



## APRIL, 2012 BCAM MONTHLY REPORT

Tom Hursey – Executive Director

### FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

As I left the Breslin Center after the four state final boys' games, I thought about how well this tournament is run. My hat goes off to Nate Hampton and his crew for putting on a first class high school tournament.

My next thought was how BCAM has become more involved with the state finals. Our positive relationship with the MHSAA has allowed BCAM to host a hospitality room at the boys' tournament venue. Any of you that have taken advantage of this opportunity understand how convenient it is for members to stay at Breslin between games and not have to leave the arena.

BCAM is responsible for hosting a basketball clinic at the Hoopfest Event held at Jenison Fieldhouse. Dan Young and his group of coaches have conducted this clinic for Lansing area youngsters for the last four years.

Have you seen the Top Shooters Shootout during half-time of the girls and boys finals? This is a BCAM event with our Top Shooters in free throws and 3-point shooting taking part. Mark Bray, Top Shooters committee chair, has seen this shootout go from an after-thought to a prime time production in three years.

The state tourney is a great affair but BCAM has partnered with the MHSAA to make it even better.

As we head into spring and off-season time, please give yourself a break from basketball. Please give your players a break from basketball. Don't discourage their participation in other activities. In fact, you will gain favor with other coaches and administrators in your system if you encourage your players to try another sport. Studies have shown that participation in more than one sport is much healthier for students of all ages.



### DID YOU KNOW?

- BCAM and the MHSAA split the cost of the Hospitality Room at the boys' finals. Thanks MHSAA!
- Over 600 BCAM members, officials and guests registered for the Hospitality Room.
- The attendance for the four boys' state tournaments (districts through the finals) immediately following the "change in seasons" was down 22% compared to the four years prior to the "change in seasons." The girls' tournament saw a decrease over the same period of 9%. If someone mentions that the "change in seasons" had no effect on high school basketball, give them the facts.
- The basketball tournament was the main source of income to the MHSAA. This income paid for most of the expenses incurred by the MHSAA when conducting state tournaments for other sports.
- The general feeling from Athletic Administrators in Michigan is that the conduct of coaches was worse this season than in the past. Many reasons could be given, but maybe coaches need to ask themselves, "Is my conduct what I want to convey to my players, school and fans?"
- Over 300 schools (out of the 761 high schools in the state) signed up their entire basketball staff for BCAM membership by using the SCHOOL SPECIAL (\$80 – 15 coaches).
- Membership sign-up for 2012-13 will begin in June. Sign-up early so you don't miss any BCAM communication.
- Meijer underwrites our awards program. Their sponsorship pays for the numerous plaques and certificates that BCAM awards throughout the year.
- As a BCAM member you are also a member of the National High School Basketball Coaches Association (NHSBCA). Go to [www.nhsbca.org](http://www.nhsbca.org) to find out about this new organization for high school basketball coaches.
- BCAM has negotiated with the Michigan High School Coaches Association to allow ALL BCAM members to be a member of the MHSAA at no additional cost beginning in June.



- The winter Suits and Sneakers fundraisers around the state have raised over \$130,000.00 so far. If you have money from your event and need to turn it in, send it to: 20450 Civic Center Dr. Southfield, MI 48076 Attn: Beth Campbell.



## REGIONAL COACH OF THE YEAR

Ballots for Girls and Boys Regional H.S. Coaches of the Year were EMAILED to all “actively coaching” BCAM members on Monday, April 2. If you did not get your ballots, check your spam folder. If you still don’t find them, email [amy@bcam.org](mailto:amy@bcam.org). Voting ends April 12.

## MISS AND MR. BASKETBALL WINNERS:

Madison Ristovski (Grosse Pointe Woods University Liggett) is the 2011-12 Miss Basketball. Her coach is Joe Lamagno.

Matt Costello (Bay City Western) is the 2011-12 Mr. Basketball. His coach is Chris Watz.

**Read the Detroit Free Press press release and videos of these two great representatives of this award at:**

[www.bcam.org](http://www.bcam.org)

## TOP SHOOTER’S CHALLENGE AT BRESLIN:

The following are the winners of the Free Throw and 3-Point Shooting contest at the Girls and Boys State Finals. These players, along with many others, were nominated by their coach in time to qualify for this contest. They took part in a shoot-out earlier in the day. The top two qualifiers in each contest shot off for the championship at Breslin.

