

BC HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

AGM – NOVEMBER 2, 2012

7:00pm - ESTHER'S INN – PRINCE GEORGE

1. Welcome / Introductions

Nancy Champagne – Thank you to hosts: Brian Nemethy & Championship Committee

And thank you to Christine Bradstock from B.C.School Sports for attending this AGM.

Interim Treasurer: Greg Worsley/Elgin Park Sec., Interim Secretary: Vincent Gabel/Fleetwood Park Sec.

2. Attendance

Present: Tom Carlson/Kelowna Secondary, Mike Keenlyside /Point Grey Sec., Scott Svelander/North Surrey Sec., Vid Wadhvani/Terry Fox Sec., Dave Heatherington/DW Poppy Sec., Don Sparks/Walnut Grove Sec., Dean Sheardown & Ian Cocclimiglio/David Thompson Sec., Kristen Meindertsma/ MEI Sec., Vince Van Dyk/Abbotsford Christian School, Jon Francis/LV Rogers Sec., Graeme Marshall/LVR, Norm Tinkham/Maple Ridge Sec., Eric Muller/Pitt Meadows Sec., Derek Lee/Burnaby North Sec., Bob Saunders/Dover Bay Sec., Tessa Logan/Oak Bay Sec., Mark Bendall/Vernon Sec., Scott Yewchuck/Semiahmoo Sec., Davey Gin/White Rock Christian, Christopher Cathcart/Heritage Woods Sec., Leslie Buchanan/West Vancouver Sec., Hugh Wilson/Sentinal Sec., Gordon Penn/Vancouver College, Birgit Sharmann/Tumbler Ridge Sec., Eric Wolf/Dawson Creek Sec., Pat Marsh/Correliou Sec., Scott Trueman/Quesnel Junior School, Al Niezen/Mount Douglas Sec., Brad Cunningham/Reynolds Sec., Darla Robson/Williams Lake Sec., Jeff Goodrich/College Heights Sec., Chris Budac/Duchess Park Sec., Larry Ryan/Burnaby Mountain Sec., Gary Leung/Byrne Creek Sec., Wes Stinson/Burnaby Central, Colin Dignum/West Van Sec., Andrew Lenton/Thomas Haney Sec., Brian Nemethy/Nechako Valley Sec., Brian Martinson/Prince George Sec., Byron Jack/Lord Byng Sec.

Voting Procedures: one vote per school , any school that is registered for X-country with BCSS. (G.Worsley)

3. Website: www.bcx.ca

Thank you to Greg Worsley for getting the new website up and running (and maintaining). Tomorrow's race results will be posted on the website as soon as possible, technology permitting.

4. Status of new Commission

- A small Committee made up of Nancy Champagne, Greg Worsley, Don Sparks, Maureen de St Croix & Vincent Gabel, met in the summer with Christine Bradstock from BCSS to initiate the development of the new X-Country Commission.
- A Formal meeting was held on Sept. 22-2012 at Walnut Grove Sec. to discuss the status & governance of the new commission, the upcoming Championship Meet in Prince George, and future direction of the commission. Conference call access was available.
- Currently, the B.C. High School Cross Country Commission is functioning under the former society – under the direction of B.C. School Sports and adheres to the constitution of BCSS. Finances are maintained through an account at BCSS.
- BCSS legal is looking into options - topic for future discussion will be whether to remain a standing committee of BCSS or form a Society.

- This year's Championship Race Entry Fee was \$25.00 because of zero funding availability and not knowing what our financial status is. BCSS gave a grant of \$4500. The goal is to lower the cost of the entry fees for next year.
- Subway has agreed to continue the sponsorship of X-Country, but it is unknown at this point what the dollar value is. X Country will meet with the new Track & Field Commission to determine how to divide the sponsorship \$.
- The Commission will put it to the X-Country Membership to decide how to spend this sponsorship money - T-shirts, Awards, scholarship or other.

5. Nominations for Executive

- Commissioner - Nancy Champagne – accepted role of interim commissioner (will stand for election at AGM)
By Acclamation
- Treasurer - Greg Worsley – accepted role as interim treasurer (will stand for election at AGM)
By Acclamation
- Secretary - Vincent Gabel: - 1 year position.
By Acclamation
- Members at Large: 8 - 10 – All Zone Representatives
- Tom Carlson, John Francis, Brian Nemethy, Paul Skarsgard, Chris Johnson, Colin Dignum, Don Sparks
- Advisor/Liaison with BC Athletics - Maureen de St. Croix accepted role as interim position (will stand for election at AGM)
By Acclamation
- There is a necessity of provincial representation on the executive and committees. Issues that pertain to specific regions of this province need to be addressed by those who have firsthand knowledge and experience in those areas. Right now all three executive positions are held by Surrey Coaches. This is not an ideal situation and needs to be addressed in the future. (G.Worsley).

