

President's Report
Manitoba Badminton Association (MBA)
Annual General Meeting
Thursday 24th September, 2020

Name: Barrington Nichols
Position: President

When the 2019/2020 Badminton season started back in September 2019, our initial focus was bringing together a successful season of competitions. From putting together an exciting series of local tournaments to the highlight of hosting Nationals in January, we knew we were in for an exciting season. We also knew that we were going to lose our Executive Director Ryan Giesbrecht after 10 years of dedicated service. We have to say that the prospect of finding a new Executive Director to fill those shoes was not an exciting one. However, we, like everyone else were unprepared for 2020's true obstacle, Covid-19 and the dramatic effect it was to have on all our plans and everything we do.

Our season had an incredibly strong start. We saw our competitions attract good numbers and watched some exciting games. It was heartwarming to see the Manitoba Badminton community come together in January. Volunteers galore offered their time and hard work to make a successful 2020 Yonex Senior & Para National tournament possible. Manitoba became the first province to run both tournaments under the same banner. The feedback from the Canadian Badminton community was really positive.

I want to take this opportunity on behalf of myself and the Board to thank Ryan Giesbrecht for the many years of service he has given to the Manitoba Badminton Association. Over the last 10 years Ryan has taken the MBA to new levels. He worked hard to stabilize the business, helped create a popular, structured grass roots community and has helped to build strong partnerships in our Rural communities. Ryan has been a stalwart in the Manitoba Badminton Community, his time and dedication to the growth of the MBA has been phenomenal. His passion for badminton now sees him taking on the big risk of opening up his own badminton warehouse facility, a first for Manitoba. We wish him every success

It gives me great pleasure to see the appointment of Melanie Cure to the role of Executive Director, I have no doubt Melanie will bring her own perspective, personality and drive to the role. We look forward to seeing the MBA continue to develop.

I would like to thank the MBA team for all their hard work and dedication this year. There have been many challenges during the pandemic and you have all faced the challenges head on and with continued positivity. I feel confident that we will soldier on through all that Covid throws in our path and emerge on the other side strong and in a position to continue to build our badminton community.

Best Wishes and Stay Safe.

Barrington Nichols
President of Badminton Manitoba