

**Provincial Coach Report
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, September 29th, 2021**

Name: Justin Friesen
Position: Provincial Coach

Team Manitoba

- Conducted individual sessions with Team MB athletes.
 - Team MB athletes for previous season; Kevin Barkman, Kiren Deraj, Kyi Nichols, Serenity Poirier, Emalia Sinclair, Victor Ho, and Evan Chen.
 - Team MB for upcoming season are the same, except Evan Chen has not renewed.
 - Aside from Kevin Barkman all athletes are still eligible for the 2023 Canada Games.
- Many athletes involved for the 2020/21 season was difficult, just like every sport, to be consistently training with all of the lockdowns.
- Have been working with these athletes starting in June, 2021 to work on their individual needs for singles or a doubles event.
- National Tournament support for upcoming season – Prairie Junior Elite x 2, Western Senior Elite, Nationals and Junior Nationals.

Manitoba Winter Games 2022

- Went through the process of recruiting and announcing Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Manager and developmental coaches for all of the regions.
- Half of the regions had ID Camps to begin the process of recruitment for late fall
- Late September Sport Manitoba along with the Host Society (Niverville) made the difficult decision to cancel the 2022 Manitoba Winter Games
- Sport Manitoba will be looking into funding events on an individual sport basis for the same age groups that would have been for Manitoba Winter Games
- We will be using this opportunity to begin the process of Regional Teams and competition for the 2021/22 season
 - 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.
- Attended multiple meetings/conference calls and a site visit to Niverville to discuss the setup for Manitoba Games

Canada Winter Games

- Recruited Canada Winter Games Selection Committee; Gurmeet Jassal (Chair), Margie Koehler, Misilyna Wu
- Planned and executed Stage 1 Tryout at Sport 4 Life Centre on September 4, 11 and 12.
 - Awaiting confirmation of athletes for the CWG Training Team

- Overall tryout attendance was poor, likely caused by disruptive training season and many athletes losing touch with training and preparations for Canada Winter Games
- Final tryout scheduled for August of 2022
- CWG Selection Committee plans to organize a Q/A session and information session on qualifying for the Final Tryout to allow athletes to plan their tournament seasons

Grassroots

- Typically this is done through school clinics throughout the school year. Planning on a more hospital school environment this upcoming season to conduct school clinics.
- Looking at localized one day or partial day camps in communities with community centres.
- A large amount of French badminton camps and clinics took place over the summer. With Melanie's connections we anticipate a large number of these camps going forward into the next season.
- The "Smash the Curve" clinics organized by Melanie have showed promise and we hope to continue conducting these throughout the season.
- Supervised and managed on-site summer camps with coaches and athletes and parent communications for July and August.

Coach Development

- Took part of coach development offered through Sport Manitoba and virtual training through Badminton Canada/Pan Am.
- Have contributed some time to assist Badminton Canada with the development of the Module 3 and 5 Coaching Courses to be conducted through an online delivery.
- Plan on presenting at the Manitoba Teachers Society Professional Development Day in October.
- Have completed criteria for Coaching Canada for Chartered Professional Coach designation.

Para Badminton

- Olivia Meier only Canadian Badminton Player to go to Tokyo 2020 Paralympics. Performed quite well and has more Olympic runs available if she can decide to keep pushing forward. Great for Badminton in Manitoba and Para-Badminton across Canada.
- Will setup booth at the 2021 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.
- 2022 Para-Nationals will be hosted in Winnipeg again and will be working with organizing this event.

Looking to the Season Ahead

- 2022 Nationals and Para-Nationals to be hosted in Winnipeg at the end of January 2022.
- Team MB athletes are ready to compete Nationally once again and plan on attending 2 Senior and 3 Junior Tournaments
- Main focus of the season coming up will be working with the Team MB athletes and CWG Training Team athletes with a lot of individual attention

- Implementation of Regional Teams across the province and working with coaches/athletes in the various regions will be a partial focus for the season
- Preparing for the Canada Winter Games Final Tryout in August 2022 and creating the plan for that Final Team for best results at 2023 Canada Winter Games in PEI
- Work with Badminton Canada to conduct Coach training here in Manitoba with current Coach Developers
- Will umpire at 2 or 3 tournaments and referee a tournament to help develop local umpires as well
- Required to umpire a National level tournament this season to meet my Badminton Canada obligations for officiating