

OCTOBER 2009 MONTHLY REPORT

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR...

--by Tom Hursey

I am sure your summer seemed to fly by. And we are only 6 weeks from starting a new basketball season. The summer flew by for the BCAM office. With the All-Star Festival, Board of Directors meeting, first annual Coaches vs Cancer golf outing all taking place, not to mention developing a new website, things have been hectic. But we continue to offer efficient service to our members. I cannot say enough about our office staff of Peggy Porter and Amy Heydenburg. They continue to make me look good.

The following are some of the events and programs that are taking place this coming year:

SEEDING: Dave Ginsberg (Traverse City St. Francis HS) has been working hard at developing a "seeding" process for the District Tournament. You should have received some emails from Dave explaining his concerns and why he believes seeding should be a part of the state tournament. Varsity coaches will be receiving a ballot in October. Included will be all the updated details on how the seeding can be done. Varsity coaches will be asked to vote in favor of seeding or continue to not seed. BCAM will need approximately 75% in favor of this seeding proposal to support this project. Please read all the information carefully and do so with an open mind. Make sure to vote.

CLINIC: The biggest weekend on the BCAM calendar is upon us. What a line-up of speakers. This is the best clinic for the money in the country. If you haven't signed up yet, you can still show up at the door (it will be more expensive). We now have the ability to receive credit card payments. More information is at www.bcam.org.

WEBSITE: If you haven't gone to www.bcam.org yet, do so. On the surface, the website appears to offer all the same stuff. But it is allowing the BCAM office to do many more things including online payments. The old website had limitations and the host company was closing down. So it forced us to quickly make some changes and so far we are pleased. As with most good websites, we will continue to add areas to better serve basketball coaches. Be aware that some pages are secure and you will need to use your username and password to view them.

REACHING HIGHER SHOWCASE: Due to NCAA regulations (that BCAM and other state associations are hoping to change) April is still a dead period for Division 1 men's coaches. Therefore the boys' Showcase will be July 31. The girls' Showcase will stay in April since there is one open weekend for D1 women's coaches. You will be receiving more information about the nomination process and schedules in the near future. This information will be on the BCAM website as it becomes available. Any questions: reachinghighershowcase@gmail.com.

COACHES VS CANCER: BCAM continues to work with Coaches vs Cancer to raise money for the fight against this deadly disease. This past summer we hosted our first major C vs C Golf Scramble at Shanty Creek. Seventeen foursomes played and had a great time. In an effort to greatly increase fundraising, BCAM is planning on two major fundraisers for 2010. The first will be held in January. It will be something that is easy to administer and not time-consuming for the coach. Rick Zoulek (C vs C Chairman) will be sending out details this fall. The second event will be the 2nd Annual BCAM Coaches vs Cancer Golf Scramble. It will be held at the Walnut Hills Country Club in East Lansing. August 9, 2010 is

the date. A committee has been formed that is dedicated to making this a special day. Mark your calendars.

3-POINT & FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP at HOOPFEST (at the State Finals): Many of you took part in the Hoopfest in Jenison Fieldhouse at the Boys' State Finals last March. This year Hoopfest will be held at both the boys' and girls' State Finals. In an effort to determine a true state champion in 3-point shooting and free throw shooting, BCAM will conduct a "championship" shootoff during Hoopfest. Boys and girls finalists will be determined by results of the Top Shooters program BCAM has conducted for many years. This year we will determine our Top Shooters based on the regular season stats only. Mark Bray's Top Shooters Committee will rank the top 3-point & FT shooters and they will be invited to participate during the state finals. The finals will be held on Saturday of the Girls and Boys State Finals at the Breslin Center. This should be an exciting addition to Hoopfest.

DUNK CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE PALACE: The Palace of Auburn Hills and BCAM are sponsoring a Dunk Contest and 3-Point Shoot-Out on April 10, 2010. More information will be available during the season.

BCAM'S BEST: At our summer board of directors' meeting, there was much discussion about the BCAM's BEST awards. Until two years ago we always selected All-State teams. Since many coaches don't nominate their top players, some very good players didn't make our all-state teams. We felt BCAM lost credibility when our all-state teams did not have some of the best players listed. So two years ago we selected BCAM's BEST which listed our top 20 players (who were nominated) in each class plus special mention. Some board members felt we still should list the top players on this list. After much discussion about the fact that there are 3 all-state teams named (Free Press, News and AP), maybe we did not need a BCAM's BEST. I would like to know what you think about BCAM's BEST. Email me at bcantom@aol.com.

As you can see from the above articles, BCAM is involved in a variety of projects. Hopefully members and their players can take part in as many as possible. Have a good October and we will see you in Lansing on the 2nd. As always you can reach me at bcantom@aol.com.

COACHES EJECTIONS LAST SEASON

There were a total of 31 boys coaches ejected from games last season. Of these 31 coaches, only 10 were BCAM members. Of these 10, 9 were varsity coaches.

There were a total of 12 girls coaches ejected from games last season. Of these 12 coaches, only 3 were BCAM members. All 3 were varsity coaches.

When considering the number of games played, these numbers sound OK. But our goal is 0 BCAM members ejected. Sound impossible? Yes, but it can be done.

