

# **CMSAA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA**

**Wednesday, June 4, 2014**

**Location: Samz - 2342 Elgin Ave, Port Coquitlam**  
**4:00pm**

**See below for notes on agenda items**

- 1. Introduction and Welcome**
- 2. Meeting procedures**
- 3. Adoption of Spring Meeting minutes**

Michal Ruhr move

Ron Lee second

All in favour😊

- 4. Reports from Spring Sports Coordinators**

## **a. Badminton – Terry Argotow**

Badminton 2014 Recap

It was very rewarding to work with all the coaches during the badminton season. Clearly, they are a dedicated group. Two schools did not have teams this year and one school did not participate in league play. We had two high schools volunteer to host our playoffs. The grade 7 playoffs at Pinetree on May 21<sup>st</sup> were a huge success with some great play. Virtually every coach jumped in to help the tournament run very smoothly. Ten courts at Pinetree was quite challenging for our scorekeeping table in terms of keeping up with the flow of games.

Sadly, our grade 8 tournament to be hosted by Charles Best has been postponed/cancelled with our current labour dispute.

Overall, it was a good season and a lot of fun.

## **b. Rugby – Andrew Graham & Ian Robertson**

-great season

-about 7 schools involved

-committed at the beginning to bring everyone out despite numbers

-this worked really well in terms of getting the most kids participating (some schools would combine)

-gives more kids opportunity to play and learn about the game

-some coaches wanted to host games at their own schools so their full team could play together

-thank to Scott Creek and Banting for hosting the tourneys and the other schools that hosted games at their schools

-want kids to learn the game, respect the game, respect their opponents

-this spirit was present

-season was shortened due to lock-out but was still successful

Mark: really appreciated the openness and willingness of coaches to include all students in play

## **c. Track & Field – Kim Swanson**

-everything went well

-great weather for districts – ran smoothly – all good

- concession was closed at districts despite requests to have it open but nothing to do with district – private company
- Eagle Mountain and Track: concern having an extra school in terms of scheduling and no track
- desperate need for tracks for mini meets – current tracks are sometimes in need of repairs
- worry that in future years we won't have sufficient places for mini-meets
- have talked in the past about maybe using some high schools for mini meets and perhaps we will need to re-visit that for next year to see if it's a possibility
- Ian says attendance should be on every person's bucket list

## 5. President's Report – Ian Robertson

Overall our association had a very good year, with strong participation among students and great collaboration among volunteers. We began the year as a group that included seasoned Athletic Directors, and veteran sport coordinators, as well as a strong mix of first time directors, and beginning coordinators. This combination of experience, and fresh enthusiasm served our association well, and we end our year celebrating many positives, and reflecting on our learning

The following is a short breakdown of sports and seasons. For full details in any of these areas please refer to the coordinator reports within the winter, spring, and AGM minutes.

### Fall

#### Field hockey

- Six schools participated, making eight teams, including combined-school teams – makes two strong years in a row for number of schools participating.
- Some coaches would like to discuss finer points of playing time for all players in the Fall.
- We had to pay for fields this year – see details in Treasurer's report.

#### Swimming

- 12 schools had teams
- 159 swimmers at final meet – up just slightly from the year previously
- ADs getting information to sponsors and coaches is key to success

#### Cross Country

- A second year in a row of a fantastic turnout. Regularly 250-300 Athletes at meets.
- Coordinator felt there was an increase in gr. 8 participation.

#### Volleyball

- Gr. 6 went very well. Unable to secure two high schools (after doing so for the first time the year previous), Maple Creek was used as a second location. Continuing with two venues, or even more is strongly encouraged.
- Gr. 7 Boys 9 schools, two fewer than the year previous
- Gr. 7 Girls all 13 schools
- New Gr. 7 Coordinator (Leanne Tao) did an excellent job.
- Gr. 8 Girls 13 schools, with four schools putting in three teams to tournament.
- Gr. 8 boys 13 schools, about the same number of teams as last year
- Returned to hosting final night for grade 8s at a high school after being away from this for year. Importance of early communication is highlighted.

### Winter

#### Basketball

- Grade 6 – went back to a single high school venue after using three high schools the

year previously. Collaboration with Pinetree secondary went very well. Some suggested we try for multiple venues again, even if it means having some in middle schools.

