



JANUARY, 2012 BCAM MONTHLY REPORT

Tom Hursey – Executive Director

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CLINIC CHANGES: As a result of the clinic survey conducted this fall (see December 2011 Monthly Report) the clinic committee has made the following changes:

- The BCAM coaches clinic will go from three days to a two day clinic – Friday & Saturday, October 5 & 6.
- Friday will be at the Causeway Bay Hotel, Lansing, MI
- There will be 5 sessions of break-out speakers Friday afternoon.
- Big coaches party Friday evening.
- Saturday - All day at Holt HS. On-court all day until 4 PM. Four speakers.
- Lunch will be included (Jersey Giant) in the clinic cost.
- Hall of Fame Banquet will be Sat. evening starting at 5 pm back at Causeway Bay Hotel.

CHANGES ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS: As most of you know, our long-time clinic director, **Ed Dutcher**, is stepping down. He has also resigned from the BCAM Board of Directors after serving over 20 years. We all thank Ed for his years of service. Our clinic has become one of the best in the country. Another change on our board is that **Glenn VanWieren** (Hope College) is also stepping down. Coach VanWieren has been the college representative for many years and has done a great job representing the college coaches in Michigan. Glenn wanted someone who was still coaching at the college level to step in and take over. BCAM is happy to announce that Ric Wesley (Men's Basketball at Grand Valley State University) has been appointed to replace Glenn as the Men's College Rep. Finally, **Warren Wood**, who has been our webmaster for the last 4 years, has moved into administration at Chesaning HS. Time constraints have forced Warren to step aside from BCAM. For now, Amy Heydenburg will be our main website coordinator. BCAM wishes the best to Ed, Glenn and Warren and thanks them for a job well done.

LANSING AREA OFFICIALS USING VIDEOS TO IMPROVE: The Capital Area Officials Association is addressing the issue of finding enough bodies and resources to evaluate themselves. Using monies raised from officiating scrimmages, the CAO has purchased \$10,000 in video and computer equipment that allows them to evaluate officials through the use of DVDs. The CAO gets volunteers to video the entire game, not just the live action. The footage is uploaded to a website so officials can download and view on their own time. Even though this evaluation process is being used for football, CAO Executive Director and BOCCC member Mike Conlin says that this same program will be used in basketball in the near future. BCAM commends Mike and the CAO for their efforts in improving officiating.

HALL OF HONOR: Coaches: during the course of the season make note of any person either on your staff or a major part of your program, that has spent over 20 years in basketball, that may be deserving of a spot in our Hall of Honor. The categories are assistant coaches, friends of basketball, officials and media. If there is a good candidate please get the nomination form off of our web site (under FORMS) and mail it to our Hall of Honor chairman Fred Shaw (112 Davis, Marysville MI 48040). Have a great season!

KROSSOVER: I just spoke with the CEO of Krossover and he says their company is processing over 500 team videos. They will turn around 10,000-12,000 games this season. They have over 100 teams on a "wait list" for next year. Hopefully they can expand their business to be able to handle the overload next season. (www.krossover.com)

METRO DETROIT BASKETBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION: Many of you have been involved with or are hearing about the MDBCA. As stated in the following article, BCAM is supporting the concept that the MDBCA is promoting. Read this article to better understand the program that the Metro Detroit coaches are promoting:

<http://www.detnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/201112190100/SPORTS05/112190332>

PRESIDENT-ELECT NOMINATIONS: BCAM has a rotating system for our Presidents. We elect a President-Elect in the spring of each year, rotating between a girl's high school varsity coach one year and a boy's high school varsity coach the next. The new President-Elect serves in that capacity on the Board of Directors for one year. The second year he/she serves as President and the third year as Past President. **This year we are looking for nominations that are GIRL'S VARSITY COACHES. If you are interested, please send Tom Hursey a brief resume of your coaching experience.** The BCAM Executive Board will narrow the nominees down to three. The BCAM membership will vote for the President-Elect in early February. Resumes can be emailed (bcamtom@aol.com) or mailed: 2296 Taos Trail, Okemos MI 48864. Resume deadline is January 17, 2012.

