



Alberta Schools' Athletic Association

September 2012 Issue

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Important Upcoming Dates and Deadlines:

September 12: Golf opt-up and registration deadline

September 30: School enrolment taken to determine ASAA classification

October 1: Volleyball registration and Football registration/declaration/opt-up deadline

October 1: Nominations for Zone Award of Merit

October 5: Cross Country registration deadline

October 10: School registration deadline

October 15: Volleyball opt-up deadline

Welcome Message from John Paton, Executive Director



Another year, another round of opportunities to make a difference in the lives of Alberta's youth through school sport. What are you going to do to make a difference this year? Here is what I am planning.

I plan to continue making every effort to inform administrators, coaches and others about the educational opportunities that are available through ASAA to enhance the lives of high school students through school sport. I will also ensure that our office staff will do the best they can do to serve our member schools, the school administrators, athletic directors and coaches. I want our championship events to continue to be highlights in the lives of students – allowing them to experience the exhilaration of competing against their peers, seeking personal goals and learning about themselves every step of the way. I plan to continue educating myself and to represent you, our member schools, to the best of my ability on a local, provincial and national level – certainly to ensure that the voice of school sport is heard and valued. The tools I have at my disposal are many; here are just a few.

Firstly, the ASAA's recent decision to require schools to have at least one teacher on staff who has taken the *Fundamentals of Coaching* course available online at www.asaawecoach.ca, and to subsidize the cost of that one course from \$85 down to \$50 represents an investment of over \$18,000 by the ASAA into enhancing coach education opportunities in Alberta schools. I thank Rural Alberta Development Fund and Cenovus Energy for making these rebates possible. Some schools have decided that they will require all school coaches to take this course – this shows great leadership, and I strongly recommend others to follow their lead.

Secondly, leading our coaches in schools are the Athletic Directors. If you are an AD and have not yet taken the opportunity, through the Alberta Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (AIAAA) to avail yourself of the professional development courses offered by this association, now is the time to consider it. With the ASAA very close to announcing TQS opportunities tied to the AIAAA curriculum, it is a great time for you to get involved. Not only will you enhance your own professional development, but you will also be doing your coaches and student athletes a favour by improving the way you coordinate your school athletic program. If you feel that you cannot benefit from such courses, I will be bold and suggest that it may be time you handed the role of AD over to someone else. As a life long learner myself, I think the day you think you know it all, or do not need to learn more, is the day you cease doing what you can to optimize the learning opportunities for students in your school; let someone else lead.

The final point I want to make is that you, the reader, are one of our most valuable resources. We have many outstanding young teachers coming into the profession and many of them will coach. I have heard that the young teachers today are not prepared to do what the more experienced amongst us were prepared to do as we began our careers; that is, volunteering to coach many teams and volunteering in other ways. In some cases, I am sure this lack of commitment to extra-curricular activities by beginning teachers exists. However, I like to think the better of people, and instead of writing them off before giving them a chance, I encourage you to embrace the youth, energy and enthusiasm that comes with being a new teacher; harness this outstanding resource and mentor them into being a coach. Not only will you be doing yourself a favour in easing your own workload, but you will be building capacity for the future, and ensuring that school sport stays on as a viable, integral and important component of school life. I wish you the best of success in this challenge and hope you have a great 2012/13 school year.

John Paton



New ASAA Transfer Form and Appeal Process

With the age of technology making more of an impact in every day life; ASAA has decided to move their transfer form and Appeals process online. ASAA is currently in the process of creating a site that will be found on the ASAA website and will require all transfer forms and appeals to be submitted online. This new process will be beneficial to all users, including schools and the ASAA office, as it will create an easier and faster

way to submit forms to the office, which will hopefully see a quicker turn around on transfers and will also ensure that all documentation that is required is received in a timely manner.

Our hope is that this site will be ready by mid September, at which time we will send out an email with further details on expectations and step by step directions for use of the site.

In the meantime, we will continue to ask that you use the current forms and processes that are in place.



ASAA On-line Coach Education

The 2011-12 year was an exciting one for the ASAA. In September, the association launched its web portal for online coach educational courses at www.ASAWeCoach.ca. As of right now there are 6 courses available with another 5 in the works.

