

B.C. Secondary School Cross-Country Commission's Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2016

November 4, 2016. 7:00PM

Holiday Inn, West Kelowna, British Columbia

Attendees:

Vince Van Dyk	Abby Christian
Larry Ryan	Burnaby Mountain
Jane Kim	Carver Christian
Stan Jang	Charles Tupper
Scott Trueman	Correlieu and Quesnel
Dean Sheardown	David Thompson (Van.)
Eric Wolf	Dawson Creek
Greg Worsley	Elgin Park
Tom Carlson	Kelowna
Jim Davies	Kitsilano
Byron Jack	Lord Byng
Andrew Lentin	Maple Ridge
Bob Riddell	McMath
Kristen Meidertsma	MEI
Bill Harvey	Moscrop
Brian Nemethy	Nechako Valley

Tessa Kubicek	Oak Bay
Mike Keenlyside	Point Grey
Paul Skarsgard	Point Grey
Brad Cunningham	Reynolds
Judy Tobacco	SMUS
Mark Fenn	Sentinel
Hugh Wilson	Sentinel
Jody Barber	Smithers
Hilary Watt	Sutherland
Mark Bendall	Vernon
Leslie Buchanan	West Vancouver
Coin Dignum	West Vancouver
Davey Gill	White Rock Christian
Guest:	
Maurice Wilson	BC Athletics

1. Call to Order: Welcome and introductions

Colin Dignum (West Vancouver Secondary), Chair, called the meeting to order at 7pm. He gave a short introduction about himself.

Greg Worsley (Elgin Park), Treasurer, was also introduced.

Leslie Buchanan (West Vancouver Secondary) took the minutes in lieu of their being a current Secretary.

The Chair asked everyone to please sign in and pick up their voting card. It was explained that there was only one vote per school. One did not have to be a teacher to vote as long as the person was representing their school.

2. Executive

Commissioner: The Commission is Colin Dignum (2 years remaining). He was elected last year after running unopposed.

Retiring Treasurer: Greg Worsley will be stepping down. Greg gave a bit of a description of the role of the Treasurer. The Treasurer's role is to be on the executive, to distribute the information, order ribbons, setting up the annual general meeting, and collecting the fees. Greg took on a larger role than what a regular treasurer has to do. British Columbia School Sports (BCSS) does the bulk of the financial work. Athletic Directors may have already been given an invoice for the provincial championship event.

The Treasurer could also be the secretary. Colin can't do it by himself. We need to have other people involved. The time commitment is mostly around this event and then 5-10 hours per year. It is mostly communicating through emails. Stan Jang from Charles Tupper stepped forward to be Treasurer. Greg will be the webmaster for one more year. He is too busy to do anything else. Stan will take on that role as well. Greg will mentor Stan for this webmaster role.

Secretary: This position is currently vacant.

Advisor/Liaison with BC Athletics: Maureen de St. Croix currently holds this position but is looking to be replaced. Maurice Wilson of BC Athletics attended the meeting on behalf of BC Athletics.

Members at Large: 10 Zone Representatives

Fraser Valley	Greg Worsley
Independent	Sean Dawson
Kootenays	Jon Francis
North Central	Brian Nemethy
North West	Jody Barber
North Shore/Howe Sound	Gerry Karvelis
Okanagan	Tom Carlson
Burnaby/New West/Rich	Bill Harvey
Vancouver	Paul Skarsgard
Vancouver Island	Tessa Kubicek

Election of New Executive

- a. **Treasurer** – Stan Jang (Charles Tupper) won by acclamation.
- b. **Secretary** – Jody Barbar (Smithers Secondary) will think about this position and let Colin know at a later date if she wants to take it on.

3. Review of 2015 Minutes

- a. Zone numbers presentation (Greg Worsley)
Greg went through the minutes of 2015. In the minutes there was a request for Greg to look at the berthing numbers. Therefore, Greg presented his findings.

The Zone Reps submitted their participation numbers for the past four or five years. Vancouver Independent was light on the information of their team berthing. Greg went through 2011-2015 entries which were influenced by the introduction of the Junior races. Greg went through this data. This included how difficult it was to qualify from the various zones based on participatory numbers, as well as which zones used up their qualified spots for individuals and teams.

