

BCAM Monthly Report



Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan

From Tom's Desk:

The next two months are a busy time for the BCAM office and for each of you. But as the saying goes, "if you want something done, ask a busy person to do it." We are entering the time of the year that varsity coaches need to submit nomination forms for the many awards that BCAM offers. We also will be voting for our new President-Elect, Mr. and Miss Basketball, and Coaches of the Year. For the first time the voting process will be done online. This will allow us to wait until later in the season so our selection of nominees will be more accurate. So I am asking that members read the information about nomination forms below and follow directions.

Is there any way to justify winning a basketball game 100-0? Not knowing all the details, I can't say for sure. But hopefully each of you would find a way to prevent this from happening. The Texas coach, who lost his job as a result of not apologizing for his team's lopsided win, surely could have done something to prevent the final score. If you are ever in this

situation, please do whatever you can to stop the humiliation.

Details of a new BCAM program to assist members are listed below. Please read these over. If a member suffers a catastrophic situation, i.e., house burns down, debilitating injury, sickness in family, etc. BCAM can now step forward with some financial help. Hopefully this fund doesn't have to be used much, but it is there when needed.

Another reminder is that Rawlings will be the ball of the entire state tournament in 2009-10. Make sure you purchase your Rawlings balls this spring and summer so you are ready for the tournament. When members buy Rawlings balls, BCAM also benefits.

Lastly, please make it a habit to check out the BCAM website. It continues to include more information that you will find interesting and useful. It is our main method of communication. If you can't find what you need on the website, contact me and I will help you with any concerns or questions.

Good luck in the tournament.

Please make note that the GIRLS Reaching Higher Showcase date has changed. The new date is April 19th instead of April 26th. The event will still be held at South Lyon HS. (The Boys Showcase will remain on the 26th.)

Nomination Forms Available

All of the Nomination Forms are now available on www.bcam.org. I suggest you make a note to go to the BCAM website and download the forms that you would like to fill out for your players and team. These blank forms will not be mailed to you. Please make sure you return them by the deadline listed on the form. PLEASE FOLLOW DIRECTIONS AND PRINT CLEARLY.

FEBRUARY CALENDAR:

**1- All Award
Nomination forms
available on
BCAM website**

**2- President-Elect
ballot
emailed/mailed
to members.**

**10- Pres-Elect
emailed ballots
due**

**15- Deadline for
Joining BCAM for
08-09**

**20-Pres-Elect
"USPS-mailed"
ballots due**

BCAM's "Coaches' Assist Program"

A financial assistance program for those BCAM members who find themselves in a catastrophic situation.

Process:

- Situation is presented to the Executive Board by members or Regional Directors. Send to Tom Hursey at bcamtom@aol.com. The Executive Board makes a decision on the proposal as to the need and the amount of payment.
- Or if the situation is urgent, the Executive Director can make a decision to act quickly if the response needs to be immediate.

Limit:

- \$1000 maximum payment per situation.

Fund:

- The Coaches Assist Fund will be funded by:
 - Corporate Sponsorship income.

Catastrophic Situation:

This fund is for very drastic situations in which a member and/or his/her family is faced with a financial crisis. The situation will be evaluated by the Executive Board on a case by case basis. The decision of the Executive Board will be final.

Coach Kay Yow: A Legacy that Transcends Sport

Jeff Janssen, Janssen Sports Leadership Center

Much More Than a Basketball Coach.

Imagine winning 727 games, advancing to 20 NCAA Tournaments, 11 Sweet Sixteens, one Final Four, and coaching the U.S. Olympic team to a Gold Medal finish. A pretty phenomenal coaching career to say the least!

Yet with all these amazing accomplishments on the court, Kay Yow's greatest legacy is what she accomplished off the court. She has been a true inspiration to so many for so long through her coaching career and her courageous and inspiring battle with cancer.

Never one to pity her predicament, Coach Yow has been the epitome of a SURVIVOR. She has dedicated her life to being an inspiration to women, men, and cancer-survivors around the world. She has raised tremendous awareness about cancer, dedicated her life toward combating it, and taught us all how to battle adversity with tremendous grace and tenacity.

She was a true servant leader to all who came in contact with her. I had the privilege to work closely with Coach Yow's program a few years ago and will always feel most grateful for a chance to work with the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Family because of her generosity and compassion. Coach Yow truly was a humble servant leader who always put the needs of her team, staff, and others ahead of her own.