MENTORING: You are now in the midst of the season. You are coaching middle school, junior varsity or varsity, girls or boys. You are winning, happy, enjoying the ride. OR you are losing, questioning yourself, dealing with unhappy parents, hoping things would change. What to do? Many of you will tough it out by yourself. A few of you will talk with other coaches in your system. I recommend you consider checking out the mentor list on the BCAM website (www.bcam.org COACHES RESOURCE LIST) and ask someone on that list what they did to deal with your situation. We have all been through what you are going through. Find out how they dealt with your concerns.

FINALLY...For all you “old” coaches, you will enjoy this short video (“young” coaches should enjoy also):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=K5DnCzzKCzg

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

Coaches vs. Cancer is a collaborative initiative of the American Cancer Society and the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NA BC), empowering coaches, their teams and local communities to make a difference in the fight against cancer. Since 1993 the initiative has raised more than \$70 million dollars to fund groundbreaking research, provide up-to-date cancer information, advocate for public health policies and deliver services to improve the 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. 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.

Last year, BCAM members helped the American Cancer Society raise more than \$165,000 through Coaches vs. Cancer activities at high schools throughout Michigan, and this year we hope to do even more. To help support Coaches vs. Cancer at your school, the American Cancer Society will provide a 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.

Coaches may schedule a fundraising activity on any date throughout the season or during the Society’s national Coaches vs. Cancer “Suits and Sneakers” awareness campaign, which will be held the week of January 22-29, 2012.

To learn more or request a Coaches vs. Cancer kit for your school, contact Beth Campbell at 248.663.3476 or beth.campbell@cancer.org .



Time For a Code of Ethics for Coaches and Officials?

By Randy Hutton, MHSAA Official and Member of the BOCCC Committee



In this day of instantaneous multi-media and social networking, it has become increasingly apparent that high school coaches and officials may need some form of documented ethical guidelines in order to always maintain a positive light on high school sports and sportsmanship. Speaking negatively about an official or coach doesn’t do either party any good, nor does it set a good example for our spectators and student athletes.

Coaches and officials should always place an emphasis on positive relationship building between them. When either role publicly makes derogatory remarks about one another, the results can significantly erode the environment of good sportsmanship, which is the foundation that high school athletics are built upon. Promoting good sportsmanship should be the lesson coaches and officials should be teaching.

In order to address the potential for public criticism of coaches, players and officials (and the subsequent degradation of sportsmanship) a document was introduced and implemented in the Saginaw Valley High School Association in 1985 to address such issues for coaches and officials. This same code of ethics also was adopted and used by the Genesee County Coaches and Officials Association since 1974.

It is my hope that other leagues and officials associations across Michigan will take this tool and implement it in order to improve and encourage a positive relationship between coaches and officials and promote good sportsmanship.

Saginaw Valley High School Association

CODE OF ETHICS

COACHES CODE OF ETHICS

The following Official's Code of Ethics was approved by the Saginaw Valley principals and athletic directors on Tuesday, March 12, 1985.

PURPOSE: Code of Ethics for all coaches to use as a guideline for professional conduct with the Saginaw Valley High School Association.

I. A coach must develop a good rapport with any group or individual (team personnel, student body, and involved professional staff (building and grounds, insurance, medicine, police, security, etc.) with the community as a whole and particularly with the spectator and support constituents with media representatives; with fellow coaches within the conference and surrounding school districts. Under no circumstances does this become a mere popularity contest, but there is no denying the value of positive public relations in enhancing the image or individual schools and the Saginaw Valley High School Association. Therefore, the intent of this document is to provide guidelines to address problems that may arise in the above-mentioned areas.

