

Coach Development Committee (CDC) Report to BC Speed Skating Annual General Meeting

May 20, 2020

The committee had full participation from committee members Barb Beck, Katharine North, Sandi Vyse and Keith Gordon. We had 11 monthly phone meetings (July was missed) plus one ad hoc phone meeting. Our meeting minutes and agendas are all posted on the drive and are available for members to peruse.

Issues the committee tackled (or just work done) during the year:

- 1) Stalled Coaches - this was dealt with several times and we even thought of offering a cash incentive to people to finish their courses but it did not get supported by the Technical Standing Committee.
- 2) Taking Multi-sport modules (for Fundamental Coach and for Introduction to Competition) by correspondence, E-learning or at local colleges was encouraged and we had several coaches do this to get part of their training done. It appears that SSC/BCSSA do not need to offer the multi-sport modules any more - at least in the Intro to Comp context.
- 3) Athletes requested (at the Retreat last year) that they have a "generic YTP". CDC pursued getting funds to get a contractor to do this but we weren't successful. Now we're pleased to see that Technical Director Chris Acton is pursuing this project herself.
- 4) CDC had limited involvement but Patti Walsh hosted the first ever "Webinar" training for Fundamental Coach training for 3 of the multi-sport modules in September of last year. . This meant that the remaining training can be offered in a single weekend. The same course is being offered again in July by webinar again.
- 5) Other coach training offered during the year were the sport-specific modules of Fundamental Coach (Burnaby, Prince George and Kamloops) and Intro to Comp (Prince George).
- 6) CDC nominated Tania Lauren for Via Sport Grass Roots coach of the year and asked Fort St. John Elks to put in a nomination for Richard Stickel for Competitive Coach of the Year. FSJ Elks were quick to send in a nomination and Richard won the award!
- 7) CDC is concerned that coaches should be getting more Professional Development Points even for doing things like continuing to coach year after year. We passed this on to Jen Gibson who sits on SSC's Coaching Committee
- 8) CDC wants our high school students to finish their training (and hopefully certification) before they finish high school and move away. Kate North made a slide (for posting on social media) to this effect and we did have some high school students take some of our training.
- 9) CDC nominated the assistant coaches for Cdn Youth LT and Cdn Youth West ST championships.
- 10) CDC selected the BCSSA Coach of the year from the 4 club nominations.

- 11) CDC received an enquiry (from Wim Kok) about the status of the Junior Coach Recognition program initiated by Alison Leach and we have undertaken to dust this off and update as needed.
- 12) CDC and other individuals (Chris Acton and Wim Kok) have identified a training need that our coaches have that is not in the courses and this is "How to coach at a meet". We have passed this on to Jen Gibson to take to the SSC Coaching Committee so the training can be updated.

I am thankful to the committee members for their work this year.

Comments about the budget for 2019-2020: At the beginning of the year BCSSA planned to use project-based budgeting with all committees submitting the cost of each proposed project that were then reviewed and prioritized by staff with some involvement from committee chairs. Initially some were accepted (green-lighted) and some denied (red-lighted). I had thought there would be more meetings of the "Technical Committee" and opportunities for a second look at projects that did not get the go-ahead. But these meetings ended up not being held. So CDC felt that we had no budget for activities (except for funding 2 assistant coaches to two meets). Having no budget is a blessing if a committee doesn't want any worries but to be effective the committees should have the ability to undertake projects. And, they also have to identify surpluses in their budget early enough for them to be wisely used by others. The system as used last year had the effect of eliminating any budget considerations from our committee work - for good or for bad.

Keith Gordon
Chair
Coaching Development Committee BC Speed Skating