Her amazing life and legacy challenges everyone, especially coaches, to examine the kind of impact we want to have – not just in sport, but more importantly, in life. While she accomplished so much on the court, it pales in comparison to the impact she made off the court. She mentored generations of women to succeed and be leaders in the game of life, spawned a significant "Think Pink" movement across the basketball world for breast

(continued on page 3)

Coach Yow continued:

cancer awareness and treatment, and modeled grace and dignity in the face of a cruel disease. *We will miss you Coach Yow. You have inspired us, served us,*

and challenged us by your humble example. Thank you! Your memory lives on in the lives of all you impacted!

MIDDLE SCHOOL NOTES

by Kris Stanton, Concord Middle School

I've never met a basketball coach who didn't use a cliché at one point or another. With that being said, let me remind you that "All good things must come to an end." Additionally, I'd like to point out that "When one door closes, another opens." If you read long enough, both of these phrases will connect to this column, I promise.

Good would be an understatement when describing the work that Gary Dewey put into his Middle School Notes portion of the BCAM newsletter and most recently BCAM's online monthly reports. Month after month, Gary's responses became my favorite section in the BCAM publications. While Gary will no longer be writing for BCAM in this capacity, the column itself will live on through a plethora of ramblings, anecdotes, and things to think about from yours truly. My hopes are that not only will the column still serve as an interesting and insightful read for middle school basketball coaches around Michigan but more importantly continue along the path of excellence that Gary has paved.

Gary and I first waxed eloquently over the idea of zone defense in the middle school game. Like virtually all coaches, I support man to man as the primary defense for all younger players. If a player cannot defend their man, assist in playing the gaps, and rotate into a position to help, how can they be considered satisfactory defenders? This philosophy was put to the test a couple of years ago when I coached a team that struggled to do these things. Because of a lack of experience and a deficiency in physical maturity, I taught my players how to compete with bigger and more skilled athletes. As soon as we implemented a 2-3 zone, the playing field was leveled and the door to compete was opened. Some will argue that middle school coaches "sell their souls" when they put their athletes into a zone defense. They may argue "It cheapens the game" or "Doesn't teach the game the right way". I disagree.

Zone defenses are built on the principles of man to man defense. If one or two players don't fulfill their roles, the opposing team will penetrate the zone and render it useless. Collectively, all five defenders must function as one. Isn't that what team play is all about? Additionally, the offense must play team oriented basketball. They must move the ball in a way that makes the zone commit to an area, leaving another unprotected. No longer can the dominant player on the floor set the tone for how the game will be played. A wise coach once told me "Good teams play man to man defense, great teams do it all." In my opinion, our mission is to build great teams. Our focus should not be centered on an individual's development, or even wins, but rather, putting young athletes in a position to know as much about the game as possible and enjoy playing this glorious sport.

Just as an opportunity has opened for me to continue the Middle School Notes column, I hope doors open for your teams and even you as a coach. I am interested in receiving your feedback on this or any other topic related to middle school basketball. Feel free to email me at stantonk@ccs.k12.mi.us and I will do my best to incorporate your voice into this column.

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***As a united body,
BCAM exists to
represent and
serve basketball
coaches for the
betterment of our
great game!***

Visit your website!

See us at:

www.bcam.org

Inspiring...

****This man has no arms or legs but has come to terms with his lot in life and he delivers a message to these kids that they will probably never forget. And neither will you!

Click: <http://www.maniacworld.com/are-you-going-to-finish-strong.html>

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Leadership

<http://www.championshipcoachesnetwork.com>

As a tribute to the great leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., here are some of his words to reflect on regarding leadership.

LEADING BY EXAMPLE "The people are looking to me for leadership - and if I stand before them without strength and courage, they too will falter."

CONFIDENCE "I have a dream my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. I have a dream today!"

COMPOSURE "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

CHARACTER "The time is always right to do what is right." "There comes a time when one must take the position that is neither safe nor political nor popular, but he must do it because his conscience tells him it is right."

VOCAL LEADERSHIP "I will not be intimidated, I will not be harassed. I will not be silent, and I will be heard."

SERVANT-LEADERSHIP "A man all wrapped up in himself is a mighty small package."

TEAM-BUILDER "A genuine leader is not a searcher for consensus but a molder of consensus."

RECOMMENDED READING For more information on Dr. King and his powerful leadership, read the following:

Martin Luther King, Jr. on Leadership by Donald T. Phillips. *The Autobiography of Martin Luther King, Jr.* edited by Clayborne Carson.

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