

**New North Central District Athletic Association Meeting : June 5, 2007**  
**Carlton Comprehensive Highschool**

**1. Introduction of people present**

The North Central District Athletic Association had representation from the following schools: Birch Hills, Carlton, St. Louis, St. Mary, Sturgeon Lake, Big River, Churchill (La Ronge), Debden, Senator Myles Venne, Montreal Lake, Kinistino, Shellbrook & Meath Park

**2. Minutes from April 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

Minutes were read by secretary Chantelle LaMotte. No business arising. Chantelle LaMotte moves to adopt April 19<sup>th</sup> minutes. Seconded by Dale Regel. Motion carried.

**3. Financial Report: Don Laing**

Motion by Don Laing to adopt Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Adam Svenkeson. Motion carried.

**4. Official's Report: Jackie Packett (absent)**

Trevor Bates commented on the Football Clinic held in Big River. It went well with many local people attending. Big River will have a 6 man Football team in the fall.

Fall Volleyball & Basketball Clinics T.B.A.

**5. Spring Sports**

**Badminton**

Rene Quintal reported on behalf of commissioner Mark Cantin. Badminton districts went well. The new rally scoring system as well as the smaller District area resulted in the draws moving along quickly.

**Track & Field**

Comments by Commissioner David Dice attached below: (read at meeting by Ellen Grewcock)

**District Track Commissioner's report**

The district meet went well. At the last minute it was decided to change to a five conference structure, with three representatives from Carlton, Parkland, PA Catholic, and PA Small Schools, and two representatives from Missinipe. This was done in order to alleviate travel requirements for the northern schools.

Overall team winner at the district meet was St. Mary. Full meet results are posted on [www.carlton.srsd119.ca/sports/track](http://www.carlton.srsd119.ca/sports/track), and this site is linked to the district web site.

## Concerns:

1. Team selection. Athletes continue to cause difficulty for the team by backing out at the last minute. While injuries are understandable, a number of athletes did not go because of largely personal reasons (not getting time off work, participation in other sports, etc.). We should be taking the strongest possible team to provincials, and somehow need to get our athletes to realize what a big event this is. It makes most of their other provincial sports pale in comparison. As one of our district's first time participants, and eventual silver medalist said at the meet to his coach "this is intense".
2. We do a pretty good job of acting as a district team. Our athletes and coaches are really good about supporting each other. I saw many examples of coaches from one school helping out athletes from another. Likewise, many times you could hear a vocal support for NC athletes from groups of athletes of many schools cheering each other on. That is important for individual success, and we need to do everything possible to maintain and build on this (see travel and accommodation).
3. Other schools than Carlton need to be more involved in the organization of the meet. I would suggest that next year each conference be put in charge of some aspect of the logistics of running the meet. They would have to have a number of people (perhaps two or three) present an hour and a half before the meet starts to do such things as set up throw sectors, rope off areas of the track, ensure pits are leveled, high jump and pole vault pits out, hurdles on the track, etc. These same conferences would then also be responsible for ensuring that equipment gets back and properly stored. Responsibility for each part of the track and field should then rotate, so each conference has a different area of responsibility each year.

## Travel and accommodation

The logistics of travel and accommodation were terrible. It was decided at the district meeting that all the North Central athletes would travel on chartered buses, and stay together. There was some concern expressed by Missinipe, logically, since they have much farther to travel than anyone else, and joint travel would make their departure and return times very difficult. However, everyone else at the meeting seemed supportive of the idea. I heard no-one else at the district meet indicate that they would not be traveling together.

Thus I was rather surprised to learn at the last minute that many schools went ahead and made their own travel arrangements on their own. As it turned out, this was fortunate, as the hotel in Melville where we planned to stay totally botched our reservation. However, it did make trying to organize things extremely difficult. Right up to the last minute we were still communicating with other schools to confirm if they were coming or not.

One of the reasons we wanted to have team busses was to build some team spirit. Travel together on the bus, and shared rooming does a great deal for our district as many schools come together to make one unified team. If we knew now that travel was going to take place as a team, we could book accommodation, and make preliminary arrangements as soon as the site for next year's provincials is arranged.

Other districts that are similar to ours have adopted a policy where if an athlete makes it to the provincial team, their school must pay the district immediately for their travel and accommodation. If the athlete backs out, or decides to travel on his/her own, the school has already paid the fare, and the district is off the hook.

We should be supporting each other as a district team. There is much to be gained by having athletes travel and room together. It would save us some expenses by sharing rooms effectively, build a lot of

team spirit, and make management of the logistics of attending the provincial track and field championship much simpler.

David Dice

At the April meeting, the group voted on and passed the new alignment of conferences, this posed a problem for Parkland & Missinipe because of geographical area. In the end the commissioner David Dice changed the alignment to accommodate Parkland & Missinipe. The group also voted on traveling as a District track team on one or two charter busses and staying together. This was passed, however some schools still chose to travel on their own.

There was much discussion regarding the issue of attending meetings and being prepared to speak & discuss & represent your school on various aspects of how motions will affect your school.

More discussion regarding the voting process & the logistics of changing the number of representatives each area gets at the District meet resulted.

More discussion surrounding athletes being committed to attending track rather than backing out or leaving after one event resulted. The issue of accommodations and traveling together was also discussed.

