



GCBAAction

The Full Court Report

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

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Please send your comments and articles to

Denisa Horak at

h_denisa@hotmail.com

Words from the President



Joyeux Noël!

It has been a great 2007/8 season so far and I want to

thank all the players, coaches, officials and volunteers for a great start.

There is a lot happening and in this edition of GCBAAction readers will learn about two of our 25th Anniversary initiatives: the men's rec. league and our new video. Also included is information about team

fundraising opportunities and full reports from all GCBA Executive Committee members.

Enjoy the read and I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. See you on the court in 2008.

Tom Blais

President, GCBA

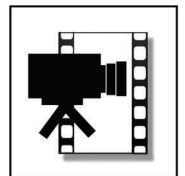
GCBA MERCHANDISE IS HERE!



Just in time for the holidays, the GCBA has launched its merchandise program. Get some great stuff for the basketball player in your family.

Orders will be accepted on-line at www.gcba.ca until December 14th so don't delay, order today!

25TH ANNIVERSARY VIDEO ON WEBSITE



Help us celebrate the GCBA's 25th Anniversary by watching our new video created just for the occasion. Find out how the GCBA became one of the largest and most successful basketball organizations in Ontario by going to www.gcba.ca to watch the world premier of the GCBA's 25th Anniversary Commemorative Video. Its not just for players but for everyone who helped make the GCBA a success!

VOLUNTEERS



The energy of the GCBA is not only found on the basketball court, it is also in the ranks of the volunteers that make the program work week in and week out.

Volunteers are coaches, assistant coaches, team managers, scorers, timers, convenors, directors and members of the Executive.

Basketball experience is not necessary - just a desire to do something for the commu-

nity. If you want to make a difference, volunteer today!

CURRENT VOLUNTEER NEEDS:

House League Timers & Scorers (commitment: 1.5 hrs weekly for 18 weeks)

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Janet Capern at g_cbasketball@yahoo.ca or 834-2178

“Without volunteers the GCBA would not exist.”
Tom Blais

NEW ADULT MEN’S LEAGUE

In recognition of it’s 25th year of Youth Basketball programming the GCBA is proposing to expand its operations and increase its community support base with the initiation of a **new recreational adult men’s league!**

We are looking for interested GCBA alumni: players, coaches, and volunteers past (or present) ages 19+ who would be interested in forming a recreational Men’s League to play 1 game/week on weekdays: Tuesday, Wednesday, OR Thursday (specific day, to be confirmed based on Team response).



DETAILS:

- ⇒ 6 Team League (maximum 12 players per team)
- ⇒ 10 game schedule: Jan 08 – Mar 06
- ⇒ REGISTRATION FEE: \$650 per team (Cheques payable to: **GCBA**)

Deadline for TEAM registration: 03 JAN 08

TEAM Registrations will be accepted on a first come basis.

To register a TEAM please download the Registration Form from our website: www.gcba.ca



The GCBA has recently launched a new website (www.gcba.ca)! Get the most up to date information and don't miss a moment of the action!

Business Name

Gloucester Cumberland Basketball Association

Box #149—5929L Jeanne d'Arc Blvd.
Orleans, ON
K1C 7K2

Phone: 613-834-2178

Fax: 613-834-2021

E-mail: g_cbasketball@yahoo.ca

Check it out today!



TEAM FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY!

If your team is looking for a fun way to raise money while promoting basketball this fundraising initiative is for you! Sell tickets to two great basketball events (MBNA Capital Hoops Classic and the CIS Men's Basketball Championship) while raising money for your team. Discounted tickets are available to GCBA teams which can be sold at a higher cost. If you are a player or coach interested in finding out more, contact Dan Nielsen at nielsend@ottawasenators.com.



The GCBA would like to congratulate Wolverine coach **Linas Pilypaitis** on a great finish at the 2007 U15 Girl's National Championships. As the Head Coach of Team Ontario he led the team to a first place finish.





PRESIDENTS REPORT



Season's Greetings!!