Currently Available:

- ◆ Fundamentals of Coaching
- ◆ Teaching & Modeling Behaviour
- ◆ Engaging Effectively with Parents
- ◆ Concussions in Sport: What You Need to Know (FREE COURSE)
- ◆ Athletic Injury Management
- ◆ Be the Norm: Choose to be Tobacco Free (FREE COURSE for

students)

Coming Soon:

- ◆ Safety Guidelines
- ◆ Legal Issues for Coaches
- ◆ Sport Specific courses in Track & Field, Volleyball, and Basketball

Recognizing the early successes of the program in Alberta, School Sport Canada – the national assembly of provincial high school sport associations – has committed funding to bring the program to a national level. Starting the summer of 2012, schools across Canada have access to the same courses branded in a way that promotes the project as a national initiative at



www.SchoolCoach.ca. Some course content is modified to represent the national scope of the project.

This year will see plans to expand with more courses and a 3-level certification/ accreditation model to be rolled out during 2012-13. Alberta continues to position itself as a national leader in high school sport and looks to build on that reputation with its groundbreaking new programs. Stay tuned to www.asaa.ca and www.ASAWeCoach.ca for all the latest news regarding the online coach education program.

Alberta Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (AIAAA)



After a successful 2011-12 school year, we are looking forward to the exciting events in store for 2012-13.

Among the highlights from last school year include

surpassing 1000 courses delivered.

We are looking forward to hosting the AIAAA's 2nd Athletic Directors Conference in Canmore from June 20-22. The conference will feature attendees from across the country that will gather for three days of professional development, networking and a true celebration of high school sport. The schedule will contain 11 LTP courses, 10-14 workshop sessions, several keynote addresses, a golf tournament and

vendor tradeshow. A formal schedule of events will be released in the Fall of 2012.

After a successful first Female Athletic Director PD day in June 2012, we will be looking to host a similar event this upcoming school year. We will also be hosting several courses during the HPEC preconference in Medicine Hat.

For other course dates or information on certification, please visit www.aiaaa.ca.



Provincials— <http://provincials.asaa.ca>

You can view the 2012/13 hosts on the ASAA website under Provincial Championships or in your 2012/13 Policy Handbook.

ASAA is also excited to announce that in 2013 we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary of volleyball as an ASAA sanctioned sport. To help celebrate this milestone, we will be hosting all 8 championships in one location: the GO Centre in Edmonton.

If you are interested in helping with the planning and/or implementation of the event OR if you have any

questions regarding any of our provincial events and hosting please email Deputy Director Michelle Ross at michelle@asaa.ca.

Good luck in your upcoming year of high school athletics.

Spectator Code of Conduct Banners

ASAA always strives to recognize and encourage good sportsmanship throughout the year, not only in sport but also in life. With the help of our ASAA commissioners, ASAA has developed a new spectator code of conduct banner that we will be providing to all hosts during championships and we will also have a template available on the ASAA website so schools have the chance to purchase one for their school. This template can be found on the main page of the ASAA website.



Commissioner Vacancies

May 2013 will mark the end of term for some of our ASAA Sport Commissioners, if you are interested in the role of Commissioner, the following sports/areas will be vacant:

Badminton, Girls Volleyball, Wrestling, Girls Rugby and Team Handball

Please contact the current commissioner to let them know of your interest in the position.

Contact information for current commissioners can be found on the ASAA website and in your 2012/13 Policy Handbook.

2012 Hall of Fame and Routledge Award Recipients

ASAA would like to congratulate the 2012 Alberta High School Sports Hall of Fame inductees:

- Athletic Administrator – John Takahashi
- Coach – Lou Rondeau
- Athlete – Leighann Doan Reimer and James Steacy

The Robert H. Routledge Award of Merit is presented annually in recognition of outstanding service to the students of Alberta schools in the promotion and operation of an athletic program.

ASAA is proud to announce that Don Zabloski of Edmonton Public Schools was the recipient of the 2012 Robert H. Routledge Award.

The nomination deadline for these awards is February 1, 2013. Please be sure to recognize the people in your school and community for all their hard work and dedication.

Reminder to AD's

- Are you a new Athletic Director at your school? Do you have the passwords you need to register your school online, and other online related initiatives? If you cannot locate the log-in information, and for security purposes, please call the office at 780-427-8182 so we can give you this information over the phone.
- Please be sure to update the school and contact information in ExNet because this is the contact information that ASAA uses to send out all communication.
- All deadlines are shaded on the ASAA wall calendar so please pay close attention to these, so as not to miss any of the deadlines throughout the year.
- School registration (includes total # of eligible students) must be submitted online by October 10
- ASAA registration fees are to be paid directly to your zone secretary, not to the ASAA office.





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School Sport...Empowering Alberta Youth.



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