6. Committees

- Championship Development Committee – Standing Committee (Director to be Vice President)
Leslie Buchanan, Byron Jack, Al Niezen, Don Sparks, Norm Tinkham, Chris Johnson
- Championship Host Committee – Director & committee from host zone.
Brian Nemethy, Dave Heatherington
- Disciplinary Committee – Commissioner & 3 executive members
- Public Relations: Contact with local media, development of a template for a Championship Program (brochure)

7. Future Championship Venues

- Motion to introduce a 6 year rotation: Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island, Lower Mainland, Interior, Lower Mainland, & Vancouver Island.
- Discussion:

- Tom Carlson: likes the motion but cautions that the beneficial experience of hosting a championship two years running may be lost. Therefore a good race manual will have to be developed.
- Eric Wolf: Why the focus on the Lower Mainland & the Island ? How did this arrangement come about? Even to come to Prince George from Dawson Creek is expensive.
- Nancy Champagne – It is great to go around the province, but we need to rely on volunteers for a big job – not everyone wants to or has the capacity.
- Don Sparks: the costs of hosting a championship should be orientated to where the population is.
- Colin Dignum: likes the proposal and the membership should be willing to find ways to provide financial aid/ travel subsidy for teams that need it.
- Scott Yewchuck: transportation & travel safety has to be taken into account.
- Hosting the Championship in the Interior for the last 2 years has made the Lower Mainland teams aware of the organization and travel issues that interior teams face.
- Vote on amending the original proposal : 20 for, 14 against. Motion carried.
- Motions Jon Francis / Seconded by Tom Carlson. - To amend the previous proposal to a 4 year rotation; Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island, Lower Mainland, Interior.
- Discussion
 - Eric Wolf: supports this motion
 - Don Sparks: does not support this on the basis of costs.
 - Tom Carlson: the costs have to be considered, and this proposal will give every graduate a chance to see every corner of the province over 4 years of participation.
 - Al Niezen: the potential of Jr participation and a future Jr. championship need to be considered.
 - Greg Worsley – If the zone is unable to host, the next in line has the option to pick it up.
- Vote on the motion 23 for, 5 against. Motion carried.
- Dave Heatherington and the Fraser Valley have agreed to host the championships at Aldergrove Lake Park in 2013. Vancouver Island representatives have agreed to host in 2014.

8.Registration

571 athletes registered for this year's championship

9. Sponsorship

Subway has agreed to continue with their sponsorship of X-country but the dollar value has yet to be determined.

All sponsors recognized on the program.

10. Awards

- BC High School Cross Country – Zone Championship
Traditionally zone awards have been paid for by Subway sponsorship money.

- BC High School Cross Country Championships

11. Other topics for discussion

- Propose that sponsor zone of the Championships are given an extra berth.
A motion to give the sponsor zone of the championships an extra berth was made by Nancy Champagne and seconded by Greg Worsley. The motion was unanimously carried.
- Berthing
For a number of years some districts have not been filling their entire berths at the provincial championships. Burnaby/New West/Richmond and the Kootenay Zones have left berths unfilled the last few years. A discussion needs to take place whether the berthing allotment should be adjusted. This berthing balance will be a topic for discussion with the Championship Development Committee.

-Larry Ryan: will you be taking away berths because we do not fill them ?
-Gary Leung: the other school in our zone did not come this year because of travel issues.

-Nancy Champagne: then you need to get on the Championship Development Committee to have your voices heard.
- Propose Junior Invitational to be included in the Championships (Proposed to BCSS for May AGM)
Discussion:
-Eric Wolf: Don't have a Jr. Championship take away from the Sr. Championship re: course damage.

-Greg Worsley: regarding the last time a Jr. invitational was held at Crescent Park in Surrey, the Race organizers wanted to run the Jr. races last but were not allowed to by the previous commission.

-Norm Tinkham: the Sr boys have traditionally run last and have been expected to run on a previously raced and damaged course. They are expected to accept the conditions and "suck it up".

-Don Sparks: Next year's course at Aldergrove Lake Park will be able to handle the conditions of multiple races.

-Andrew Lenton: the junior race will be a great way to rebuild participation in this sport that has had declining numbers over the years.

-Brad Cunnigham: expressed concern that the top Jr. athletes will not run in the Jr. Championship.

-Scott Svelander: is in favor of a Jr. Championship as it is an opportunity to expand participation.

-Scott Yewchuck: - BCSS needs to support and sanction a Jr. Championship in order for schools to participate.

Nancy Champagne – the commission will bring forward the idea of a Junior Championship to BC School Sports at the May AGM.
- Travel Subsidy – Sport on the Move (via sport)
Christine Bradstock BCSS: Every team that went to Kelowna last year had a cheque sent to their school.

Via Sport/Sport on the Move provides money to high schools travelling to a provincial championship. Cheques are normally sent out at the end of each of the 3 seasons and vary from \$100 - \$1000 depending on the distance travelled and the number of athletes. Those of you who have travelled more than 350Km will probably get some money.

- Bill & Christine McNulty Recognition: Tom Carlson brought forth a motion to recognize the long time work and commitment that Bill and Christine McNulty have given to organizing the sport of High School X-Cross Country in British Columbia.
Unanimous applause.

12. 2012 CHAMPIONSHIP RACE INFORMATION

Brian Nemethy