It never ceases to amaze me how quickly we seem to get to the Christmas Break from start-up in September. We always have that big push in September and October to get the program going and before you know it we are eight weeks in and going strong. It's a great credit to our volunteers at every level who, in many cases, toil in the background without much recognition.

Well done to all you! And of particular note, I want to specifically thank and acknowledge Anne Couillard, Shelley Blais and Phil Anderson for their excellent efforts in running the House League and Wolverine programs, respectively. These three folks work tirelessly on your behalf and are to be commended.

Speaking of volunteers, I would like to address two concerns that I have, one of which is a constant issue, the other which seems to be a more seasonal one.

The first concern I have and which is the more constant of the two, is for our volunteer base, which is becoming more and more difficult each year to fill in. It takes the energy of a tremendous amount of people to run the GCBA 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 nearly 300 volunteers already in action. If you haven't done so already, please introduce yourself to one of the organizers of whatever level(s) your children participate in and ask what you can do to help. Also keep this in mind especially for your older children who are looking for community service in order to graduate. If you give us their name, you can be guaranteed that we will contact them and offer them something to do that will count towards their community service.

The second concern I have this season is with respect to Discipline both on and off the court, and not just with players. It is disturbing the number of incidents of referee abuse, technical fouls, trash talking and off-court incidents that have occurred already this season. These incidents are being looked at very seriously by the discipline committee as well as by the executive especially given that our club policy is zero tolerance. That to say, incidents such as these may well result in long term suspensions, denied access to GCBA facilities and ultimately expulsion from the club. I ask that you please take a leadership role in explaining to your players/children and fellow parents what is acceptable sportsman-like behaviour and the consequences of not behaving in that manner. That to say, if we keep it simple and treat others as we would want to be treated, then everything should go well. It is essential that coaches, parents and players alike, all understand and act in this way. Remember, regardless if it's house league or competitive play, everyone needs to learn how to cope with both winning and losing and either way, being respectful in both situations is the surest way to keep things on an even keel.

Further in this regard, the reports of referee abuse that have come to my attention are of great concern to me. The referee development program is one aspect of the GCBA that needs to be constantly recognized because it is so under-appreciated at times. Our Referee-in-Chief, Kim Holbein, is doing an excellent job with this program and our young referees are doing an excellent job on

the court. Please remember that the children in our referee development program are exactly that, children 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 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. On the other side of the coin, you might want to consider enrolling your own children next season as this is an excellent way for them to learn the game from another perspective or, you might want to enrol yourself to get a feel for just how challenging it is to be a referee.

On the news front, the Ottawa area has once again been successful in bidding to host one of the year-end provincial tournaments and will be hosting the Major Bantam Girl Championships, 11-13 Apr 2008. Like past bids, the GCBA has partnered again with other local clubs to host the event, and will probably be hosting up to two Divisions here in the Orleans area. Organizational meetings are now underway to prepare for the Championships and you will hear more in the coming months about our contribution to this endeavour. It will be an exciting time for local basketball fans and will also provide some opportunities for local kids to add to their community service hours, as there will be a need for volunteers to help out with all kinds of things over the two weekends. Stay tuned for further details.

Also in the news, the Ontario Summer Games will be held in Ottawa again in 2008. I will be taking a key role again in overseeing the basketball competition, which will see 24 teams (12 boys and 12 girls) at the (U15) Midget age level representing their various regions from 13-16 Aug. The venues for basketball will be Carleton University, Algonquin College and several Ottawa area high schools to be announced at a later date. Stay tuned for further details on this event as well.

In the very much appreciated column, I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome **Mike Hill, Mike Joy, and Bina Chohan** to the Executive ranks, **Treasurer, VP Boys House League, and VP Volunteer Operations**, respectively. Mike Hill stepped forward to replace Lindsay Sanford who stepped down at our last Annual Meeting; Mike Joyce has replaced **Shelley Blais** who has stepped down to become our new **Chair of Discipline**; and **Bina Chohan** who has already been a longtime volunteer in the GCBA, has stepped forward to fill that vacancy for us .

