

President's Report
Manitoba Badminton Association (MBA)
Annual General Meeting
Saturday September 23, 2017

Name: David Harrison
Position: President

Badminton in Manitoba is growing and the Manitoba badminton association (MBA) is working to serve as many members from different backgrounds as possible. This past year has seen the updating of many policy documents including appeals, team selection, tournament coaching and others. Besides ensuring up to date policies the MBA is mainly focusing on improving sport initiation, coaching development and development of officials.

Sports initiation is being approached by several initiatives including: Shuttle time courses, Manitoba Adult Badminton league (MABL), bilateral programs for reaching underserved communities, development of documents to help new coaches, a developmental winter program youth team league and more. These initiatives help introduce new players to the sport and provide support to inexperienced organizers and coaches.

Coaching development is of critical importance as the sport grows and more athletes require strong coaching. Our staff have been quick to adopt the new NCCP certification program for badminton and have been working to provide the required courses to coaches here in Manitoba. With the new high performance (HP) camp program more coaches are being exposed to what it takes to coach elite athletes at the provincial/national level.

The path for officials in Manitoba and at the national level had been apprenticeship based. The requirements have been unclear and the pathway undefined. To remedy the situation and provide a clear pathway for future official's development has been created. This pathway will be implemented in the coming years with the goal of increasing the number of officials in the province and ensuring we have enough officials to comfortably cover the many events we run. Having officials ensure fair and well-run events is important to the growth of badminton in the province.

As we go forward this year the MBA will continue to work on growing badminton in the Province. This year will mark the first Friends of Badminton Manitoba (FOBM) funded initiatives. A push to create a MBA Hall of Fame is currently underway to provide inspiration to younger members as well as recognize the great achievements of many members past and present. Without any major national events to host this year a focus will be put on improving our existing slate of events and improving our hosting capacity by recruiting and training more individuals to independently run sanctioned events.

I hope to see the sport grow and that the years to come will find badminton in Manitoba with a large base of grassroots players, a committed group of serious players and a strong peak of elite athletes making noise at the national stage and beyond.

MBA President,

David Harrison