II. Areas of concern which would include, but are not necessarily limited to, are the following. As members of the Saginaw Valley High School Association, coaches are expected to:

- A. Refrain from using derogatory remarks to officials and coaches
- B. Refrain from harassing or pursuing officials during or after a contest.
- C. Refrain from verbally assaulting officials in a demonstrative manner.
- D. Refrain from entering the officials dressing quarters after a contest to verbally assault officials or coaches.
- E. Refrain from contacting officials in any way and verbally assaulting in a disrespectful manner.
- F. Refrain from consuming alcoholic beverages or drugs, unless specifically prescribed by a physician, on the day of a game prior to the game he/she is coaching.

III. As coaches your performance in the Saginaw Valley High School Association is to be of the highest quality. Therefore, you are expected to:

- A. Be a good ambassador between the schools and public.
- B. Teach and practice true sportsmanship.
- C. Be humble in victory and courageous in defeat.
- D. Respect and support officials at all times.
- E. Never publicly criticize coaches or officials.
- F. Never engage in conduct detrimental to players, officials, or spectators.
- G. Conduct yourselves as worthy members of the profession.
- H. Be no party to the use of profanity or obscene language.
- I. Develop friendly, respectful, and courteous relationships with members, schools, athletes and coaches.



IV. Each coach must remember that he/she is a living example for all young students in the community in which they coach. It is vitally important to the coach and to the profession which they represent that their actions and behavior at all times brings credit to athletics.

V. It is the responsibility of each school to monitor the coach's conduct, and any complaints by a member school or outside agency against another school should be followed up according to the procedure for the Resolution of Alleged Violation:

Step 1:

When alleged violations have been identified, the athletic director of the grieving school will share pertinent information with the athletic director of the other school(s) involved in the grievance for the purpose of discussion and informal investigation. Said grievance shall be made no later than five (5) school days after the alleged incident, and resolution of the problem will be achieved within five (5) school days of the receipt of the grievance unless the athletic directors involved mutually agree to extend this timeline. Every effort should be made to reconcile differences at this level.

Step 2:

Following Step 1, if the problem is unresolved, the principal of the grieving school will share pertinent information with the principal of the other school(s) involved in the grievance for purposes of discussion and informal investigation. The grievance shall be made in writing by the principal of the school(s) involved. A copy of the grievance shall be directed to the Executive Secretary of the Saginaw Valley High School Association. Such grievance shall set forth in detail the nature of the complaint, date and place of occurrence and the specific redress sought. Every effort shall be made by the schools involved to resolve the situation. A five (5) school day limit shall be placed on said efforts unless an extension is agreed upon by the principals involved. Should the grievance be resolved, a letter describing the details of the resolution sought shall be sent to the principal of the grieving school with a copy to the Executive Secretary of the Saginaw Valley High School Association.

Step 3:

Following Step 2, if the problem is unresolved, the league President, if a neutral party, if not, the Executive Secretary, will appoint one principal and one athletic director who are not party to the grievance to serve with them to investigate the alleged violation. This committee will report, in writing, to the league within ten (10) school days of its involvement. The report shall include a summary of the investigation, findings, recommendations to prevent such further acts, and a statement of the disciplinary action, if any. Such action may include, but not be limited to, a warning letter, censure, probation and termination of league membership. The league will, by a three-quarter majority of the full membership, approve said recommendation. Inasmuch as one of the major purposes of this procedure is to maintain excellent rapport within and among Saginaw Valley League schools, it is anticipated that with the recommendation of the investigation committee, recommendation as to how to prevent the particular problem in question in the future would be made.



OFFICIALS CODE OF ETHICS

The following Official's Code of Ethics was approved by the Saginaw Valley principals and athletic directors on Tuesday, March 12, 1985.

1. No official may consume any alcoholic beverage on the day of a game prior to the game he is working.
2. No official may take any drug on the day of the game unless specifically prescribed by a doctor.
3. No official shall publicly criticize fellow officials or coaches (e.g. booster meetings, or in any public gathering other than at our own meetings). This is also a violation of the Code of Ethics published in the Officials Manual.
4. No official shall break a game contract assignment without approval of assigning commissioner. Officials must report at game site will in advance of game starting time.
5. All officials should practice good grooming while officiating, and dress in conformance with the official's manual.
6. No official shall frequent an establishment that sells or distributes alcoholic beverages while in officiating uniform.
7. Officials will refrain from using profane, derogatory remarks to administrative personnel, coaches, players or spectators.
8. Officials will cultivate courteous, respectful attitudes with administrative personnel, coaches, or players, and promote sportsmanship at all times.
9. Officials shall not express or display a biased opinion or attitude toward a school, team, coach or spectators.