I would also like to welcome **Merrick Palmer** who has been operating as our Director of technical development since last Spring and who is busily putting together coaching clinics and coaching resources that can be used by all levels. Should you be looking for some technical assistance or a clinic to attend, don't hesitate to contact Merrick at biggsoup@hotmail.com.

Finally, and probably the most exiting news in some time, have you had an opportunity to see the new GCBA 25th Anniversary video? It is on our website and it is absolutely outstanding. All of the credit goes to **Denisa Horak** our **Director of Marketing** who did a fabulous job of putting this project together. Also while I'm thanking Denisa for her excellent efforts, you should also make note of her great on-line initiative to bring GBCA clothing sales to you. She has put a lot of energy into this with the aim making clothing sales more accessible to our members and to help us in doing a better job of branding the GCBA. **Well done Denisa!**

I wish you all a safe and relaxing holiday season and best of luck with the rest of your seasons.

See you in the gyms.

Tom Blais



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



Who we are in 2007-08
Did you KNOW? ... that...

According to our current database;

- ⇒ we have a total of **960 PLAYERS** registered in our GCBA regular fall/winter programs so far this year
- ⇒ 842 Housleague players + 116 Wolverines
- ⇒ on 80 HL teams and 11 Wolverine teams
- ⇒ we have a total of **214 active regular weekly VOLUNTEERS**
- ⇒ 10 HL convenors
- ⇒ 87 coaches: 76 HL + 11 WOLVERINE
- ⇒ 83 assistant coaches
- ⇒ 34 Executive/Administrative volunteers, acting in a number of key roles, including: 9 competitive team managers, 5 Trny directors, 4 program directors, 5 exec-admin support, and 11 exec members.
- ⇒ we have **82 HL referees** assisting us every week
- ⇒ we play **40 HL games** EVERY Saturday for 18 weeks and **2-3 weekly 3 game hostings** of Competitive teams from Nov – May
- ⇒ we host **3 superb competitive Tournaments** every season
- ⇒ we spend (on average) **200hrs/week** in a gym playing and practicing

WE LOVE BASKETBALL!!

SAVE THE DATE:

2007-08 TEAM PHOTOS are scheduled for **JAN 19-20** at Sir Wil Cafeteria.

Details of schedule TBA. Please check the website in January.

25th ANNIVERSARY EVENT:


Have you heard about...the **GCBA THREE "R's"** ???

Rant!...Rave! and....Refresh!

A chance to share **YOUR THOUGHTS** past, present, and future **on the GCBA**, while partaking of some **special treats** in your game gym locations on **Game Day** Coming to a gym near you in the **NEW YEAR**...Stay tuned for details

Sponsored by the GCBA Exec Committee.

GCBA EVENT CALENDAR

DEC 2007	JAN 2008	FEB 2008	MAR 2008
DEC 9-14 Final week of PRACTICES pre-Xmas	JAN 07 PRACTICES BEGIN	FEB 02 2008-09 PRE-REGISTRATION PACKAGES: issued to all currently registered players 2007 TAX RECEIPTS: issued w. Pre-Reg forms.	MAR 01 HL SEASON FINALS: All divisions
SELECT TRYOUTS GIRLS Date..Time..Gym tbc	JAN 12 HL GAMES 2 nd Session BEGIN: All divisions	FEB 15-17 Mike O'Connor Memorial Trny (Girls)	
DEC 15 FINAL HL GAME DAY pre-XMAS CANDY CANE TRNYS: NB, NG, JG	JAN 19-20 GCBA PHOTO DAY HL TEAM PHOTOS Sir Wil Caf	FEB 29- MAR 02 JR BOYS WOVERINE TRNY	
DEC 16 CLOTHING SALE:PICK UP Sir Wil Gym C 1-3 pm	JAN 26 SELECTS TRYOUTS BOYS Date..Time..Gym		
Dec 17- Jan 06 XMAS BREAK ENJOY! 			



