
PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Prepared by Adrian Taggart, BCFSFA President.

Intro

I would like to begin by thanking everyone that contributed to the success of BC Freestyle over the past year. Without a dedicated group of highly skilled volunteers it would not be impossible to deliver the level of product we currently offer here in BC. From our grassroots to our high performance teams, from club events to Nor-Am cup, the support for our athletes in this province runs deep. That is what makes the future of freestyle skiing in BC so strong. I am proud to work alongside a dedicated, talented and selfless board of directors that have all worked so hard over the past two years to make significant changes and guide our association toward our vision and mission. I want to personally thank each of you.

Staff

As an association we are lucky to have such a highly skilled group of paid staff. Kiera Leung and Evan Wilcox have proven themselves among the best high performance coaches in Canada and I have the utmost confidence that they will continue to take our performance programs to the next level as we watch BC athletes move into national programs, world championships and Olympic Games. The supporting coach staff and IST staff that contribute to our athletes and our coach development has been unparalleled and we are lucky to be working with some of the best coaches and trainers in freestyle skiing.

I cannot say enough about our executive director. Andrew Clough has been instrumental to the success of this association. We have accomplished more in one year with Andrew than any of us could have imagined. Andrew has brought much needed stability, support, organization and efficiency to a role that saw much turn-over over the past few years. I can't thank Andrew enough for the work he has done

and we are lucky to have an individual of his caliber leading our organization. I will let Andrew speak to the many successes BC Freestyle has seen over the past year. Please see the ED report.

Board of Directors

Sadly we have 3 board members leaving us who have been key contributors to the success of our association; Jeff Oland (VP), Todd Dew (Okanagan Zone Rep), and Lee-Anne van Dongen (Treasurer).

Jeff has been the vice president of BCFSA and has supported myself as well as the rest of the board in our vision and direction for BC Freestyle. Jeff has worked extremely hard to ensure BC Freestyle is the premier PSO in Canada. Thank you so much for your time, efforts and dedication Jeff, you will be missed.

Todd Dew was one of our zone reps and led the charge in our "Rally me" fundraiser last season. Todd was a key individual in BCFSA fundraising among many other responsibilities. On behalf of the board I would like to thank Todd for his time and tireless efforts. You will also be missed.

Finally, Lee-Anne van Dongen will also be leaving the board. Lee-Anne, for lack of a better word, was forced into the treasurer role for BC Freestyle and has done an amazing job for us. Lee-Anne has worked very hard on numerous other projects within BC Freestyle and like all board members has worked to ensure our athletes have an organization that provides the best programming and support in Canada.

Each of these board members have sacrificed a significant amount of time and I can honestly say they are leaving BC Freestyle better than they found it. Each of you will be missed on the board, but like all members of freestyle you are still in this for life. We will see you on the slopes!

Nominating Committee/Board Structure

To further align ourselves with the Canadian Freestyle Ski Association we are moving toward a new board structure. We are moving away from regional representation at the board level to a skill based board of directors for BCFSA. CFSA has been operating with this board structure for a number of years now with great success. After significant discussion with Jim Francis (Chairman of CFSA), we have decided to follow suit here in BC. Earlier in the year we struck a nominating committee from within the board of directors. The nomination committee was tasked with the job of recruiting individuals with a specific skill base or background that would be instrumental in

guiding the association toward our vision, mission and strategic objectives. I hope everyone has had the time to review the CV's the nominating committee has put forward to join our board for the next term. We are excited about this structure and the future potential.

The Societies Act is new legislation that was passed in spring 2015 and will come into effect on November 28, 2016. It governs how societies (not-for-profit corporations) are created and run in B.C. and includes significant updates to allow for more flexibility in how societies operate, while still protecting the public interest. BCFSA will use this opportunity to update our bylaws to reflect the new board structure within the next 24 months.