Athletic directors and officials should report improper conduct by an official to the President of the association in writing within seven (7) days of when the incident occurred. Any violation of items # 1 through # 9 will be addressed by a standard numbered grievance form, supplied by the secretary of the Genesee County Coaches and Officials Association and sent to the President of the association/chairperson of the Ethics committee.

A five person Ethics committee will be made up of the President of the association, and directors of each sport (football, basketball, volleyball, baseball & softball) in the association.

Courses of action could be; censure, suspension, disbarment, from the association, or a combination of these. These actions will be in writing per the chairperson of the Ethics Committee.

The official could be cleared of charges, but if proven guilty he/she has a right to appeal, in writing, before the Executive Committee, and appeal must be made within fourteen (14) calendar days after the decision is rendered by the Ethics Committee.

From “Wooden’s Wisdom” (<http://www.woodencourse.com/>)

Content makes poor men rich, discontent makes rich men poor.

Take time to live, it is the secret of success.

Take time to think, it is the source of power.

Take time to play, it is the secret of youth.

Take time to read, it is the foundation of knowledge.

Take time for friendship, it is the source of happiness.

Take time to laugh, it helps lift life’s load.

Take time to dream, it hitches the soul to the stars.

Take time for God, it is life’s only lasting investment.

(Ed. Note: Take time for family in 2012 – Happy New Year!)



CHARACTER COUNTS with Michael Josephson: COURTESY IS KINDNESS IN ACTION

As a society, we have become almost obsessed with identifying and asserting our rights – to think, say, and do what we want. That’s not surprising, given the history of our country and the prominent role the Constitution and Bill of Rights have played in shaping our culture.

We have a right to be unkind, thoughtless, and disrespectful – but it isn’t right.

Ralph Waldo Emerson pointed out, “Life is short but there is always time for courtesy.”



The idea is to act in ways that make the people we are dealing with feel valued. Courtesy is kindness in action.

It starts with good manners – saying please, thank you, and excuse me. But real courtesy involves more thoughtful ways of showing respect. Courtesy is a form of kindness.

It matters how we address people and how we greet them, as well as how we eat, talk, and cough in their presence.

Courtesy involves remembering important occasions, buying thoughtful gifts, and sending personal thank-you notes.

Making people feel important is part of courtesy, so it’s important to remember that whether or not people remember what we say or do, they do remember how we made them feel.

Make eye contact, truly listen, and show genuine interest in the lives of others by asking them questions and remembering their answers. A good start is to keep in mind H. Jackson Brown’s insight: “Everyone you meet is afraid of something, loves something, and has lost something.”

Always be kinder than necessary because you can never be too kind.

This is Michael Josephson reminding you that character counts.

--For more on Character Counts go to: <http://charactercounts.org/>

How To Be A Great Teacher: 19 Qualities You Should Possess

Those were the constant words my teachers would hear coming out of my tiny mouth. Luckily I had some great teachers and mentors who did not get discouraged and would inspire me to reach new heights. We are all unique beings with diverse talents and perspectives that have capacity to teach others. Fortunately teaching does not have to be something that is confined only to the classroom.

We can all contribute something valuable, and if we cultivate a few qualities can make our contribution more meaningful by teaching and motivating others along the way. Below are some qualities one should strive for in becoming a great teacher. Remember to not overestimate others and never underestimate yourself, if you look deep enough you have something to teach the world. One of the greatest feelings you will ever get is to be a part of another human beings progress.

