



BCAM'S MONTHLY REPORT

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DECEMBER, 2008

ANOTHER SEASON IS UPON US

How quickly the time flies. Wasn't it just a few weeks ago you were getting through the summer workouts and now you are about ready to open another season. I wish you all many victories or at least enough to keep the naysayers away from your program.

Don't forget the importance of communication. I found that my pre-season meeting with the parents was one of the most important meetings of the year. I communicated my philosophy on how I selected my team, how I determined the starters and the first few substitutes, and why some players wouldn't see action until the final score was determined. Some parents had trouble accepting my explanation but I wanted to make sure they knew why I did certain things during ball games. You are asking for trouble if they have no idea why you made or didn't make certain changes during ball games.

We all know certain parents can't leave well enough alone. Their son or daughter usually gets over a negative event by the next practice. The parent carries it with him/her for weeks. Therefore, make sure that your parents know to come to you first if something is really bothering them. Tell your AD and administrators to steer a disgruntled parent to you since you are the person who has the answers. Hopefully you can deal with the parent in a professional way and explain your decisions.

Good luck! May your team play well, your players have fun and you do a great job coaching your players about basketball and sportsmanship. *(Read more about parents in Mick McCabe's blog below.)*

BCAM Teams Up with the American Cancer Society for Coaches vs. Cancer

In partnership with the American Cancer Society, the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan is encouraging coaches to designate a home game as "Coaches vs. Cancer Game Day" to raise funds in support of the fight against cancer. Coaches can pick any game date or they may pick games during the Society's national "Suits & Sneakers" awareness campaign, which is the week of Jan. 26-Feb. 1, 2009.

Coaches vs. Cancer is a nationwide collaboration between the American Cancer Society and the National Association of Basketball Coaches. The initiative was established to increase cancer awareness and promote healthy living through year-round efforts, fundraising activities and advocacy programs in support of the Society's mission to eliminate cancer.

Since its inception in 1993, high school and college coaches across the country have raised nearly \$45 million to help the Society fund groundbreaking cancer research, provide up-to-date cancer information and education, advocate for public health policies that benefit the community and provide free local programs that improve quality of life for patients and their families.

Participating in Coaches vs. Cancer is simple and fun, and teaches players and other students valuable charitable and character-building lessons as well. Chances are, many faculty, staff and students have been or will be touched by cancer at some point in their lives. Thanks to incredible strides in research, cancer prevention and treatment, we are closer than ever to conquering this disease.

To help support Coaches vs. Cancer activities at your school, the local American Cancer Society will provide a Game Day Kit with information on how to get started, ideas for fundraising, sample materials to help with local promotion, and a post-event reporting form to submit along with all donations to your local American Cancer Society office.

To request a Coaches vs. Cancer Game Day Kit for your school, please contact Kim Hoffman at kim.hoffman@cancer.org or (517) 664-1409 or sign up online at www.cancer.org/coaches.

How to Build an Elite and Enduring Program that Wins on Every Level (*Click Below*):

<http://www.championshipcoachesnetwork.com/public/382.cfm>

YOUR HIGHLIGHT VIDEOS NEEDED FOR THE BCAM WEBSITE

We need our members to start sending us video clips once the season starts so that we can begin highlighting the exciting game-action moments for this season! Some constraints would be game winning shots and other special plays of your game. The video time should not be longer than 3 minutes. The format should be in AVI or WAV modes. It is preferred that you send me the actual DVD that has the highlighted clips or the actual game DVD with a summary of video clips to be copied. You may also attempt to send me the clip via e-mail to place onto our website. Other necessary information should include the coach's name, school name, competing school name, game date, final score, and all players involved in the clip. Coaches should also send a brief summary of what took place and incorporate as much game information as possible. Mail (email) all video clips to:

BCAM Webmaster: Warren Wood, 8720 Loxley Ln, Freeland MI 48623
beyond3@chartermi.net

STAN GOOCH ELECTED INTO NATIONAL HALL OF FAME

Longtime Flint Central Boys Basketball Coach, Stan Gooch, was inducted into the National High School Athletic Coaches Association's Hall of Fame this past summer. Congratulations to an outstanding coach and a great person. *(Editor's Note: I would like to take some credit for Stan's induction since many of his victories were against my Midland team.)*

MHSAA GENDER EQUITY LAWSUIT UPDATE

The MHSAA expects to reach a settlement that does not adversely affect the programs and services that kids and coaches have come to expect. There is no timetable or deadline for completing the agreement.

MICK MCCABE'S BLOG *September 9, 2008 Detroit Free Press*

Parents, keep it about the kids

For my initial blog, I would like to write about the aspect of high school athletics that has changed the most in my 38 years:

Parents.

I hate parents. I hated myself when my kids played high school athletics.

No matter how knowledgeable they may be about athletics, many parents lose all objectivity when it comes to their kid, which is natural. But what happens after that isn't. Once their kid begins participating in athletics, these parents transform from normal, rational people into raving lunatics. They have made life miserable for coaches and administrators and they are trying their best to do the same to me.

Outlandish claims don't help your son and daughter. If a kid is that good a player, we will find out about him or her. Last season we had a parent nominate a prep star claiming he broke a scoring record. The problem was it was in a junior varsity game and the coach said it wasn't a record. What good is it to lie?

One parent e-mailed me this football season, claiming any discussion of the region's top players was incomplete without his son. As evidence, he offered that his son was being recruited by Ivy League schools.

Well, Ivy League schools don't offer athletic scholarships and interest from the Ivy League isn't the same as having the Big Ten teams knocking at your door. But hey, that's fine; all kids don't have to be top recruits. That's not what high school athletics is about.

Here is a word of advice to parents: Relax. It isn't about you. It is about your kid.

Believe it or not, no one will think less of you if your kid doesn't make all-state and earn a Division I college scholarship. How well they perform is not a reflection on you and if they do make all-state and earn a Division I scholarship it is because of what they did, not what you did.

Now, please, go out and cheer your lungs out at your kid's games, and don't ruin the experience for them. After all, high school athletics is for your kid, not you.

