

**Provincial Coach Report
Annual General Meeting
Thursday, September 24th, 2020**

Name: Justin Friesen
Position: Provincial Coach

Team Manitoba

- Conducted 5 Team Manitoba Training Camps throughout the season. Camps were 3-4 days in length.
- Many athletes involved for the 2019/20 season were not playing/training enough to make it worth their time to compete nationally.
- Have continued the redevelopment of the new Team Manitoba program to be more focused on 4-5 athletes per season. The thought is to be able to put in more effort with fewer athletes to help them get better results.
- The 2020/21 seasons athletes are: Kevin Barkman, Kiren Deraj, Victor Ho, Emalia Sinclair and Kyi Nichols.
- Have been working with these athletes starting in June, 2020 to work on their individual needs for singles or a doubles event.
- National Tournament support – Prairie Elite, Junior Elite and Nationals.
- Canada Winter Games 2023 are approaching, and a committee needs to be put together this season along with a timeline of events. No word yet from Badminton Canada for changes on the Technical Package from the 2019 version.
 - Aside from Kevin Barkman, all athletes are still eligible for the 2023 Canada Games.
- Will be utilizing the 2022 Manitoba Winter Games as a method to establish on-going annual Regional Teams. The goal of the regional teams will be to meet the needs of those athletes that are getting stronger, but are not yet at the point of competing nationally with frequency/reliability.
 - Formerly these athletes were on Team Manitoba, but needed more developmental work than should be needed at the nationally-competitive level.

Grassroots

- Typically this is done through school clinics throughout the school year. With the current situation we are working on a different approach.
- Looking at localized one-day or partial-day camps in communities with community centres.
- Conducted multiple club clinics throughout the 2019/20 season prior to the COVID shutdown.
- Attended most of our DWP League dates throughout season to meet the young up-and-coming athletes.
- A large amount of French badminton camps and clinics took place over the summer. With Mélanie's network, we anticipate a large number of these camps going forward into the next season.

Coach Development

- Personally took part in coach development offered through Sport Manitoba and virtual training through Badminton Canada/Pan Am.
- Worked with Jason Athayde as a Coach Developer for the new NCCP Regional Coach Module 3 course and he is now able to conduct courses on his own.

- Trained 6 more Learning Facilitators for Regional Coach in June: Gerard Gill, Lionel Curé, Dale Kinley, Kevin Barkman, Sheldon Bouchard, and Mélanie Curé.
 - Next step is for them to co-deliver a couple of times to become familiar with leading the course.
- Presented at the Manitoba Teachers Professional Development Day and was able to teach some basic strategies for school teams and build connections with school teachers and organizers.
 - Connections from there allowed me to do a similar presentation for St. James Region, Louis Riel School Division, and a Western region (this one was cancelled due to COVID).
- Am scheduled to do a virtual presentation at the 2020 MTS PD Day as well.

Para Badminton

- Setup booth at the 2019 Para Sport Symposium organized by Manitoba Wheelchair Sport Association (MWSA) as such was mostly geared towards wheelchair athletes and not as many people from the other para-categories.
- Had 4 athletes participate in the Para Nationals in January 2020 with Olivia Meier doing quite well.

Local Events

- Assisted in running Provincial Tournaments:
 - Herb Richard Open, Southman Open (cancelled last minute), WWC Junior Open, Junior Closed (cancelled last minute), WCTC Tryouts (cancelled last minute), Yonex Prairie Elite.
 - Was a Chair Person for the 2020 Canadian Senior and Para Nationals held in Winnipeg.
- Attended multiple meetings by Sport Manitoba administration to stay informed on the various aspects of Sport Manitoba and changes to funding etc. as they occur. Mainly Manitoba Winter Games, Canada Winter Games and Provincial Coaching meetings are my chief responsibility.
- Supervised and managed on-site summer camps with coaches and athletes and parent communications for July and August.
- Sport Manitoba conducted a "Sport Manitoba Game Day", which was very well-attended, and I was able to connect with many young athletes and get rackets in hands and have them playing throughout the day for small 5-minute blocks of time. Definitely worth doing again in the future.

Looking to the Season Ahead

- There is a lot of ambiguity around the competitive aspects of badminton for the 2020/21 season. I continue to work with our competitive athletes to, safely, be the most prepared when events do return to hopefully capitalize competitively where others may have become complacent.
- Manitoba Winter Games is quickly approaching for 2022. Meetings and implementation of MWG's programming will be a large part of this upcoming season with selection of athletes expected to occur early spring (hopefully)
- The planning for Canada Winter Games 2023 also starts very soon from identifying potential athletes for that time, looking at potential selection committee members and reviewing 2019 Canada Winter Games experience to improve upon it in the future.
- Continuing to develop Coach Developers for the Regional and Provincial Coach levels is important as well as Coach Evaluators. Currently only a couple of people can conduct these courses alone and only a couple of others can do them with another developer/evaluator in Manitoba.
- Continuing work with the Team Manitoba athletes will be a big part of my position as well for this season.
- Will umpire at 2 or 3 tournaments to help develop local umpires as well.