- Gr. 7 Boys: 12 schools
- Gr. 7 Girls: 13 schools had full participation in the season and tournament; this is up for the second year in a row.
- Gr. 8 boys: 13 teams – same as last year
- Gr. 8 girls: 13 schools participated, forming 12 teams – this is up considerably over the year previous.
- First time coordinator for gr. 8 did a great job, and gr. 7 saw a first-time partnership do a great job as well.

#### Wrestling

- 12 schools participated
- Overall number of individual participants a bit down from last year, but still approaching 400.
- Smaller number of schools hosted to help with mat movement.
- Great collaboration among coaches in organizing and hosting meets.
- We are very appreciative of the volunteering by SFU wrestling for referees.
- First time coordinator was excellent.

#### Spring

##### Badminton

- For the second year in a row we had a brand new badminton coordinator – did a fantastic job, and the collaboration among coaches is simply outstanding.
- High number of individual participants.
- Please see final report from coordinator at this meeting.

##### Track & Field

- All 13 middle schools had teams through all three grades.
- Condition of tracks in the district is becoming an issue.
- Very successful district meet.
- Please see final report from coordinator at this meeting.

##### Rugby

- A hybrid season of three fifths central hosting, and two fifths of home and away games for grade 8 boys, and the girls league.
- Many positive comments about all teams coming together for large play-days.
- Eight schools with girls participating, up by two schools from last year. Formed six teams over the course of league play.
- Eight schools with gr 6/7 boys teams, up by two schools, at play-days we were able to form between eight and 11 teams.
- Eight schools involved with gr 8 boys s – up by one school from last year. Six teams were formed, with Moty/Mailard joining, and Summit/MC joining.
- Coaches collaboration and combining of teams just some of the many measures that went into a district wide club feeling for rugby.
- Please see final report from coordinator at this meeting.

While there are many successes in all of our sports and seasons this year, we did encounter some challenges. Securing host schools for volleyball and basketball play-offs remains a bit of a process. Athletic Directors and administrators are encouraged to view hosting as shared responsibilities for all member schools and do their best to take on part of the load. The

importance of communication is integral to the coordination of our association, and to the creation of a strong sense of belonging and teamwork that normally runs through everything we do. This year, the association was asked to send representatives to meet with the District Leadership Team and the CSSAA, concerning the involvement of middle school students within secondary athletics – something that has been happening for a number of years. Later in this AGM, the details of this process will be discussed more specifically. Communication about this process, has occurred at each step of the way, beginning in the fall. While the executive recognizes that some pieces of communication could have been highlighted, this process was never hidden. Hopefully this process can also serve as a reminder that each Athletic Director, and sport coordinator is a representative of the association within each school, and as such, is urged to keep current with all association communication, pass it along accordingly, and respond when necessary.

Also, as our spring season came to a close, we were faced with the uncertainties created out of job-action and lockouts. The executive made the difficult decision of withdrawing from the coordination and running of four end-of season activities: gr. 8 badminton district tournament, gr. 6/7 boys rugby final play-day, girls rugby district tournament, gr. 8 boys rugby district tournament. For the second time in three years our spring sports have been affected in some way. However, it should be noted that an atmosphere of respect and support has permeated through our association, as we have stakeholders from a variety of sectors connected to our schools – teachers, CUPE staff, administrators, parents, and community volunteers. Our association relies on We are hopeful that issues will be resolved in time for our Fall sports.

That being said, there were numerous positives that our association and its members should take pride in. New coordinators stepped in to help. Thanks to:

- Terry Argotow (badminton, gr. 7 basketball)
- Chris Davies (gr. 8 basketball)
- Darren Faukes (wrestling), and
- Leanne Tao (gr. 7 volleyball).

Their energy and efforts are much appreciated, and it was great to see coaches and athletic directors eagerly support them in their new positions. We thank Brad Christianson for volunteering as basketball referee coordinator. Veteran coordinators:

- Melissa Burdock (gr. 6 basketball, gr. 6 volleyball)
- Andrew Graham (rugby)
- Anders Nordby (gr. 7 basketball, gr. 8 volleyball)
- Paige Perry (gr. 8 volleyball)
- Kim Swanson (track & field)
- Scott Turner (swimming)
- Jeff Tvergyak (field hockey)
- Kate Zubick (cross-country)

all did outstanding jobs in leading our association and the specific sports they facilitated. Their dedication is much appreciated.

