

Minutes

SOO Basketball Conference Convenors Conference Call

7 PM Wednesday December 3, 2014

Attendees:

Bingo Rivera – Lightning Conference
Steve Redmond – Power Conference
Concetta Buragina – Storm Conference
Dan Banks – Rainmen Conference

Absent:

Andre Laurin – Miracles Conference (sent regrets)
Janice Dewland – Skyhawks Conference
Sherri Baillargeon – Express Conference

Please report the dates of the Basketball Provincial Qualifiers in your Conference to Jenn and me as soon as possible.

1. Provincial Qualifiers

- Storm Conference (Denise Kozlof) – Request submitted for April 25; awaiting confirmation from school (in Belleville)
- Lightning Conference (Bingo Rivera & Stu Thomas) – April 11 at St. Thomas Aquinas HS, Oakville
- Power Conference (Steve Redmond) – May 24 at University of Guelph; includes Qualifier for High Level Teams (either 4 or 8)
- Express Conference – Sherri to confirm the date and location (March 21 in London?)
- Rainmen Conference – Mississauga will host it; date and location to be confirmed by Dan
- Skyhawks Conference – Janice to find out
- Miracles Conference – Mid March?; Andre to confirm date and location

Roster Sizes – I received a question regarding an apparent conflict between information on the SOO Information Portal and the SOC Basketball Rules.

Information Portal Section 13.3.8:

“Every registered athlete must be given the opportunity to participate in the annual Sport Conference Competition/Provincial Qualifier, regardless of age or ability.”

<https://docs.google.com/a/specialolympicsontario.ca/document/d/1SNbi3MVScbDjr5qjuvsHmxkesFVb-cvTf7cHp1kmvCl/edit?pli=1>

SOC Basketball Rules:

- c) Team and Players
 - 1) A team shall consist of five players
 - 2) The composition of a team, including substitutes, may not exceed 10 players.

<http://www.specialolympics.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/Basketball-Rules-Official-Revised.pdf>

The minimum roster size is 8 players. Jenn, please clarify what the maximum roster size will be.

BSATs

In accordance with SOC basketball rules, the 1 minute dribbling and 2 minute shooting tests will be used. Please follow the instructions in Section D of the SOC Basketball Rules, and submit the results to the tournament convenor who is hosting the Provincial Qualifier.

<http://www.specialolympics.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/Basketball-Rules-Official-Revised.pdf>

Minimum playing time rules

SOC has no minimum playing time rule for basketball competitions. In the last Provincial Basketball Games, the minimum time which each athlete had to play was 33% of the game. At this time, there is no plan to have a minimum playing time at the Provincial Basketball Qualifiers. Prior to our next meeting on January 7, please send Jenn and I a note with your opinion on whether or not there should be a minimum playing time rule (or an equal playing time rule) with any rationale that you are able to provide.

2. Athletes in Wheelchairs

SOO received a question regarding whether or not an athlete in a wheelchair can participate in basketball tournaments and exhibition games.

This is the response from SOO:

“Basketball does not allow for athletes in wheelchairs to play with athletes not in wheelchairs. A separate sport, wheelchair basketball, was created for those athletes that would like to participate in basketball but use wheelchairs. Wheelchair basketball allows able bodied athletes to participate in the sport but only if they use a wheelchair for the duration of the competition.

The FIBA (International Basketball Federation) rules state:

4.4. Other equipment

4.4.1. All equipment used by players must be appropriate for the game. Any equipment that is designed to increase a player's height or reach or in any other way give an unfair advantage is not permitted.

4.4.2. Players shall not wear equipment (objects) that may cause injury to other players.

• The following are not permitted:

— Finger, hand, wrist, elbow or forearm guards, casts or braces made of leather, plastic, pliable (soft) plastic, metal or any other hard substance, even if covered with soft padding.

— Objects that could cut or cause abrasions (fingernails must be closely cut).

— Headgear, hair accessories and jewellery.

Wheelchairs would fall under equipment listed in 4.4.2. Metal, even jewelry, is not allowed on a basketball court during competitions.”

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“Athletes in wheelchairs should not be participating in SOO basketball programs, during competitions or at practice. This poses a risk to all of the athletes and coaches involved in the programs.”

3. New business

- Steve would like to know how many floor hockey teams are going to Ottawa; he will contact Jenn directly to pursue this.
- Question from Steve for Jenn – Is somebody at SOO coordinating the dates for all of the Provincial Qualifiers, so that an athlete will not have Qualifiers in two different sports on the same day?
- Question from Concetta, submitted after the meeting, regarding how to handle proposed rule changes (for example, full court press guidelines) for invitational tournaments – Answer: tournament convenors, please clear any proposed rule additions or changes with Jenn.

4. Next Meeting

Wednesday January 7, 7:00 pm EST

***Please contact Stu at any time with questions and items for the next meeting’s agenda.**