

BCAM Monthly Report



Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan

From the Executive Director:

I sat down to write up this month's report thinking that it will be short and sweet. I started listing the things I wanted to mention in this report. As you can see, in order to keep you informed, it takes many articles. I will try to make them short and to the point. Hopefully you can realize how involved BCAM is with high school basketball. We continue to add new events to our calendar. It is my hope that BCAM serves a purpose in every member's basketball life. So let's get started:

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE:

June 1st begins our new membership year. Paper registration forms for your 09-10 BCAM Membership are available now on the website and will be mailed in early May, but you can also register online now. With online registration you still have to mail in your payment, but you will be ensuring that your information is accurate as well as saving our secretary lots of time! The price is the same regardless of when you join, so get your money's worth-- register early and enjoy a whole year of BCAM!! Go to www.bcam.org and click on the "Join BCAM" button.

SCHOOL SPECIAL \$30 CHEAPER:

In this time of economic problems, BCAM is going to help schools and coaches by reducing their School Special Membership by over 27%. Instead of 15 coaches joining for \$110, these 15 coaches can join for \$80. It is our hope that schools will see the benefit of having their coaching staff join as a group and pay for this membership. You may register all your coaches online for the School Special - or - NEW THIS YEAR: A paper form exclusively for School Memberships. Put all your coaches on one form. You can print the new School Membership form ONLY from our website.

LIFETIME MEMBERS:

It is very important that you update your membership every year, EVEN IF YOUR INFORMATION HAS NOT CHANGED. We especially need to know if your coaching information has stayed the same or changed. There is a special button for LTM's to renew at the top of the BCAM website homepage and also a paper form you can print and either mail or fax in.

REACHING HIGHER SHOWCASE IS A BIG SUCCESS!

By Coach Rich Moffit (BCAM President & Reaching Higher Chairman)

The Michigan High School Athletic Association and BCAM partnered to organize the inaugural Reaching Higher Showcase at South Lyon High School [Girls] and Brighton High School [Boys]. The showcase provided an "inexpensive, in-state opportunity for students and their parents to learn what it takes to succeed academically, athletically and socially at the college level." The Reaching Higher Showcase was modeled after successful basketball showcases held in Indiana, Ohio and New York.

The Girls and Boys Showcase featured a top-notch group of high school coaches who taught stations and then coached a team through a five game schedule. The credentials of the high school coaches working at the showcase was amazing when you consider the number of state championships, regional championships, conference championships, college players and pro players produced by this fine group of coaches.

The Girls and Boys Showcases also featured a number of outstanding speakers. Marc Comstock, Adrian HS boys' coach and a former college coach, gave an outstanding presentation--talking to both parents and players about the recruiting process. David Ginsberg, TC St. Francis coach and former college assistant, presented an electrifying and motivational speech to the boys in Brighton triggering an enthusiastic response from the players and parents alike. The Girls Showcase featured BCAM Hall of Famer and CMU Assistant Kathy McGee as well as other former college players. Jason Otter, basketball trainer and former college player, talked to the girls about improving their game.

On behalf of Tim Conley and myself, we would like to thank the MHSAA and a great number of BCAM members who helped to create the Reaching Higher Showcase. The feedback from players, college coaches and parents was very, very positive. Year one is in the bank and we will be looking to make year two even better.

PISTONS/SHOCK SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION:

Dave Wassink - Scholarship Chairman

This is our 20th year of offering your graduating son/daughter an opportunity for one of the Piston/Shock grants. BCAM has awarded more than \$131,000 in scholarships during the last 19 years. The application period is from May 15 to June 20. These grants are primarily awarded on merit and leadership. A secondary counseling professor at one of the state universities will make the selections. This year up to 12 grants will be awarded.

The following board of director's policy has been in effect for the last 12 years: For your son/daughter to be eligible for a grant, you must have been a member of BCAM for the last five (5) years.

Applications can be found at www.bcam.org and click on FORMS. Download the Scholarship Form, fill it out completely and follow mailing instructions.

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BCAM WEEK AT SHANTY CREEK:

Here is a chance for you to enjoy family time at a first-class golf resort in northern Michigan at a reasonable price. Mark August 3-7 on your calendar. Bring your family, bring your buddies, spend 5 nights or spend one night, play golf on great courses for low rates or just enjoy the pools and relax. There will be a Coaches vs Cancer Golf Scramble and a BCAM Flight Championship (guests can compete). More details will be sent to you this spring.

RAWLINGS (MHSAA) BALL IS NOW THE BALL OF THE ENTIRE STATE TOURNEY:

Hopefully you are planning on using the Rawlings ball next year since it will be the only ball used during the state tournament. BCAM receives \$1 for every MHSAA ball sold in Michigan. This is a winning combination for BCAM members...a great basketball and money that will go back to helping high school coaches (note the decrease in membership fees). Go to the BCAM website homepage and click on the Rawlings link on the "carousel" (left hand side of page), do not click on the banner at the top of the page. A list of dealers is given with addresses and phone numbers. Contact the dealer in your area and order your basketballs.

