

Manitoba Badminton Association

President's Report

June 2012

What is our Association about?

The MBA promotes participation in badminton as a sport for life & encourages the growth of badminton athletes, coaches & officials throughout the province.

Our Association is a reflection of its membership. It is only as good as members are willing to participate.

The Association is heavily reliant on financial assistance from Sport Manitoba. Sport Manitoba has a budget that is disbursed between the recognized sports associations within the province. Sport Manitoba makes their decisions on who receives this funding through a score card & all the sports are compared to each other. The funding pool has shrunk yet the MBA received the same funding. We are making progress.

The last couple of years have been challenging for the Association on a financial level & we incurred some losses. The MBA has worked very hard on turning this around and this year will have a surplus. In addition over this fiscal year we have had a change in Executive Directors. I would like to congratulate Ryan Giesbrecht on taking over the roll.

Some of our current challenges for the MBA are the shortage of facilities dedicated to our sport. We also need to expand our number of coaches & officials within the province. There is a lot of non-affiliated play/clubs within the province. When we look at the other badminton associations across the country one of the strongest is Quebec. If you look close at their association they are heavily involved within the school system.

The MBA is working on expanding our coaches & officials. We need to work together on achieving this and have patience. We are having many discussions with the school system on how we can work together where it is a win-win for all participants.

The Association is also continuing to work on the:

Entry & Developmental Level programs

High Performance program

These will then lead for our athletes to achieve their goals & improve on their results.

The previous boards of the MBA have given use a platform to work from on improving to the benefit of the badminton community. We all have the best interests at heart for our Association & are trying to make it that much better for everyone. We cannot improve/fix everything over night & want to make sure any changes are thought through properly.

Our goal for the following year is to continue to grow our membership within the Manitoba Badminton Association through the badminton community of the province & to provide further transparency of the organization. We need to improve on our communication to the community so that we can all help each other.

I would like to thank all the board members for their volunteerism & their hard work. Darren Johnston is stepping down from the board this year. The board positions are two year terms & there are three other positions opening up Robert Jean Betournay, Don Snider & my seat on the board. This year there are four people running for the four open positions. Our association & the badminton community are only as strong as what the members are willing to put into it. Please volunteer & continue with your support.