The enormous efforts, and countless hours that coaches, sponsors, volunteers, referees, and coordinators put in to all of our events is to be commended, and I am grateful for everything that everyone in our association contributes. I also hope we can take this opportunity to celebrate our work. At all district events, meets, and tournaments it is clear that the focus of our association is on respect, fair play, and teamwork, rather than wins, championships and competition. While we can certainly teach our student athletes about how to compete, and work hard, it is encouraging to see us prioritize inclusion, commitment, and belonging. This

year, it was also highlighted the importance of mentoring young officials and referees – often former middle school student athletes. Our association should take pride in giving them a positive and non-threatening environment in which to pursue their passions and develop their skills.

Thank you to all of our Athletic Directors for representing their schools, and our association with strong commitment.

Our executive grew by one member this year as Evan Cupit took on the role of Treasurer, and I am grateful for his work with finances and in supporting the association in general. Thank you to Andrew Graham for representing the middle school administrators on the executive, and for coordinating our website ([www.sd43.bc.ca/schools/cmsaa](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/schools/cmsaa)). The longest serving executive member is Dana Asher and I am thankful for her work as Secretary, for her reflective perspectives, and we all appreciate her booking this AGM venue. Anders Nordby went from “acting” last year, to “actual” this year, and I thank him for taking on the responsibilities of Vice-President. Kathy Andrews is our association’s silent partner, and her work in keeping our books should never be forgotten – thanks to Kathy.

The strength of our association lies in its values and its volunteers. We are guided by a set of values that focuses us on using sport as a vehicle to help middle level students learn about and exhibit fair play, honesty, respect, teamwork, and responsibility. These values do not happen by magic, but rather are passed on thanks to the tireless efforts, and countless hours put forward by the volunteers in our association.

The foundation of our association is our volunteer coaches. They give their time to work directly with athletes and teach them the values of respect, teamwork, and commitment. We had 278 coaches in our 13 middle schools this year. We could not have achieved such a successful year without them.

Thank you.

## **6. Treasurer’s Report – Evan Cupit**

## **7. Recommendations Committee Reports**

### **a. Guiding Principle #3**

- Andrew: This came from a human rights case where by a parent argued that we could not tell a student where they can and cannot play.
- there will be a District Process put in place for middle school students who want to play at the secondary level to go through before they can play at the high school level
- we have suggested that we not be a part of this decision making committee but rather act as an information base regarding the student applicant in question.

Proposed Change:

*Whereas the District Leadership Team (DLT) has made it clear to the CMSAA that its jurisdiction relates to middle school sports, middle school athletes and middle school teams, and;*

*Whereas the CMSAA cannot act as a gatekeeper to other sporting bodies, and;*

*Whereas CMSAA does not have the right to control what a middle school student athlete does outside of their participation in the CMSAA, and;*

*Whereas Principle #1 of the CMSAA's Guiding Principles already outlines who may participate on a middle school team, and the requirements of participation;*

*Let it be resolved that Principle #3 of the CMSAA's Guiding Principles is changed to:*

**“Middle school athletes must make playing with their middle school teams a priority over participation at any other school level. Should a middle school athlete want to play at the secondary level, they must contact the district regarding the district's procedure for playing-up.”**

**Move for discussion:** Evan Cupit

**Seconded for vote:** Anders

**Moved for time limit of 10 min on discussion:** Anders

**Second:** Richard

**All In favour** - passed

**Kevin:** What would be our role in terms of that student's ability to play at the Middle School level? Would prefer that there be a district procedure involved in allowing them to also play at the Middle level – would rather a student who is playing up not take a spot on the middle school team

**Andrew:** the committee includes a decision on the application by the parent about whether the student will be playing on both teams (middle and secondary). It also indicates that should the student choose to play at both levels, they are making the middle team their priority. All fees for the secondary team will be paid by the parent of said student.

