



NOVEMBER, 2012

BCAM MONTHLY REPORT

Tom Hursey – Executive Director

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

HERE WE GO AGAIN: In a matter of weeks you will be heading into another basketball season. Great expectations and excitement to see if your team is a contender or a pretender. Every year I mention that the most important pre-season meeting you have will be that meeting with your players' parents. First, if you don't have one, you are making a **BIG** mistake. Your parents will have more influence on the success of your team than you might think. They need to know what you are doing, when you will do it and how you plan to go about doing it. You need to be specific about your practice plans and practice times. Are parents allowed to attend practices? Will you let families know your practice schedule ahead of time so they can make plans? How do you determine your starting line-up? What is your philosophy about playing time? Will you play 7-8 players until the outcome of the game is determined? Or will you try to play everybody? Your parents need to know. How will you use social media to communicate with the players? With the parents? How should parents contact you? Does your school have a policy for parents voicing their concerns about the coach? Are they allowed to start at the top or must they start with the coach and work up? These are just a few questions that need to be answered at a meeting with parents **BEFORE** the games begin. I have found if the parents know what and why you are doing certain things, they might not agree, but they at least are aware of how you make decisions. X's and O's don't get you dismissed from a coaching assignment, parents and lack of communication do.

MEMBERSHIP: Many of you have signed up your staff with the School Special (\$80 - 15 coaches). If you haven't filled all the spots, consider adding your middle school and elementary coaches. Many ADs sign up too so they can see what BCAM is all about. Just contact Amy in the BCAM office (amy@bcam.org) with names, their level and email address. If you don't have the School Special but want to add it, you can pay the difference. Our goal this year is 4500 members.



NEW CLINIC CHANGES A SUCCESS: I am happy to report that the changes to the clinic format were well received. The two-day clinic with expanded on-court presentations and smaller break-out sessions was a success. Even the Hall of Fame Banquet had 350 participants which is about a normal amount even though the banquet was at the end of the clinic. Again our speakers did a tremendous job. Tom Izzo got us off to a great start and impressed the BCAM membership with his comments about supporting our association and each other. The clinic offered a wide variety of speakers that covered all

aspects of coaching. Kim Barnes Arico (U of M Women) brought great enthusiasm to her on-court presentation. The U of M program should be in good hands with Kim. The clinic committee will continue to tweak the clinic offerings to make sure we give the BCAM membership exactly what they want. If you have any comments or concerns about our 2012 clinic, please pass them on to our clinic director, Greg Mitchell (Laingsburg), at gbmitch@hotmail.com.



OAKLAND UNIV. COACH, BECKIE FRANCIS, BREAKS SILENCE ABOUT SEXUAL ABUSE:

Click on this link and read about the courageous decision Coach Francis made. This is a must read for all coaches.

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iQgmQ_144MyAR3Z9DsNSTwSZNh6w?docId=b56156a2d8f14beda843874568346c20

PISTONS DROP THEIR SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORSHIP: We are sorry to report that the Detroit Pistons have decided not to underwrite the BCAM Scholarship Program any longer. They have done so for the past 12 years but their new ownership does not believe that BCAM warrants their support. I tried to explain that NBA teams should support the high school coaches in their state. Since every player on a NBA team was once a high school player, it seems natural that those teams would want to support the coaches and programs that feed their rosters. If anyone has connections to the Pistons' upper management and can reach out to them, please explain that renewing this long standing relationship would be good for both parties.



NEW RECRUITING GUIDELINES: If you are fortunate to have a D-1 player (or more) in your program, you need to be aware of the changes that the NCAA has made with their Initial-Eligibility Standards. These changes affect ninth graders for the first time. You should make sure your counselors are aware of these changes as well as the player and his/her parent. Go to the following link for the new guidelines.

www.nabc.org/quick_reference_sheet-1.pdf

BOCCC AT THE BCAM CLINIC: Tyler Hursey (Okemos) - BOCCC Member

I had the pleasure of sitting in on the BOCCC presentation at the BCAM Clinic on October 5 in Lansing. The panel, consisting of Mark Uyl, Dan Christner, Mike Conlin, and Joe Ricard, gave their thoughts and answered questions from the coaches in attendance. I thought they offered some great insight. Some of the main points of the presentation were:



- Coaches and officials both love the game of basketball. Let's work together to make it a positive experience for kids.
 - Coaches want to win and have their teams improve, officials want a fairly administered game. Respect the roles that the other one has, especially during the game.
 - When talking to an official during a game, ask appropriate questions. Don't just complain.
- As coaches, do what you can to make it so officials can focus on the game. For example, make sure your kids' shirts are tucked in when they check into the game.

After hearing what was said at this presentation, I have a few suggestions for coaches for the upcoming season:

- Think about how your interactions with officials during a game represent you, your team, and your school.
- Make sure you do your ratings for officials. These are the biggest factor in selecting which officials will work the state tournament games.
- Invite an official to a practice or parent meeting. Have the official explain new rules, old rules that are misinterpreted and proper conduct.
- Find one senior player or student in your school who would make a good official and encourage them to get involved in officiating.