If the berthing proposal went forward, the Kooteneys would be the only zone which would go down to two teams and 15 individuals. Three zones would go up and most would stay the same.

In most zones it is more difficult to make the BCs as a Junior than as a Senior.

This data was not based on competitiveness but it was only done on numbers, like BCSS berthing is done on numbers. There are some differences since we moved away from being the same commission as Track and Field. We have an Independent zone which is different than most of the other commissions.

We have had the Junior race for a few years now so we can look at the numbers as opposed to guessing.

If accepted, the number of competitors will probably go up a little bit but it will still be fewer than when we only had Senior races. Some of those individual students will now be on teams.

We need look at the growing districts. The data presented only included what was submitted by the Zone representatives.

Motion to approve the 2015 minutes were approved as presented. Moved Mike Keenlyside of Point Grey. Seconded Mark Fenn from Sentinel.
The minutes of the 2015 AGM were adopted.

4. Financials

a. Greg Worsley reviewed the 2016 Financial Statement

Last year, we showed a deficit of \$350. We get a gaming grant that we used for medical. BCSS is doing our accounting. They take a cut off the top for what they do.

We have actual costs but we don't get the money until schools pay their fees. Greg has been buying the t-shirts up front. We send the invoices the week of the championships and the money is due by mid-November. We have asked vendors, such as Mark of Race Day Timing, to hold off on getting paid until the new year.

We can carry money over from one year to the next. We can carry approximately 10%.

Moved Greg Worsley of Elgin Park, Seconded Brad Cunningham of Reynolds.

The financials were adopted.

b. Decreased funding from Subway. What needs to change?

When we were with the Track and Field Commission, we got a larger cut but track and field gets a larger cut now as they are bigger. We are going to go from \$8000 to \$3500 so we need to decide what we are going to get rid of. We cannot have a mandatory t-shirt from increased fees. We need to decide what we are going to do for the 2017 Provincial Championships.

We could go to short sleeve shirts. Grey shirts are \$6.10 per shirt. Short sleeves would be \$1.50 less. The kids like the long sleeve shirts. Another suggestion that was proposed was giveaway water bottles instead of t-shirts.

Could an increase in our fees be because we are getting less from our sponsors? We can't really do it, according to BCSS.

We could try to get a new sponsor as long as they don't compete with Subway. Subway will be on the race number as the main sponsor so it is difficult to get a new sponsor without having this item to give a sponsor.

We could offer \$15 per entry and \$2 for a t-shirt and \$10 for a coaches' t-shirt. We order the t-shirts in September. We have a good estimate about how many we have to order.

Andrew Lenton (Maple Ridge Secondary), Chair of the Track and Field Commission, gave a history of the Subway business and sponsorship. Track and field has tried to do something to make the sponsorship more appealing to Subway. He is nervous on the reliance of Subway money to run the Commission. We may want to make a good case for putting the money into general revenue. The commissions are no longer not for profit associations. We operate under BCSS and they will not let you go into debt.

The Executive will make the ultimate decision but we wanted to get feedback on this issue. We have relied on the gaming grant.

Our entry fees are really low at \$15. One suggestion was that we could raise it the entry fee to \$17 and raise about \$1800 that way.

5. Committees

Disciplinary Committee

The Disciplinary Committee is comprised of the Commissioner and three executive members, and must be determined from those in attendance at the current AGM. The Disciplinary Committee will be called upon to handle any disputes or infractions occurring in the Championship event. 2016 Championship Disciplinary Committee:

Colin Dignum (Commissioner)
Mark Fenn, Sentinel Secondary School
Andrew Lenton, Maple Ridge Secondary School
Eric Wolf, Dawson Creek Secondary School

Scholarship Committee

The BC High School Cross Country Committee provides two \$500 scholarships to graduating students each year. 13 applications were received for 2015-2016

