

GCB-Action

The FULL COURT Report

OUR WEBSITE: www.gcba.ca

GCBA NEWSLETTER #2

NOVEMBER 15, 2003

WHO IS
 S.A.M.M.??
 AND WHY
 DOES HE
 WANT



YOU??

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings,

It's November and the school year is well underway as is the GCBA basketball season. As you can all appreciate, the Fall period is an extremely busy one for most families and so I would like to commend those of you who each year put forward the absolutely incredible effort necessary to get the GCBA Program up and running over the months of Sep and Oct. Well done everyone!!

I don't know where the time goes, but it seems like the Annual General Meeting (AGM) was just yesterday where we elected several new members to the executive and said a heartfelt thanks to the three outgoing folks. Joining us this year are **Pam Quinn** as VP Competitive, **Shelley Carey** as Secretary and **Steven Malette** as the Treasurer. Thanks to all three for stepping forward and a special thanks to the three outgoing members, **Larry Ring**, **Holly Robinson** and **Lorene Singh** for all their efforts on the executive.

On the subject of the **AGM**, it was much better attended than some years, as I believe we had upwards of 75 people in attendance. However, for an organization of approximately 1,750 members including well over 300

volunteers, that kind of turnout is extremely poor at best. That said, it is recognized that the **AGM** is held at the end of the season when most families have already moved on to other activities and are just happy that the basketball season is over. To address this, the Executive has decided to institute an in-season **Semi-Annual Members Meeting (SAMM)** with the hope of engaging more of you in the management process of the GCBA. To that end, the first

SAMM has been scheduled for **7:30 PM on 4 December 2003, at the Ray Friel Centre**.

The main agenda item for the meeting will be to put forward a **motion to incorporate the GCBA** and you will see an article a bit later in the newsletter addressing this issue including a copy of the motion that will be put forward. This is an extremely important step forward for the Club, as non-profit incorporation will bring a new legal status to the GCBA that will help to give us access to additional sponsorship funding to assist in the running of the organization. A full **S.A.M.M. Agenda** will be published in the coming weeks and you are strongly encouraged to attend.

Getting back to basketball and a very important aspect of our program that is certainly under-appreciated at times, officiating. In case you weren't aware, our Referee-in-Chief, **Rod Capern**, conducts a tremendous referee development

program and as I'm sure you would agree, our young referees are doing an excellent job. However, for those times when they don't, please remember that the children in our referee development program are exactly that, children who are learning to be referees, much like your children are learning to play and enjoy the game. In that vein, I ask you to be positive, encouraging and understanding at all times. It is very difficult to keep young referees in the program because of the negative conditions they have to operate under at times and they are as integral to the game as the coaches and players. That is to say, no referees, no games. So, when they do a good job, let them know; and, when they make a mistake, as they surely will, please be as understanding as you are with your own children when they make a mistake.

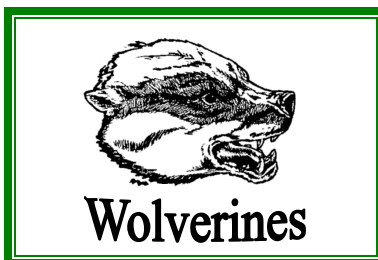
Finally, as I have mentioned to you in most of my previous notes, it takes the energy of a tremendous amount of people to run this program, and you don't all have to be basketball experts to come out and help. The GCBA program is the envy of the entire Eastern Ontario area and one of the major reasons for that is because of all the work that volunteers put into making the program a success. So, regardless if you have any background in basketball, I strongly encourage you to volunteer in some capacity. There are always things to be done, both on and off the court, and even if you can contribute an hour a week, that hour helps to lessen the load on the many volunteers already in action. For those of you who have been volunteering, congratulations and well done, none of this could happen without your assistance and you are to

be commended. Thanks again for all your time and effort.

See you around the gyms and again, I strongly encourage you to come out to the **SAMM on the 4th of December.**

See you then.

Tom Blais
GCBA President



Off and Running...

The heat of September appeared as usual to make the tryout season even more intense for hundreds of GCBA players looking to join the ranks of the Wolverines. There are strong teams together at all levels and early game results show the Gloucester winning tradition will take us through another great season of basketball.

Several teams are sporting the "**new look**" Wolverine uniforms as we move to forest green to match the rest of the GCBA. Also new this year is "**open gym**" every weekend where there is supervised time available for perfecting shooting, rebounding and other skills.

The GCBA has always been fortunate to have some of the best coaches in the province, and this year is no exception. We welcome to the head coaching ranks: **Phil Anderson** (Atom AA Boys), **John MacInnis** (Midget A

Boys), **Cory Brice** (Atom A Girls), **Marc Caissie** (Major Bantam Gold), and **Beth Resch** (Major Bantam AA).

Returning from last year are **Doug Cross** (Atom AA Girls), **Sharon Roach** and **Tim Aubry** (Major Bantam Green), **Ron Quesnel** (Midget A Girls), **Linas Pilypaitis** (Midget AA Girls), **Murray Shoup** (Juvenile Girls), and **Sue and Will Hinz** (Major Bantam Boys).

And finally, we are very pleased to welcome back to the GCBA competitive coaching ranks some past coaches who have done us proud before, and are on their way to doing it again: **Ron Peterson** (Atom A Boys), **Cliff Quain** (Major Bantam AA Boys), **Brian White** (Midget AA Boys), and **John Doherty** (Juvenile Boys).

The Wolverine tradition is also living on in another way this year, as we have a record number of former Wolverines who have grown up, played their ball and come back to share their expertise behind the bench as assistants. We are especially proud of these young coaches who are giving us time out of their busy lives this year: **James Derouin** (Juvenile Boys), **Shannon McAtasney** (Major Bantam AA Boys), **Jeff Armstrong** (Midget AA Boys) and **JC Frechette** (Atom AA Boys).