AWARD WINNERS ARE NOW ON THE WEBSITE:

All BCAM award winners (coaches, players and teams) will be on the BCAM website (www.bcam.org) as each award is finalized. Click on the awards button and find the list of awards. Meijer is the new underwriter of all our awards. They make it possible to give out hundreds of plaques and certificates to deserving award winners.

WEBSITE:

The BCAM Website is a very important part of our association. Almost all communication is now through the website or via email. Take some time to navigate through the website and see all the ways that it can be a help to you as a coach. We have a JOBS page and a GAMES/SCRIMMAGES page. All necessary nomination forms and applications are located on our FORMS page. Boys and Girls Summer Events are located on our CAMPS/CLINICS page. If you want to post a listing for your own event, follow the instructions at the top of that page.

TWO LONGTIME BCAM MEMBERS UP FOR NATIONAL HONORS:

Dave Soules (former Detroit East Catholic coach and presently coaching at Riverview Gabriel Richard) and Al Schrauben (Portland St Patrick) are in the running for National Coach of the Year honors given by the National High School Athletic Coaches Association. They will be honored, along with the other nominees, at the NHSACA convention this summer.

BCAM Coming Events:

May 15 to June 20
-Pistons/Shock
Scholarship form
for children of
BCAM members
accepted

May 19 – BCAM
Executive Board
Meeting

June 1 - Beginning
of 09-10 BCAM
Membership Year.
Get Registered!

August 1 – All-Star
Games in Brighton

August 4-6 –
Board of Directors
Meetings

October 2-4 BCAM
Coaches Clinic in
Lansing

October 2 – Hall of
Fame Banquet

SOME THOUGHTS ON AAU BASKETBALL:

Dan Hoff – Mattawan HS Boys' Basketball Coach

High school basketball and AAU basketball provide different and potentially highly beneficial opportunities to those who play in those programs. High school basketball provides a four-month-long, school-oriented and highly competitive opportunity for players to advance. High school teams generally practice three days per week and play two days per week, a formula that allows a great deal of skill practice and team-oriented growth. AAU, on the other hand, provides many more games for players in a reduced amount of time and features many fewer practices. The travel experience and the competition with and against players from different schools and different demographics are both worthwhile. It is important, therefore, for coaches in the two different programs – high school and AAU – to understand each other and to work together.

As a result of discussions among various high school coaches and AAU coaches, a list of suggestions has been established to help all coaches do what is best for the high school players. It is hoped that information in this article can provide maximum benefit for all involved.

- It is highly beneficial for a high school coach to meet with any AAU coach who is coaching that high school coach's players. By doing so, a high school coach and an AAU coach can establish a working relationship and mutual trust, and they can share their ideas and philosophies about various aspects of coaching that can avoid creating for the players a "good cop/bad cop" scenario.
- A high school coach should provide the AAU coach with a written "plan of improvement" for the players playing for that AAU coach. The AAU coach should then provide as many practice and game opportunities as possible for the players to improve in the skills that the high school coach has indicated as being important to that high school coach.
- A high school coach should provide the AAU coach with a schedule of that high school coach's out-of-season program, including summer games. The AAU coach should then work to avoid scheduling tournaments that directly conflict with the high school coach's schedule. This can best be accomplished by agreeing that the high school summer schedule begins in early June and ends before July begins. AAU can then have games during April and May, as well as in July, without conflict.
- If a player is good enough to likely be recruited by colleges, the family of the player and the player himself/herself should decide which of his/her coaches--the high school coach or the AAU coach, should be more directly involved in the recruiting process. This is beneficial to the player, the high school and AAU coach, and the college recruiters.
- A high school and an AAU coach should make it a point to watch their players play in the other program. This ensures that the players and the other coach know that both coaches are truly behind and supportive of the improvement of the players.

If you have any comments or would like to work with Dan to improve the relationship between AAU and high school basketball, contact him at drdhoff@yahoo.com.

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Michigan

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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

GATORADE SERVICE AWARD:

Coaches who have completed 15/20/25/30/35/40/45 years of coaching are eligible for the Gatorade Service Award plaque. Go to www.bcam.org and click on FORMS. Download the Gatorade Award application and follow directions. This is a very nice plaque and it is made possible by one of our longtime sponsors...Gatorade.

30TH ANNUAL ALL-STAR FESTIVAL:

Michigan's top 50 senior girls and 50 senior boys will play at Brighton HS on Saturday, August 1, 2009. More information will be sent to members via email.

26th ANNUAL BCAM COACHES CLINIC:

Mark your calendars for October 2, 3 and 4, 2009. Ed Dutcher is again putting together an outstanding lineup for BCAM biggest event. The Hall of Fame Banquet will be on Friday evening. Details will be sent to coaches this summer.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY NEWSLETTER

Coach Tom Crean and the Indiana University basketball staff would like to invite you to be part of their coaching newsletter. They are working to develop a newsletter that helps give motivational ideas, offensive schemes, defensive schemes and general game-play tactics.

If you would like to get this free newsletter sent to you please send an email with your request for this newsletter to mbasket@indiana.edu. *Please include your Name, School, & Email Address.*

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