The President recommended that we table the discussion and strike a committee at the September meeting of Track & Field representatives (one from each school) to discuss the best way to proceed with issues of conference alignment, athlete commitment and District travel.

\* TRACK & FIELD UNIFORMS NEED TO BE TURNED IN TO ELLEN GREWCOCK

**6. AGM RESOLUTIONS: as voted on by group for voting delegates to represent at AGM**

07/02/01	Passed	07/04/01	Table	07/08/01	Table	07/12/01	Passed
07/02/02	Passed	07/04/02	Passed	07/08/02	Defeated	07/12/02	Passed
07/02/03	Passed					07/12/03	Passed
07/02/04	Passed	07/05/01	Passed	07/09/01	Defeated	07/12/04	Passed
07/02/05	Defeated	07/05/02	Defeated			07/12/05	Passed
07/02/06	Defeated	07/05/03	Passed	07/10/01	Passed	07/12/06	Passed
07/02/07	Defeated	07/05/04	Defeated	07/10/02	Passed	07/12/07	Defeated
		07/05/05	Defeated	07/10/03	Defeated	07/12/08	Passed
07/03/01	Defeated	07/05/06	Defeated	07/10/04	Defeated		
07/03/02	Defeated						
07/03/03	Defeated	07/07/01	Defeated				
		07/07/02	Passed				

## **7. Other:**

Cross country Provincials 2007 is being hosted by Carlton Dave Dice is Contact

Provincial Sand Golf- only one school team per District if Provincial host owns the District spot

Proposed Curling Districts Feb 1& 2, 2008

Possible Carlton Bonspiel Dec. 8 & 9 2007

Proposed notice of motion by Bob Coffin, seconded by Dale Regel

## **Notice of Motion:**

Whereas, the SHSAA governs school sport in Saskatchewan and endeavors to provide fair and equitable opportunities for our student athletes to compete in all its activities,

And recognizing the issues of unfairness and inequity presented by allowing sport specific education program student-athletes to compete in SHSAA sanctioned activities,

And knowing that a precedent has been established by the Alberta (ASAA) and British Columbia High School Athletic Associations (BCSS), which have similar policies and objectives as the SHSAA, that sport specific education programs have been deemed in those jurisdictions to provide those student-athlete participants with an inequitable and unfair advantage in those specific sports,

And that having dealt for years with the issues of inequity and unfairness which sports specific educational programs engendered in their jurisdictions, those provincial associations have researched and passed motions with regard to sports specific education programs addressing the resulting issues of unfairness and inequity,

And due to the fact that some schools in Saskatchewan are now offering, or are planning to offer, sports specific education programs whereby their students would be gaining an inequitable and unfair advantage if allowed to compete in SHSAA activities,

## **Be it Resolved:**

**That any student-athlete registered in a single sport specific education program is ineligible to compete in that particular sport in SHSAA sanctioned events. The student-athlete, however, will be eligible to compete in other school sports as long as they meet SHSAA eligibility requirements.**

## **Background:**

We in Saskatchewan need to look at these issues, and if we believe that the sports specific programs are indeed providing an inequitable and unfair advantage, as has been found in Alberta and British Columbia, it is incumbent upon us to make a decision which is in the best interests of all our Saskatchewan students at this time. Should this motion pass at the SHSAA AGM the

schools who have, or are planning to start, these programs would have time to contact the parents/guardians of those students affected. This would allow for an informed parental decision knowing their student's status regarding participation in SHSAA sanctioned activities.

Attached please find the BCSS pamphlet which was developed by their high school athletic association. It was made available to parents/guardians of students planning to enter into a sports specific education program so they could make informed decisions about eligibility to compete in high school sports prior to registering their student in these programs.

Attached please find a copy of the ASAA bylaw which addresses the issue of sports specific school programs.

Please note that both the Alberta and B.C. associations have adopted the same definition of what a sport specific program is. It is suggested that if this motion passes at the AGM, that we follow suit, if the AGM considers the definition to be appropriate to Saskatchewan's situation. The rationale presented by both associations is that these bylaws ensure that competitive opportunities for all student-athletes are kept as equitable as possible. The SHSAA has the same beliefs about fairness and equity. It would therefore seem only fitting that we adopt a similar bylaw to address the fairness and equity issues which come with sports specific education programs. The Alberta and British Columbia High School Sports Associations have already recognized the issues which arise from sports specific education programs, researched these, and passed resolutions to create the policies that are in place today for their jurisdictions. While the location may change, the same fairness and equity issues were the deciding factor in each association's decision

Motion carried

## **8. Coaches Symposium**

Those attending the coaches' symposium according to the random draw are:

Carlton 1 (T.B.A.)

Carlton 2 (T.B.A.)

St. Mary's: Murray Henry

St. Mary's Jamie Zurakowski

Churchill 1 (T.B.A.)

Debden 2 (T.B.A.)

Shellbrook 1 (T.B.A.)

St. Mary's Trevor Miller

Carlton 3 (T.B.A.)

Meath Park 1 (T.B.A.)

**9. Adjournment of Meeting:**

**Motion to adjourn by Bill Yeaman, seconded by Don Laing**

**Next meeting of North Central District is September 6 2007**

**4:30pm at Carlton Comprehensive school Library.**