CALEDONIA HIGH SCHOOL IS JOINING WITH THE FALLEN AND WOUNDED SOLDIERS FUND in support of our servicemen and women. Our Varsity Girls and Boys Basketball teams are planning to host a Camouflage game on Friday, December 14, 2012 versus the South Christian Sailors. The Boys Varsity game begins at 6:00 pm and the Girls Varsity game at 7:30pm. One hundred percent (100%) of the proceeds of this event will be donated to this non-profit, non-partisan 501(c) (3) organ-



ization. We are honored to help injured soldiers pay their living expenses, and provide assistance to the families of the fallen. All of us owe our freedom and way of life to the sacrifices made by every man and woman that has served in the United States Armed Forces. Each and every one of us knows someone that has served this great country. Now let's show our appreciation. This event has the potential to impact thousands of people throughout our community and in the State of Michigan. Please join the Fighting Scots in making a difference. You may see the following website to sponsor the event, http://www.fwsf.org/upcoming_events.html

We sincerely hope you will take the time to do so. If you have any questions feel free to contact Coach Joe Harvey, Girl's Varsity Basketball, Region 7 Director, harveyj@calschools.org

BEST WESTERN PLUS IS OFFERING BCAM MEMBERS A SPECIAL RATE: When in the Lansing area and you are looking for a nice place to stay, you can now stay at our clinic hotel, Best Western Plus, for a special BCAM rate. Your rate is \$92.50 with no breakfast or \$98.50 with breakfast and your price is good for either two (2) Queen Beds or one (1) King Bed. When arriving, sign up as a **Best Western Preferred Customer**, which is no charge and for every night you stay in a Best Western Hotel, you are awarded points towards a free night. This rate is good for BCAM members, officials, friends and family. They do not check ID's or need letters from BCAM proving that they are using the BCAM rate. We look forward to this partnership for years to come.

JOHN WOODEN REVISITED: The following is an excerpt from the letter Coach John Wooden sent to his 1970-71 team in which he explains he will be available to listen but also clarifies his role as a leader.

Come in and talk to me whenever you feel like it, but please remember that it isn't necessarily lack of communication if we fail to agree on your position or the position of another on the team. I am and will always be interested in your problems, but do feel that everyone should do everything possible to work out his own problems rather than become dependent upon others. I have found prayer most helpful when I am troubled, and believe that all prayers are heard and answered, even though the answer may be no.

For more information, visit www.WoodenCourse.com

Brown on Defense

These defensive bites from Larry Brown.

"I never remember losing a game because of constant back doors or lobs by the opponent. That's why I want to make offensive players 'drivers' by pressuring the ball. And, off the ball, I want to take away passes by denying."

"You can't pressure the ball on the perimeter and then allow it to be easily passed to the post. Front the post when you pressure the ball. "

"In the NBA you can't allow the offense to run their plays. They will kill you. You must disrupt."

"As a college coach I spent 30 minutes per practice on guarding the dribble."

"On defense I love to deny one pass away. Don't let the offense change sides with the ball."

"Why would the defense double team in a late clock situation? You will give up a shot unnecessarily."

"Work on 'shell defense' everyday. Don't get caught up in the offense's alignment, mix it up."

Shared by Brian Williams of The Coaching Tool Box

JUST ME

From the time I was little I knew I was great
'cause the people would tell me - "you'll make it - just wait."
But they never did tell me how great I would be
if I ever played someone who was greater than me.

When I'm in my backyard - I'm king with the ball.
To swish all those baskets is no sweat at all.
But all of a sudden there's a man in my face
who doesn't seem to realize - I'm king of this place.

So the pressure gets to me - I rush with the ball.
My passes to teammates could fly through the wall.
My jumpers not falling - my dribbles not sure.
My hand is not steady - my eye is not pure.

The fault is my teammates - they don't understand.
The fault is my coach's - what a terrible plan.
The fault is the call by that blind referee
but the fault is not mine - I'm the greatest you see.

Then finally it hits me when I started to see
that the face in the mirror looks exactly like me.
It wasn't my teammates who were dropping the ball
and it wasn't my coach shooting bricks at the wall.

That face in the mirror that was always so great
had some room for improvement - instead of just hate.
So I stopped blaming others and I started to grow.
My play got much better and it started to show.

And all of my teammates didn't seem quite so bad.
I learned to depend on the good friends I had.
Now I like myself better since I started to see -
I was lousy being great - I'm much better being me.

Tom Krause

"Greatness is not about someone who has the ability to be great...Greatness shows up when someone might not have the ability but finds a way to succeed. They outwork their opponents, they outhit their opponents, they outfight their opponents. They want it more. Don't give me the guy who's supposed to be all-world and you've got to try and talk him into something. Give me the guy who has maybe just enough talent to be on the field but thinks he's great, and who's willing to do whatever he can do to contribute, to make the team better. That's what I want..."

-- Mike Singletary

