Coaches Conference is tentatively set for April 27th—29th, 2012 and we don't have any details yet. The website will be updated with all of the information as this event goes through the planning stages.
- BCSSA is finalizing the new Harassment Policy, which is up-to-date, easy to understand. Once a motion is made at the January 2012 Board Meeting, and it passes, the policy will come into effect and be available on the website.
- After two seasons of fiscal responsibility, BCSSA is in an excellent financial position to be able to now focus on athlete and coach development as well as club development and growing our membership. Details on our financial situation can be found in the minutes from the meeting, which are on the BCSSA website.
- It was noted that the 2011 Provincial Championships were a financial success and did not go into the red. The meet showed that it can be run without having to be heavily subsidized. The key to success is having the local organizing committee of the meet take advantage of and maximize on the sponsorship opportunities that go along with such an event.
- The NCCP coaching program continues to change and BCSSA does not have the resources or finances to develop our own program so we must use the NCCP program and therefore coaches are asked to continually check when the Swimming 101 courses are offered on the Swim BC website.
- The "Just Add Water" campaign is currently going on and so far the Provincial Office has only received one club's receipts for advertising. Clubs are reminded that the "Just Add Water" program can help create awareness about your club in your community and BCSSA will reimburse your

Are You on Our Email List?

If you received this issue of the Wavelength by email then we have your email address, however if you did not receive this in your inbox, we suggest that you add yourself to our email list. You will stay up to date with important emails from us as well as receive our weekly NewsMail during the competitive season. To sign-up all you have to do is go to the BCSSA website and click "Join Our Email List" (below) and fill in your information.



Jason Parish Memorial Scholarship

The winner of the 2011 Simon Fraser Region, Jason Memorial Scholarship, is Jacob Nikl of the Port Coquitlam Marlins. This is the 14th year of presentation of this award.

Jacob is attending the University of British Columbia working towards his Bachelor of Applied Sciences with the eventual goal of becoming a civil or mechanical engineer. Jacob was on the honour roll with an 'A' average while attending Riverside Secondary School ranking in the top 10 students in the graduating class of 340.



In addition to this \$500 award, Jacob received a \$300 scholarship from the Riverside Secondary School PAC as well as the \$1000 Passport to Education scholarship based on both academic and non-academic achievements.

Jacob has been a member of the Marlins for 10 years and has represented the Club in two BCSSA Provincials both individually and on relays.

His swim coach, Mike Wylie, praised Jacob for his perseverance and ambition making him a valuable role model to younger swimmers.



Jacob has an impressive list of community contributions, one of the pre-requisites for the Jason Parish Scholarship. A few are listed here. He was a member of the peer tutoring program at school for 3 years, he volunteered approximately 150 hours with the SFU Summer Camps supervising, and organizing and leading water based activities with children and more. Jacob involved himself with fundraisers to build schools in Sierra Leone and a program called Kick-Off for Unger, which raised money for the United Nations World Food Programme. He credits his volunteer work to helping him grow as a person and enabled him to give to others the skills that others had given him.

Congratulations Jacob!