VP COMPETITIVE'S REPORT



The Teams:

The Wolverines season is underway for all junior (Major Atom – Major Bantam) and most senior (Major Midget - Junior) teams. This year we are fielding 11 teams:

Major Atom AA Girls coached by Geoff Wells

Major Bantam A Girls coached by Randy Godfrey

Major Bantam AA Girls coached by Mark Magee

Major Midget AA Girls coached by Al Horton

Junior AA Girls coached by Murray Shoup

Major Atom AA Boys coached by Mark Curtis

Major Bantam A Boys coached by Joel Edwards

Major Bantam AA Boys coached by Chris Wakefield

Major Midget A Boys coached by Rick Harris

Major Midget AA Boys coached by Chris Price

Junior AA Boys coached by Tim Aubry

All teams have been up and running for some time. The senior girls are starting to move into full swing now that the high school season has completed while the senior boys are dropping back a bit as the high season has kicked off.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of parents in the competitive program who volunteer for everything from timing/scoring games, manning canteens, driving to practices, fundraising, or directing operations for an entire division. Particular thanks go to the many coaches who volunteer so much of their time, and without whom, there would be no teams.

Selects tryouts will start shortly in December and January for Girls and Boys respectively. We have the possibility of fielding up to seven teams this season but only coaches step forward for: Major Atom Girls, Major Bantam Girls, Major Midget Girls, Junior Girls, Major Atom Boys, Major Bantam and Major Midget

Advanced thanks to those coaches who come forward to train and challenge these House League All Stars and give them some exposure to competitive basketball.

The Tournaments:

The Mike O'Connor Memorial Tournament will run February 15-17 and showcase basketball talents of teams from around Ontario, Quebec and Northern New York State. This tournament is very prestigious within the basketball community and always well run and organized. I look forward to another terrific Mike O this season!

To remind everyone: Mike O'Connor was a basketball coach and pillar in our community whose legacy of player development lives on in this tournament through its Equal Participation format where every athlete plays in every game up to the Major Midget level. Mike's wife Nancy and his daughters always attend the opening ceremonies of the tournament, giving us a proud tradition of continuity with Mike's role in building the Wolverine program. Special thanks to the Tournament Coordinator, David Senger, Shelley Carey and too many others to name for their efforts in organizing this premier event.

Junior and Senior Boys

No less well organized and run are the Junior and Senior Boys Wolverines Tournaments February 29 – March 4 and April 4-6. These tournaments are attracting many boys teams from Ontario and Quebec and also showcase some of the best basketball talent around. All of the tournaments are filling up nicely and much thanks goes to Isabelle Riche and Neil Wyatt for their untiring efforts getting the parent volunteers, draws, gyms referees and all the other minutiae sorted out.

FIBA

This season is our second encounter with the FIBA rules and our Wolverines coaches are have adjusted well to coaching and gaming under the FIBA rules. This season Basketball is implementing Ontario 24 second shot clocks at the senior levels. Our coaches and athletes are adjusting their play to work within the now limited time to shoot making for a faster game with no stalling tactics allowed. There is an additional burden on pour volunteers as the game now requires a third person at the scoring table to manage the shot clocks.

Rants and Raves Requested

As always we will ask for feedback on the competitive season from all players and parents of all competitive teams: Wolverines and GCBA Selects. This includes assessment of practice times, numbers of games, travel, coaches and assistants, sheer enjoyment and some other dimensions. If you do not receive an evaluation form please download one from the GCBA website and forward it to my attention at the general GCBA address in the Orleans UPS store.

See you in the gym!

Yours in Basketball,

Phil Anderson

VP Competitive Operations



VP HOUSE LEAGUE (GIRLS) REPORT



This is first opportunity I've had to welcome you all to the 2007-08 season and already we are in December. Donc bienvenue à tous nos joueurs, parents et familles!!