A few other new program notes for this season: Juvenile and Midget Boys teams will take some "down time" during the high school season and have light practice and game schedule so being a Wolverine and a high school player are not a conflict; and a huge thank you to **Rob Greaves (Girls Director)** and **Ron Allenby (Boys Director)** who are assisting in delivering

the competitive program by helping team Managers with everything from uniforms to gyms.

Tournament planning is well underway for the season - come and cheer us on!

Mike O'Connor Memorial Tournament - February 20-22, Junior Boys – March 5-7 and Senior Boys - April 2-4.

Any experienced timers and scorers interested in **community service hours** at any of these tournaments (sometimes we will pay for this service, too!) should contact **Pam Quinn** at: pkern@sympatico.ca

Pam Quinn
VP COMP

Welcome New and Returning players and Families

19 Sep 03 Jeanne Sauve Gym Novice Boys Evaluations

What a rewarding day greeting 8 and 9 year old boys for their evaluation day. I had an opportunity to see the excited faces, meet new families and returning families. It continues to be a rewarding experience for me.

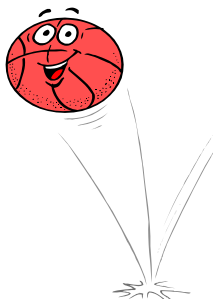


Many thanks to our League Directors, **Dave Senger (Girls)** and **Eaton Tai (Boys)** and all our **Division Convenors**

Novice Boys	Debbie Patterson
Novice Girls	Heather Miller
Atom Boys	Alex Mirhady
Atom Girls	Al Raniere
Bantam Boys	Shelley Carey Sylvie Coventry Bina Chohan
Bantam Girls	Ann Couillard Lise Paquette
Midget Boys	Wesley Griffith
Midget Girls	Betty-Ann Wassill
Juvenile Boys	Eaton Tai
Juvenile Girls	Gord MacDonald

Dave and **Eaton** continue to keep us communicating, organised and updated as they direct our basketball program.

The **convenors** have volunteered their time, unlimited energy, and organisational skills to a very successful start-up this year. Many thanks from all our players and families. I have once again, had the opportunity to work with some fabulous volunteers and families in the GCBA.



A key objective for this season, is one of succession planning. We have discovered the hard the way this year, that when our longest serving convenors, coaches and other volunteers move on and out with their older children, we need to be prepared. We need our new volunteers working with our knowledgeable volunteers during the year to be ready and confident to assume the roles for the following season.

So if you are interested in this opportunity, please do not hesitate to contact me. My email address is: shelleyblais@rogers.com
The success of our program is grounded in the hundreds of volunteers that come forward each year and just do it!

A **safety reminder to all players and families to ensure you escort your child into the practice gym**, first to confirm the coaches have arrived and second that the gym is ready for the practice or game.

Yours in basketball,

Shelley Blais
VP OPS Houseleague

**SEE YOU AT THE
S.A.M.M.
THURSDAY
04 DEC 03
7:30PM
RAY FRIEL
CENTRE
MEETING RM**



An Open Letter from the Executive of the GCBA:

As a current member of the GCBA, you have an opportunity at the upcoming Semi-Annual General Meeting (S.A.M.M.) to vote on an important new step in the future development of the GCBA.

Your money has always been managed well in the GCBA, thanks to the countless volunteers who have worked and contributed over the years. We are now proposing a new step to put the organization on an even more solid financial footing, and to provide you, as a parent and member of the GCBA, even greater assurance that the organization is operating properly.

The Executive of the GCBA is applying for status as a non-profit corporation. This step reflects our commitment to increased openness and improved accountability in managing the organization and the funds it receives. This will cost the GCBA between \$400 and \$500. All legal and accounting fees are being donated.

Non-profit incorporation gives the GCBA a new legal status that increases the amount and clarity of information that parents will receive. Incorporation also gives us more and better sponsorship opportunities to raise funds for the organization.

In short, incorporation means more opportunities for the GCBA as well as more transparency for parents about where revenues are derived, where the money goes, what decisions have been made, and what has been achieved. Finally, it protects our assets and limits the personal liabilities of the Executive team.

Some key points to consider:

- Incorporation means there will be a higher standard of accountability to parents and members of the GCBA. Financial reporting standards will be stricter, and reporting to members will be clearer and more complete.
- Incorporation will help us qualify for many more opportunities to raise funds from granting councils and corporate sponsors. Most applications for grants require non-profit corporation status, and most require the type of audited financial statements that are part of corporate financial reporting.
- There is at least one important opportunity open to the GCBA in the form of a Trillium grant that could help with the purchase of new equipment, uniforms and training for coaches and assistant coaches. Similar organizations to the GCBA -- but with non-profit status, such as the Barrhaven Basketball organization -- have qualified for significant grants.
- Corporate sponsors are much more likely to respond positively to an incorporated association, knowing that it means clear and familiar standards for managing funds.
- Without incorporation, members of the GCBA Executive can be held personally liable for insurance claims stemming from accidents and other incidents should someone decide to take legal action against the Association. This means the personal possessions (homes, cars, savings) of Executive members are at risk.
- You can find more information about the benefits of non-profit incorporation at the Dalhousie University's website on non-profit sector leadership: <http://www.dal.ca/~henson/nonprofit/incorporate.html>

The resolution we will be voting on is:

"Be it resolved that the Gloucester Basketball Association, also known as the Gloucester Cumberland Basketball Association, merge with the not-for-profit corporation known as the Gloucester Cumberland Basketball Association with the same officers and directors as are in place at this time with the same constitution as presently exists with the Gloucester Basketball Association and that the officers and directors take all such necessary steps and execute such necessary documents to accomplish this merger."