### Girls FT:

Lauren Hung (Waterford Mott) winner 3/4; Alexis Miller (Caledonia) runner-up 1/4

### Girls 3pt:

Karina Cole (Lincoln Alcona) winner 14/25; Gabby Yurik (Rochester Hills Stoney Creek) runner up 13/25

### Boys FT:

Ryan Carson (Boyne City) winner 10/10; Christopher Hass (Pellston) runner up 9/10

### Boys 3pt:

Nate Poll (Zeeland East) winner 16/25; Josh Schaffer (St. Joseph) runner up 14/25



## BOCCC Communication Article

*By Dan Christner, BCAM Board Member and Member of the BOCCC Committee*

**(Ed. Note: This is the third and last in a series of BOCCC articles)**

As an ongoing part of the Basketball Officials and Coaches Communication Committee (BOCCC), we offer articles designed to foster thought and discussion. Mindful of the idea that referees and coaches bear an equal responsibility in making basketball a great learning experience for the players, we offer the following forms of communication that detract from the game-day experience.

It is our sincere desire that this article serves to encourage thought and discussion among coaches and game officials for the betterment of our great game.

**What follows is a list of things that referees would rather not see or hear from coaches during a game. They are presented in no particular order.**

### 6. Ignoring a player’s behavior which has led to a technical foul.

Technical Fouls are a serious breach of the rules. Officials tend to reserve this punishment for only the most egregious infractions. If a referee has called such a foul on your player and you ignore the message, you are condoning the player’s behavior. This in effect amounts to showing up the referee.

*Point to Consider:* Depending on the severity of the infraction, temporarily remove the player from the game. In this way you can support the decision of the game official.

**7. Constant running commentary on how the game is being officiated.**

Officiating a game takes great concentration. Positioning, court coverage, constantly scanning the floor, timing issues, rule interpretations, etc. are continually going through the official's mind. A coach's on-going narrative relating to how the game is being officiated only serves to distract the referee from their primary job.

Just as you have learned to tune out the incessant noise of the kids on the bus ride to the game: the officials will tune out your nonstop complaining narrative.

*Point to Consider:* Pick your spots, without making a dramatic show of your concerns.



**This is a listing of things that coaches would prefer to not see or hear from officials.  
They are presented in no particular order.**

**5. No harm, no foul.**

The result of a play should not be justification for calling or not calling a foul. Example: Offensive player "A" jumps over the back of the defensive rebounder "B", clearly making contact. In spite of the contact, the defensive rebounder "B" secures the ball. No foul is called under the pretense that the defender got the ball. No harm, no foul.

The harm is done in the sense that the offending player did not exhaust one of their five allotted fouls. Again, some coaches factor into their game plans the goal of getting players on the other team in foul trouble, thereby reducing their effectiveness.

*Point to Consider:* A foul is a foul and a violation is a violation no matter when they occur in the course of play or what the outcome of the play may be.

**6 "We are going to let the players decide the outcome."**

For the first 31:00 of the game a certain level of contact has been permitted by the officials. However, during the final minute of the contest, play is allowed to get more physical under the pretense that "the players are going to determine the outcome of the game."

At the end of a game the team that is behind is often in the position of increasing their level of defensive intensity. The strategy here is that they are going to recklessly make plays for the ball in an effort to secure it or at least stop the clock with a foul. If the foul is not called, then there is no penalty for illegal play. Similar rough play occurs under the basket as players compete for a rebound.

*Point to Consider:* The time of game should have no bearing on the enforcement of the rules.



**WOODEN ON ASSISTANT COACHES:** Coach John Wooden always stressed the importance of being open-minded in everything in order to take advantage of every opportunity to learn something new. "The assistants were free to disagree," Coach said about his coaching team at UCLA. "Some wouldn't disagree that much while others frequently disagreed. I wanted them free to make suggestions. I think a yes-man as an assistant is absolutely no good at all. You need someone who is going to take issue. I wanted them to have ideas of their own and yet, at the same time, know that only one can make the final decision . . . If the decision that I made was contrary to what they believed, they had to accept it as if it were their own, even though they disagreed. That's something I learned in coaching, whether it be with assistants or players; when you disagree, don't be disagreeable about it."