As in many similar organizations the start-up is always a challenging time for all but we are now fully engaged in another exciting basketball season. Despite the fact that this is my fourth year as VP, I'm still taken back by the enthusiasm of our young players. It is always a pleasure for me to see these young people on the court enjoying themselves. It makes all the effort worthwhile for me.

The need for training for our coaches was something many had identified previously. This year, under the careful watch and wisdom of our Technical Coordinator Merrick Palmer, we had clinics available prior to the start of the season. In addition, Merrick has been in contact with some of our coaches and is available as needed.

Novice Girls	Kelli Jammes	I am still astonished at the dedication of our countless volunteers. So many give up their time to ensure we have a successful program to offer our young people. Allow me to present to you some of those volunteers, the dedicated team of convenors who provide their time, energy and organisational skills to the benefit of all our players. I must mention that they are backed by a great group of coaches.
Atom Girls	Ruby Ferris	
Bantam Girls	Alain Séguin	
Midget Girls	David Herbst	Personally I would be lost without the years of experience and wisdom of our Division Director, David Senger.
Juvenile Girls	Lise Paquette	Many thanks from our players and families! Le dévouement de nos volontaires est remarquable et c'est grâce à eux que notre programme est un suc-

cès. Merci!

Our volunteers = the key to the success of our program. Every year we are faced with the need for new volunteers. Please consider this rewarding opportunity. We all lead busy lives but whatever you can provide is most appreciated. Feel free to contact David or myself for more information. Any one of our convenors can provide you with some valuable insight.

An important part of the development program in the GCBA is the referees training program. We ask for your continued support of our young referees as they gain confidence on the court. Our officials must be respected by spectators, coaches and players alike.

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

Most of our divisions are busy preparing for their Candy Cane Tournaments, a tradition that began a dozen years ago combining basketball games, team building activities and food all with a Holiday theme. On behalf of the Girls Division, I'm inviting the members of Executive to stop by the various gyms and witness this great tradition. I look forward to this event year after year. See you all there!

Feel free to stop by or send me an email. Your input is always welcome. Je suis toujours à l'écoute ! Il me fera plaisir de vous rencontrer dans les gymnases !

Je vous souhaite tous de Joyeuses Fêtes! Et surtout santé et bonheur dans la nouvelle année!! Happy Holidays! Health and happiness to you and yours in the New Year!

Anne Couillard

VP House League Operations – Girls Division

VP HOUSE LEAGUE (BOYS) REPORT



Joyeux Noël!

As a volunteer in the GCBA for the past several seasons, I was always amazed at the seemingly effortlessly transition from season to season. Start-up, evaluations, drafts, game schedules, clothing, coaches, year-end tournaments, etc., all just seemed to magically fall into place. Boy, was I ever wrong!

The last couple of weeks have been a real eye-opener for me. Much like a swan gracefully swimming on the Rideau River, their feet are churning under the surface. The GCBA also has an incredible amount of support work going on behind the scenes to keep things running smoothly. You may not see them but trust me...feet are churning.

I would like to take this opportunity to specifically acknowledge and thank Shelley Blais for her tremendous presence over the past few years as the VP of the Boys House League Operations. She has been a major player in shaping the GCBA and leaves behind a huge footprint. Many of the unseen policies/strategies that make the GCBA so successful are the direct result of her tireless efforts. She definitely leaves behind some big shoes to fill (no pun intended) and we should all be thankful that she still remains an integral part of the organization as she moves into her new role.

I would also like to quickly thank Karen Moorman, Nat Atherton, Janet Hill, and Greg Capern for their efforts as Conveners of the Novice, Atom, Midget, and Juvenile levels, respectively. Of course, let us not forget the talents of Eaton Tai (Director Boys HL). I rely heavily on their expertise to account for the successes at their levels. All have all been fantastic to work with and are deserving of applause.

I look forward to meeting many of you in the near future. Should you ever have any comments, suggestions, concerns, etc. please feel free to approach or contact me. I'd be more than willing to listen and discuss (large double-double, please).

Hope you and your families have a safe and festive season.

See ya on the court,

Mike Joy

VP HL OPS - Boys