Thank you to the 2015-2016 members Colin Dignum – West Vancouver Secondary, Tessa Kubicek – Oak Bay Secondary, and Scott Yewchuk – Semiahmoo Secondary

The 2016-2017 Scholarship Committee will be comprised of:

Brian Nemethy, Nechako Valley
Tessa Kubicek, Oak Bay
Mark Fenn, Sentinel

The application deadline for the 2016-2017 BC High School Cross Country Commission Scholarship is December 15, 2016. Scholarship recipients will be announced February 1, 2017. Submissions can ONLY be sent electronically to Colin Dignum at cdignum@wvschools.ca

6. Future Championship Venues

2017 Lower Mainland, Saturday, November 4, 2017 –Hugh Wilson, Sentinel, North Shore. The event would take place at Jericho. They will need to have some place for the awards as Sentinel is too far away.

2018 Vancouver Island, Saturday, November 3, 2018. The Island is willing to host.

2019 Lower Mainland, Saturday, November 2, 2019

2020 Other, Saturday, November 7, 2020

The application to host is available on www.bccxc.ca

7. **Webcast:** Would cost \$500 for one camera. Do we want to do this?

This is something that we may want to consider for next year. As we move the event around the province it is worth something to look into. Andrew Lenton will look into getting this sponsored for next year.

Registrations must be done by their proper school name as it is difficult to invoice. There are two schools named Holy Cross, Princess Margaret, etc, so you might have to put what city they are.

Track and Field can give us their list so we have the correct acronyms.

Leslie Buchanan will get this list from Andrew Lenton and will create the excel file for each Zone representative so people get registered correctly.

Some schools competed in their Zone championships but did not yet belong to BCSS so a penalty had to be paid. They also have to be part of the STARS program. Schools need to bring proof of Stars Report to the BC Championships. The disciplinary committee would have to deal with anyone who did not register properly. We need to educate the schools on this matter.

8. **Uniforms:** Make sure your runners have the same uniforms.

9. **Motions**

a. WHEREAS, the BC Cross Country Championship Handout states that all athletes must run their Zone Championship race to qualify to run in the BC Championship race; and

WHEREAS, there is no formal competition jury or decision-making process at the BC Cross Country Commission from exempting athletes from this obligation; and

WHEREAS, there may be legitimate reasons to exempt an athlete who has not competed in a Zone Championship race to compete in the Provincial Championship race; therefore

*RESOLVED, That the Commissioner of BC High School Cross Country be authorized to add to the BC Cross Country championship race athletes who missed their Zone Championship **upon the recommendation of a duly constituted Competition Jury from the zone in question.***

(Wilson/Sentinel/Kubicek/Oak Bay)

If this is passed, I offer the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the reasons upon which a Zone competition jury may make a request to the Commissioner for an exemption for an athlete to the Provincial Championship race may vary according to the specific athlete and the circumstances;

RESOLVED, that the Zone competition jury must present a formal information package to the Commissioner that describes the circumstances upon which the request is being made, so that

he or she may render a reasonable decision for each athlete. The contents of the package will be defined by the Commission.

(Wilson/Sentinel/Kubicek/Oak Bay)

Discussion: This would be an additional participant instead of bumping an athlete who would have otherwise qualified. This could also include an athlete who does not finish their zone championships. This would not necessarily improve a team performance. Would they need a medical note? This could open up a lot of discussion. We don't have an open zone opportunity so this gives athletes another opportunity to qualify if they are not well during their zone qualifiers.

Motion: Greg Worsley that we table this motion and a committee is struck to discussion

Seconded Mike Keenleyside from Point Grey Secondary.

Four opposed to tabling the motion. Motion passed.

The Committee struck will consist of:

Hugh Wilson, Sentinel

EricWolf, Dawson Creek

Tessa Kubicek, Oak Bay

b. WHEREAS, the BC Cross Country Championship Handout states the number of team berths in the BC XC Championships each zone is allowed, BE IT RESOLVED that each zone be allowed to enter one extra team in each race in order to fill all of the available starting chutes. (Dawson/West Point Grey/Jack/Lord Byng)

The motioner was not present so it was not discussed and therefore not adopted. For further information, the sizes of the starting blocks were increased.

