

Student Athlete Achievement Project BC School Sports (BCSS) - Update

February 8, 2005

Carl Repp, SAA-SCS Director

BC School Sports Board of Directors recommend that controversial 'Sport School' resolutions be rescinded, re-opening the door for higher student athlete achievement.

Background

The BCSS passed three resolutions at their 2004 AGM in response to growing numbers of Schools of Choice in Sport. Many education and sport stakeholders including the SAA-SCS felt the resolutions were punitive and in opposition to increasing student achievement in sport and education.

In June of 2004 the BCSS Board of Directors "delayed" implementation of resolutions 17 A, B, and C in order to establish an advisory group to investigate the current and future impacts of the resolutions on the future of BCSS as well as on student/athletes who desire to compete in interscholastic competition. **The SAA-SCS was a member of the advisory group.**

In January 2005, at the BCSS Board of Directors Meeting the Advisory Committee presented its report with recommendations. During deliberations and discussions the Board of Directors moved to bring forward a resolution to the 2005 AGM which recommends that 17a), b) and c) be rescinded as originally presented and accepted by the membership and that alternative recommendations be considered and accepted.

Summary of BCSS Alternate Recommendations

(1) Sport Specific Education Program (BCSS Definition) - a sport specific program combines education with specific sport instruction / education for curriculum credit. The sport specific education program allows for sport specific training, instruction and/or competition; provides sport skills training in a targeted sport; provides other training / education such as but not limited to weight training, sport nutrition, or mental training to support the targeted sport.

A student is considered to be enrolled in a sport specific program if:

1. A student is enrolled in a catchment school for a program and the student receives 5 or more credits for educational courses of specific sports instruction.
2. A student is enrolled in a non-catchment school for a program and the student receives 4 or more credits for an educational course of specific sports instruction.

A) Any student athlete in their 3rd, 4th, or 5th year of eligibility transferring into a sport specific education program is ineligible to participate in BCSS competition in the sport in which they receive specific sports instruction.

B) Any student athlete transferring from a sport specific education program back to their home school is ineligible to compete in that specialized sport for the next BCSS season of play for that sport from the date the transfer is physically completed, but is immediately eligible for all other BCSS competition for which they meet eligibility requirements.

(2) The Competitive Standards Committee be given the task of re-evaluating the current BCSS tiering system with respect to a shift from size of school to a competency / performance criteria with recommendations to come forward at the 2006 AGM.

The alternative recommendations contain key factors not provided in the original resolutions.

1. The resolutions being proposed do not impact Grade 8 and 9 students
2. The resolutions being proposed only address a specific sport whereby specialized training is being provided and does not limit students from participating in other sports as originally proposed in 2004
3. The review of the tiering resolution will allow the Competitive Standards Committee the opportunity to review the possibilities of changing from a numbers based tiering system to one of a competency/performance model more inclusive as opposed to exclusive.

For more information contact Carl Repp, Director SAA-SCS (crepp@sd8.bc.ca)

- The SAA-SCS is a joint initiative of 2010 LegaciesNow and PacificSport -