**WOODEN ON MISTAKES:** "We must not be afraid to act. If we are afraid to do something for fear of making a mistake, we will not do anything at all. That is the worst mistake of all. You learn through adversity. We get stronger through adversity."

## Praise Is an Important Part of Coaching.

When you tell players they have done a job well--you create a special kind of pride. The natural reaction is to try even harder.

I have seen many practices during which little praise occurred. Coaches often take for granted a job well done and overlook a player who consistently does assignments right.

Why? Coaches are expected to keep their eyes out for errors, then to correct them. So the natural tendency is to be critical.

But the fact is criticism just doesn't motivate people as much as praise. With criticism, if they try harder, it is because they HAVE to. With praise, players try harder because they WANT to.

*From Glenn Wilkes*



### [5 Daily Steps to Balance Work & Family](#) by the Dads @ Fathers.com

In today's world, one of the most common and urgent needs among fathers is tips for managing their time. The ability to do this is a key to success at work and with your family, and the beginning of a new year might be a great time to start some new habits in this area.

A recent article offered time-management tips from Muhtar Kent, the CEO of Coca-Cola. His strategy involves five key tasks every day, which add up to a 60-minute investment that reinforces his top priorities.

Here is Mr. Kent's approach:

- He spends 15 minutes a day "**rehearsing**" so he can effectively communicate the company's vision.
- 10 minutes a day are devoted to **getting advice** from someone.
- Usually near the end of the day, he takes 20 minutes to **be responsive** and communicate to people in a timely manner.
- For 5 minutes a day, Mr. Kent **keeps a journal**.

These first four ideas are seemingly all about succeeding at work, but we could also apply them to fathering: rehearse communication; get advice; keep a journal; be responsive. Those are great habits for dads. But the fifth task for the remaining 10 minutes is what really caught our attention:

- **Phone home.** No matter how busy we are, it's vital, sometime during the day, to connect with the people closest to us. We can catch up on things, but this also grounds us and reminds us of what's most important.

#### **ACTION POINTS**

- Call home to check in with family members -- *every day*.
- Make unstructured time with your family members a high priority. (They probably don't like being squeezed into your busy schedule.)
- What time-wasting habits do you need to change? Ask those around you -- co-workers and family members.
- Use your errands and household projects as opportunities to spend more time with each of your children. (And expect the projects to take a bit longer than usual.)
- Renew your commitment to do regular one-on-one activities with each of your children this year -- maybe near their birthdays, half-birthdays, quarter and three-quarter birthdays.

## ***A Short Course In Human Relations***



The least important word: **I**

The most important word: **We**

The most important two words: **Thank you.**

The most important three words: **All is forgiven.**

The most important four words: **What is your opinion?**

The most important five words: **You did a good job.**

The most important six words: **I want to understand you better.**

To cultivate long lasting impactful relationships, make these words a regular part of your vocabulary. ***A Short Course In Human Relations***

George Raveling, former head coach at Washington State, Iowa, and Southern Cal, suggests this about practice drills:

- \* Ask yourself occasionally..."Why do we do this drill?...How often do we do this drill? Am I receiving the desired results?
- \* Every drill should have a NAME.
- \* Each drill should be multi-purpose.
- \* Perform drills at the full court level, 3/4 court, and half court level.
- \* Stress to players the importance of transferring the correct execution of drills to game situations.
- \* Drills require imagination and concentration.
- \* It's human nature...most players do not like drills...as a coach you must sell the VALUE of drill work.
- \* Create competition: (1) against clock; (2) against opponent, and (3) against SELF.

**Shared by Coach Glenn Wilkes**

### **A Lesson from BEAR BRYANT:**

"I am just a plow hand from Arkansas, but I have learned how to hold a team together.  
How to lift some men up, how to calm down others, until finally they've got one heartbeat together, a team."

There's 3 things I believe in strongly:

- \* If anything goes bad, I did it.
- \* If anything goes semi-good, then we did it.
- \* If anything goes real good, then you did it.

That's all it takes to get people to win football (basketball) games for you."