Potential Recommendations for changes in Berthing.

1. Burn/Richmond NW: remain the same
2. FV: 8 teams and 45 individuals for Srs (Up 5 individuals)
3. Vancouver Independent: 2 teams and 20 individuals for Srs (Up 5 individuals to match similar size zones) originally included 1 team but there was a friendly amendment.
4. Kootney: 2 teams and 15 individuals for Srs (Down 5 individuals, Down 1 team to match similar size zone)
5. North Central: remain the same
6. North West: remain the same
7. NS/HS: 4 teams and 20 individuals for Srs (Up 1 team)
8. OK: remain the same
9. Vancouver: remain the same
10. Vancouver Island: remain the same
11. Have Junior berthing match senior berth because Jr numbers are higher in most zones.

These were discussed in opposite order starting at the bottom. Discussion: We have more zones than any other commissions. We have geographical zones and we have district zones. We should review berthing every three years.

Carried unanimously.

Greg Worsley (Elgin Park) moved that the Junior berthing for team and individual will match the Senior berthing. Mark Fenn (Sentinel) seconded it.

Carried.

Greg Worsley (Elgin Park) moved that North Shore gain one extra team to move to 4 teams and 20 individuals as it is the most difficult zone to get out of.

Hilary Watt (Sutherland) seconded it.

Carried.

Greg Worsley (Elgin Park) moved that Kootenays go to 2 teams and 15 individuals. They would go down by one team and down to 5 individuals to match the other similar sized zones. Mark Fenn (Sentinel) seconded it.

Carried. One Opposed, 7 abstentions.

Greg Worsley (Elgin Park) moved that Independent Vancouver would be up one team and up 5 individuals. Friendly amendment: just increase the 5 individuals.

Seconded Davie Gill, (White Rock Christian)

Carried unanimously.

Greg Worsley (Elgin Park) moved Fraser Valley increase by 5 individuals to 45 individuals.

Stan Jung (Charles Tupper) seconded.

Carried unanimously.

Greg Worsley was thanked for his work in compiling this information.

10. Race Day Information:

Race Director Tom Carlson of Kelowna went over the course, parking, starting positions, tent placement, garbage, volunteers, soup, onsite medial and awards for the race the following day.

Tom was thanked for all of the effort in hosting the Championships.

11. New Business

Motion from the floor from Brad Cunningham of Reynolds to create two tiers for the BC Championships. The scoring would remain the same but there would be two banners. It would allow small schools the opportunity to win the BC Championships. This would be AAA and AA tiers.

Discussion: This motion would have to go to the Championships Standards Committee.

Small schools could move up if they so chose. Schools would need to declare at the beginning of the season. BCSS determines the numbers of where the division would be differentiated. The numbers differ for different sports which is confusing. The schools need to qualify out of their zones. This is the last one

of the few sports where a small school can come up and win it. Tiering is there so it supports a team atmosphere. BCSS doesn't pay for the banners anymore. We are down to 4 runners to help the small schools.

The motion was defeated. Three for, 20 opposed. Four abstentions.

Motion from the floor from Andrew Lenton of Maple Ridge that we standardize the distances to approximately 5km at the zone and BC Championships for the Seniors and it would also be for the Juniors. Hillary Watt of Sutherland seconded.

Motion to table Judy Tobacco of SMU seconded. For: 18, 7 opposed, 4 abstentions.

Discussion: The distances make us different than track. Junior and Senior boys are quite different. Setting up different courses is difficult. Equality is great but we need to look at the time that the girls run vs boys. It would be nice to have some wiggly room.

Motion is defeated. 10 for, 11 against, 4 abstentions.

Maurice Wilson from BC Athletics spoke to the group. He doesn't feel that he knows anything about the school system so it might be good to have someone who is knowledgeable about both act as a liaison. There are coaching initiatives that are teacher specific clinics. He asked people to please pick up a booklet on their way out.

12. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Eric Wolf of Dawson Creek and Tessa Kubicek of Oak Bay. Carried.