Strategic Plan

Just prior to the 2014/15 AGM we completed a rebuild of our strategic plan that aligned with CFSA and our vision for BCFSA. We have a detailed "working copy" of the strategic plan that is guiding our direction and tasks as a board of directors. The strategic plan guides our monthly board meetings as suggested by our viaSport funding partners. I am pleased to announce that we have already accomplished a significant number of the tasks that we outlined in our strategic plan. Each task has been time lined over 4 years, we have accomplished a great deal but still have a number of tasks that we would like to complete over the next 3 years. Congratulation to Andrew and the board for completing so many tasks and I am excited to continue to see many of our strategic priorities completed.

Via Sport Funding Review

I had the pleasure of being part of our funding review earlier this year. Please see the ED report for details in this area. I would like to thank Andrew once again for his efforts preparing the deliverables for our funding partners that resulted in a significant increase in our yearly funding. At one point in the meeting one of our reviewers stopped the meeting and complimented our association on all the work we had done in such a short time. Thanks so much to Andrew and to the board for the work done for viaSport.

Moving Forward

Strengths

BCFSA is confident that we have a strong and dedicated staff supported by a board of directors that will allow the association to meet its vision and mission.

- viaSport Funding partnership. We have developed a strong relationship with Via Sport through the submission of quality deliverables and the continued improvements of our association. We have positioned ourselves amongst the highest ranked PSO's in BC and continue to improve from month to month.
- We have well established high performance programs with impressive development programs in support.
- BC Freestyle continues to be one of the leading provinces in terms of membership which will be instrumental as we build for the future.
- BC boasts the best training facilities in Canada and development is on-going in this area.
- Coach/Officials development - BC continues to train a large number of coaches and officials that will support our province well into the future.
- Our athletes are well supported by the province, the clubs, the volunteers, the officials and most importantly, our parents.
- Our partnerships with viaSport and Canadian Sport Institute continue to develop in a positive manor and their support will help us drive to the next level.
- Resource development is one of strategic tasks and we are starting to build a data base of resources that will ensure the association is well supported and has a collection of resource documents to support the ED, coaches and BOD in the future.
- We continue to develop and refine our policies and procedures as this is a key task outlined in our strategic plan. We have created a number of policies that will help guide us moving forward and continue to work in this area.

Opportunities for Improvement

We have areas within BCFSA that we have targeted for improvement and we are already working on many of the identified “weaknesses” within the association.

- We continue to develop policies and procedures, although I have included this on the “strengths” portion of this report we still have work to do in this area and it will be a key focus moving forward.
- Succession planning for our key staff will be instrumental to our success in the future. As a BOD we continue to identify key individuals and work to foster growth through support and employment opportunities to ensure we can be successful through future transitions.
- Resource development continues to be a focus for the association and is also part of our “strengths” category. We will continue to ensure we have updated, high quality resources that will guide the future staff/members of BCFSA.
- Corporate sponsorship will be a strategic priority over the next few years. In order to create a sustainable model, provide the highest level of programming to our athletes and continue to grow what BCFSA offers, we will need to secure corporate funding partners and develop relationships that will be mutually beneficial as we move forward and grow.
- Fundraising will also be a focus for our BOD going forward. Todd Dew was instrumental in getting us moving with a successful Rally Me fundraiser last season and we will continue from where he left off to explore new and innovative fundraising possibilities to support our athletes at all levels.

Conclusion

We have had an extremely successful year as an organization and an immense amount of work has been accomplished. Our vision as an association is to be recognized as the leading provincial sport organization in Canada and it is my belief that we are well on our way to achieving this vision. We exist for the athletes and we want nothing more but to see each of them develop and grow as athletes in the sport of freestyle skiing and as young people within our province. BC Freestyle is successful if our athletes are successful, this is the measure that we use to judge ourselves. I'd like to thank everyone that has worked so hard to this point in the year and I would like to encourage anyone with the vision of our association to get involved as we are always looking for great people to help as we move forward.