Concern about kids playing up regarding ability of parents to play

**Brad:** “priority” over “participation”...what does that look like? One coach's definition of participation may be vastly different from another.

**Ian:** That currently exists within our association already in terms of coaches sharing athletes within the CMSAA athletics

**Brad:** Should we make this message more consistent across the board, especially for new teachers/coaches.

**Ian:** That is included in the current DRAFT document that students and parents will have to fill out to apply for students to play at both middle and secondary.

**Brad:** Would have liked to see this document before discussion the current proposal to change Principal #3.

**Ian/Andrew:** Good point. Probably hasn't happened b/c the document is currently a DRAFT and a working document. This document will be shared with us however the CSSAA and the DLT are fairly enthusiastic about pushing this through.

In favour: 30

Opposed: 9

Abstain: 1

**PASSED**

**b. Minimum Number Rules**

*Whereas there are member schools that continue to decline in population, and;*

*Whereas there has been regular feedback from association members regarding minimum number rules making it difficult to assemble teams, and;*

*Whereas combining schools to form teams is proving successful in multiple CMSAA sports;*

**Let it be resolved that for one school year, sports within the CMSAA engage in a trial season of playing without minimum number rules, and that feedback be presented to a recommendations committee prior to the 2015 AGM.**

Motion to discuss:

Second:

In favour:

Tu Loan: If you combine teams are you doing this to meet the minimum numbers? So are we still combining with this new proposal?

Mark: If there are only 3 kids, it makes sense to combine so they still have a chance. Would like to see in the language of the proposal that AD's have made every attempt to make a team that fulfills the minimum numbers first at which point they have the choice to either join with another school or play without minimum numbers.

Kevin: If there's only a few kids missing, the team should still be able to play

Anders: Also to avoid all stars from say grade 7 playing at the play-offs for grade 8's

Dana: From MCM: would have like to see specific wording regarding not having grade 7's playing up with grade 8's.

Brad: From Scott Creek: If there is no minimum , what happens if the mentality out there becomes to cut down to the 12 best players for play-offs b/c there is no minimum numbers? And, what happens if there are 40 kids that show up to play?

Brad: Instead of having tons of kids participate through the season then cut for playoffs, why not just have a play day weekend and put all the kids who have played all season together – everyone plays

Lorenzo: If we get into the grey area and there is communication between coach, AD and executive then maybe we don't need a proposal

Mark: All kids should be able to play as much possible so agreed; have to figure out something different for the playoffs rather than cutting. Needs to be something that says something about AD's and coaches making every effort to make it work status quo before having minimum numbers. Maybe we look at our season as a bunch of friendly games throughout the season rather than a quest for the banner.

Shane: Never was a max number but rarely do you play a team in playoffs who have more than 15 players. Need to find a way to let every player play throughout.

Anders: comes from a small school perspective, if you have a big school and want more kids to play have to have more coaches – seems difficult to bring coaches

Move to vote: Ian

Seconded: Anders

Moved

In favour of resolution: 32

Opposed: 4

Abstain: 1

**PASSED**

#### **c. Association procedures and decisions**

Would like to create a constitution

### **8. Entry of new Middle School**

Ian: move to accept

Anders: second

PASSED

### **9. Association Positions**

#### **Sport Coordinators - volunteers 2014-15**

- a. Cross-Country**
- b. Field Hockey**
- c. Swimming**
- d. Volleyball – grade 6**  
Ron Lee
- e. Volleyball – grade 7**
- f. Volleyball – grade 8 –**  
Anders Norby & Paige Perry
- g. Basketball – grade 6**  
Ron Lee
- h. Basketball – grade 7**
- i. Basketball – grade 8**
- j. Basketball - refereeing**
- k. Wrestling**  
Darren Faulks
- l. Badminton**  
Terry Argatow
- m. Rugby**  
Ian Robertson and Andrew



n. **Track & Field**  
**Support Positions - volunteers 2014-2015**

- **Members-at-large**  
Ron Lee
- **Website Coordinator**

**10. Coaching Recognition**

-Shirts have been ordered – will be here soon

**11. CMSAA Builder Award**

Presentation via speakerphone for James Minkus

**Extras**

1. Kathy Andrews will probably not want to continue to do the books especially if Ian isn't back at Kway – we need to look into an alternate.
2. This will be Ian's last year coming up...so think about if you want to be the new prez

**12. Adjournment:**

**6:10**

## Notes for 2014 CMSSA AGM

In preparation for the CMSAA AGM, the executive met to set the agenda, and consider possible resolutions.