Top 19 Qualities To Cultivate:



1. Engaging/ Relevant: Teaching is a two way street, if the student is not engaged, your efforts will have been wasted. You need to get a student interested, excited, and enthusiastic about learning. Get to know your students desires, how can you teach in a way that is relevant to the things they want.
2. Good Evaluators: Good teachers are aware of their student's skill sets and abilities. They are able to teach without getting to far ahead of their students abilities. They are able to stimulate the student to the next level of progress. They know when to push their students and when to back off and give them space to contemplate on their own.
3. Creative: To be a great teacher you need to have an open mind and be creative in your approaches to teaching. Everyone learns in different ways, so you must find new creative exciting ways to make learning an enjoyable experience.
4. Good Attitude: Your attitude determines everything, when you have a great attitude you take great pride in sharing what you know, and the student will also be more receptive to you.
5. Clear/Concise: One of my pet peeves was when my teachers made a simple exercise complicated by giving unclear instructions. Many times people like to complicate things to seem intelligent or superior. Remember this is not about you; make sure you make it as easy as possible for a student to learn.
6. Organized: Time is precious and many don't have the luxury to spend large amounts of time learning something new. Make sure to think ahead of anything you might need and be prepared so that you are able to focus on the learning experience.
7. Clear Objectives: Students need a target, be upfront with what they will be learning. If your idea is too vague or abstract a student will see no point in paying attention.
8. Empathy: Depending on your students abilities, learning complex ideas can be emotionally draining. When your students hit a wall or an obstacle, empathize with them. Try to focus on the positive, find ways to encourage them to fight through the difficulties.
9. Flexible: Many times things don't go according to plan, if something is not working, re group and try a new approach.
10. Genuine/ Interested: Have a sincere interest in your students, if they know you care, they will go the extra mile to do their part. This is also an opportunity for you to learn as well.

11. Sober/ Professional: I remember having a few college professors who had to be drunk; there could not be another explanation to why the lecture was so terrible. Your appearance matters as well, think about what context and learning environment you will be in.
12. Knowledgeable: As obvious as this sounds, if you are not knowledgeable on a certain topic how can you teach it to someone else. Once you have your objective, make sure you do the necessary research, so that you can be confident in your ability to teach. If you are teaching something that is highly specialized, make sure you make the effort to continue your education. Subscribe to trade magazines, read up on the latest developments, go to seminars, etc.
13. Balance: Creating balance in our lives is critical. If we are to be good teachers we need to have a good balance in our mind, body, and spirit. When we neglect a certain aspect to our being, its effects spill over and sabotage our efforts.
14. Inspiring: A teacher who can inspire their students has the potential to awaken talents, that the students were not even aware they possessed. Someone who is inspired will go to great lengths to see their objective carried out.
15. Confidence: A teacher, who is confident in himself, will teach in a way that instills confidence in the student. The student will be assured that what they are learning is valuable and accurate. If a student senses that you are not confident in yourself will doubt your abilities to teach. If my friend is teaching me how to approach women but he himself is not confident in his ideas, how will I be confident in applying what he is trying to teach me.
16. Respectful: Learn to be aware of age, gender, and cultural differences. We all come from different backgrounds learn to be respectful and seek to understand others.
17. Clear Expectations: Don't promise a Mercedes Benz if you can only deliver a Ford Escort. Make sure you set realistic expectations in your student, then strive to go above and beyond.
18. Keep your ego in check: This is all about the learning process, don't take anything personally when you commit a mistake or your student proves that you are wrong. Teaching is a very fulfilling and rewarding experience if you don't let your ego get involved.
19. Adaptable: Finally the last quality to a great teacher is his ability to adapt. Change is the only constant, when circumstances change, learn to let go and embrace whatever is needed to progress.

Well there you have it, 19 qualities that if you are able to cultivate within you, will almost guarantee that you become a stellar teacher in and out of the classroom. Keep growing, keep evolving, and keep shining.

The Dangers of Being Too Good Too Early

by Andy Louder

This might seem like an odd title to an article targeting an audience looking to become good at the game of basketball. After all, you are trying to become the best you can be so you might be asking yourself "why in the world is there danger in being too good? Isn't that what I'm striving for?"