Check Out Hoop Thoughts by LSU Coach Bob Starkey You don't have to be a basketball coach or fan to get a lot of value out of the Hoop Thoughts site. LSU women's basketball

coach Bob Starkey provides several great posts on leadership, team building, and mental toughness. Coaches of all sports should check it out at: <http://hoopthoughts.blogspot.com/>

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

The following was taken from an East Lansing HS athletic program. It is posted here to give you a sample of what you and your AD can do to promote good behavior at ball games.

SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS OF FANS AT ALL EVENTS

ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR

- Applause during introduction of players, coaches and officials.
- Accept all decisions of officials in a respectful manner.
- Applause at end of contest for performances of all participants.
- Show concern for an injured player, regardless of team.
- Encourage surrounding people to display only sportsmanlike conduct.

UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR

- Disrespectful or derogatory yelling, chanting, singing or gesturing.
- Booing, heckling or displaying of extreme temper over an official's or coach's decision.
- Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention from the game.
- Deliberate shouting derogatory chants over the cheerleader's cheers.

GOLDEN RULE

CHEER FOR YOUR TEAM.....NOT AGAINST THE OPPONENT!

PARENT PROMISE

I promise to remove myself from the venue rather than embarrass my child, my family or myself. If I don't recognize that my behavior is unacceptable, I promise to respond respectfully if another person must remind me that my behavior is questionable. I promise to contribute to everyone's enjoyment of the event.

WHAT DO YOU MAKE?

The dinner guests were sitting around the table discussing life. One man, a CEO, decided to explain the problem with education. He argued, "What's a kid going to learn from someone who decided his best option in life was to become a teacher?" To stress his point he said to another guest; "You're a teacher, Bonnie. Be honest. What do you make?"

Bonnie, who had a reputation for honesty and frankness replied, "You want to know what I make? (She paused for a second, then began...) "Well, I make kids work harder than they ever thought they could. I

make a C+ feel like the Congressional Medal of Honor winner. I make kids sit through 40 minutes of class time when their parents can't make them sit for 5 without an iPod, Game Cube or movie rental. You want to know what I make? (She paused again and looked at each and every person at the table) I make kids wonder. I make them question. I make them apologize and mean it. I make them have respect and take responsibility for their actions. I teach them to write and then I make them write. Keyboarding isn't everything. I make them read, read, read. I make them show all their work in math. They use their God-given brain, not the man-made calculator. I make my students from other countries learn everything they need to know about English while preserving their unique cultural identity. I make my classroom a place where all my students feel safe. I make my students stand, placing their hand over their heart to say the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, One Nation Under God, because we live in the United States of America. Finally, I make them understand that if they use the gifts they were given, work hard, and follow their hearts, they can succeed in life...(Bonnie paused one last time and then continued.) "Then, when people try to judge me by what I make, with me knowing money isn't everything, I can hold my head up high and pay no attention because they are ignorant.... "You want to know what I make? I, AND OTHER GOOD ONES, MAKE A DIFFERENCE. What do you make Mr. CEO?"

His jaw dropped, he went silent.

Ask the Ref...

--by Bob Williams, BOCCC

QUESTION.....Where can players be or not be during some situations??

Inbounding the ball: When a player is required to "Hold" a spot the player must stay within a 3 foot wide space that is parallel with the out of bounds line. However the player may go as deep as the court surroundings permit. If in the judgment of the official the surroundings does not permit the inbounding player sufficient room to move, the official may require the defender to move back allowing a 3 foot buffer on the court.

Jump Ball Situation: Non-jumpers located around the circle are permitted to be in a 3 foot wide by a 3 foot deep space. Therefore if a defender would line up behind a player within the 3 foot measurement that player would be in an illegal position. The official should not throw the jump ball until this is corrected.

During a Foul Shot: If a player is occupying a "marked lane space" they must have one foot positioned near the outer edge of the free-throw lane line with the other foot positioned anywhere within the designated 3 foot lane space.

Middle School Notes

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Fall is the perfect time to begin taking stock and interest in the young people that will fill our rosters next

month and beyond. In an age where it seems common for athletes, even as young as middle school, to begin thinking about specializing in a specific sport, many of them are active in various athletics during the fall. For those of us fortunate enough to be in the classroom, we already have a pulse on our students' interests and lives outside of the daily bell schedule. We know many of our girls are excited to be a part of the volleyball teams while our boys are preoccupied these days with football. Both may partake in cross country, golf, soccer, or a club sport in a recreational league. For those who are not educators, this may be a good time to wear your team's colors and begin conversing with supporters.

Coaches can score major "brownie points" with their future backcourts, wings, and post players by showing up a time or two to athletes' fall events. While we always tell our athletes to pay no attention to who is in the stands, we know better. A coach can pretty much be guaranteed to be seen at any one of the fall venues. If by chance the athlete is focused, their parents and families may be the ones who spot you. They too will remember seeing you at the contest and may result in positive communications which may come in handy later in the year.

While it seems that life continually moves at a breakneck speed, there is something to be said for taking a moment out of your day and supporting your athletes away from the basketball court. The respect earned by this simple gesture may pay immense dividends.

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