For resolutions sent out before hand, motions made on the floor of the AGM, and elections of officers (every second year), each member school shall have a maximum of four votes. Schools may send proxy-votes for resolutions set by prior to the AGM.

**Note 1:** A recommendations committee was called for in April, and there were three volunteers (E. Cupit – Kwayhqitlum, A. Nordby – Monty, I. Robertson – Kwayhqitlum). The committee was charged with three items:

- a. recommending how Principle #3 should be changed, and
- b. recommending if minimum number rules in our sports should be re-considered, namely it will try to recommend if:
  - i. rules should stay the same OR
  - ii. the ramifications of changing these rules should be reflected upon in the upcoming year very specifically and considered for change in the future OR
  - iii. a change in the minimum numbers rules should be made.
- c. recommending if any other principles or over-arching changes should be reflected by the association in future years, and how that reflection might take place.

With regards to item (a.) above, the recommendations committee submits the following resolution to the association for the AGM:

*Whereas the District Leadership Team (DLT) has made it clear to the CMSAA that its jurisdiction relates to middle school sports, middle school athletes and middle school teams, and;*

*Whereas the CMSAA cannot act as a gatekeeper to other sporting bodies, and;*

*Whereas CMSAA does not have the right to control what a middle school student athlete does outside of their participation in the CMSAA, and;*

*Whereas Principle #1 of the CMSAA's Guiding Principles already outlines who may participate on a middle school team, and the requirements of participation;*

*Let it be resolved that Principle #3 of the CMSAA's Guiding Principles is changed to: Middle school athletes must make playing with their middle school teams a priority over participation at any other school level. Should a middle school athlete want to play at the secondary level, they must contact the district regarding the district's procedure for playing-up.*

If the above resolution does not pass, a new committee will be called to come up with a new recommendation for Principle #3.

With regards to item (b.) above, the recommendations committee submits the following resolution to the association for the AGM:

*Whereas there are member schools that continue to decline in population, and;  
Whereas there has been regular feedback from association members regarding minimum number rules making it difficult to assemble teams, and;  
Whereas combining schools to form teams is proving successful in multiple CMSAA sports;  
Let it be resolved that for one school year, sports within the CMSAA engage in a trial season of playing without minimum number rules, and that feedback be presented to a recommendations committee prior to the 2015 AGM.*

With this resolution, the recommendations committee would also like to note:

- this will hopefully make it more straightforward to have grade level teams for this trial period as it will make it less necessary to use students from lower grades to achieve a strict minimum number.
- a student athlete still cannot be exempted from a team based on ability.
- coaches and athletic directors should communicate with the sport coordinator about team numbers early, so that the coordination of combining schools in the case of low numbers, or the coordination of a school having multiple teams in the case of high numbers, can most easily happen.
- coaches should attend coaches' meetings to help communication and decision making about how to carry out this trial period in specific sports.
- Athletic Directors are responsible for making sure each coach at his or her school is clear on the participatory philosophy of the CMSAA.

If the above resolution does not pass, the minimum number rules within sports will be retained for the 2014-15 seasons.

With regards to item (c.) above, the recommendations committee submits the following recommendation to the association:

Currently the CMSAA relies upon the Code of Conduct, the Guiding Principles, minutes from past seasonal meetings and AGMs, as well as historical precedents when making decisions and following procedures. The committee recommends that the CMSAA work towards the development of a constitution that clearly outlines the procedures of the association and its decision-making processes. The committee recognizes this task will take some time, and suggests that a call for volunteers to help with this process occur in the fall.

**Note 2:** Volunteers are encouraged to come forward for sport coordinator positions. These positions may be shared.

**Note 3:** Each of the elected executive officers (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary) are entering their second year of his or her two year term. The fifth position on the executive – Admin-rep – is appointed by Coquitlam Middle School Administrators.

Members-at-large, and website coordinator are support positions that are typically volunteered for at the AGM.