Don't get me wrong, there is nothing wrong with being a dominant basketball player at a young age. In fact, if you are really good at a young age you have a huge advantage over your peers and you should consider yourself lucky. However, there IS a dark-side to being really good at an early age that doesn't get talked about very often.

A few weeks ago I had the privilege of having a long basketball discussion with one of the better High School coaches in America today. The Coach I'm referring to is Robert Smith of Simeon High School in Chicago, Illinois. Simeon is one of the best programs in the country and every year is loaded to the gills with talent. Many players have gone on from Simeon to play in the NBA and every year they have a handful of players that go on to play Division I college ball.

NBA rookie of the year Derrick Rose played under Coach Smith at Simeon a few years back and some of the things that Coach Smith was telling me about Derrick's rise to the top really hit home with the topic of this article. He said when Derrick was in the 6th or 7th grade he wasn't really on the map like a few other kids in the Chicago area were.

He said that the first time he saw Derrick play was when he went to watch a game involving another kid that was getting all the hype around Chicago. He said that about mid-way through the game he began to realize that this Derrick Rose kid could develop into a better player than the superstar kid that was getting all the hype.

Coach Smith of course ended up being right. Derrick Rose had an amazing High School career, went on to be the best college basketball player in the nation the next year and then won the NBA's Rookie of the Year Award last year.



The point I'm trying to make is that every year in every area of the country there are really talented kids that get pegged as the next superstar to come out of their area and more times than not they get passed up. It could be at the Jr. High level that they get passed up, sometimes it's during High School and sometimes it's that first year or two in college. Sometimes when I hear about a young player getting a lot of recognition I feel sorry for them. It sounds strange I know but I've just seen it happen too many times. Most kids aren't mature enough psychologically to handle all the attention and don't see the world as it really is. This ultimately stunts their growth and they end up with a lot of regret as they enter adulthood.

If you happen to be a really talented young player don't let this confuse you or get you down. Be proud of what you have accomplished and keep working hard. If you follow the advice in the next part of this article you WILL go on to meet your goals and turn out to be the player you and everyone else thought you'd be. It's those players that aren't reading this article that are in trouble!

Look outside your community. This is one that gets really talented players from smaller towns in trouble all the time. If you are really good and live in a small town it's easy to get a big head. You get so use to dominating most of the other kids in your area you start to think that all competition is as inferior as everyone in your community.

You've got to constantly remind yourself that no matter how good you are in your area there are kids in surrounding areas of you that are better. You can't just be satisfied playing at the level of competition in your area. You should get out and try to play in AAU leagues or get involved in tournaments in bigger regions on a regular basis. This way it will always be fresh in your memory how many other good players there are out there and that if you don't keep giving it all you've got you'll get left in the dust.

Realize that life as an athlete in Jr. High and High School isn't reality. In most areas around the country the kids that dominate in school sports are somewhat idolized. They are very popular in most cases and get a lot of attention. If you find yourself in these shoes right now, great. There's nothing wrong with enjoying this time but you really need to realize that when you are done with school these days will come to a screeching halt and you'll soon realize just how unimportant you are. I know that sounds harsh but it is what it is. Don't think that because you are the highlight of your school newspaper that you are destined for greatness, you need to keep working harder than ever so that when you graduate you can stay competitive with all the other thousands of athletes that were worshipped in their schools and now looking to compete at the next level.

Don't underestimate the power of hunger. Imagine for a second two similar animals hunting for food. One had a very good lunch a few hours ago and the other hasn't eaten in 2 days. Who do you think is going to fight harder for the food? Yes of course, the hungrier animal. How does this apply to basketball? Let me explain.

Many young players get really good early on and forget what it's like to hunger for greatness. They start to move past their peers and when they get far enough ahead it's easy for them to start to relax. I've seen situations where kids were so further ahead of everyone their age as freshman it's not even funny and then by the time they are a senior they have been passed up. All because the other kids were a lot hungrier and were working their tails off.

--From Hoops Skills