BC SCHOOL SPORTS

MEMORANDUM

TO: **MEMBER SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS & ATHLETIC DIRECTORS**
FROM: **JORDAN ABNEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**
SUBJECT: **STUDENT SPECATORS AT SCHOOL SPORTING EVENTS**
DATE: **MARCH 1, 2022**
CC: **DISTRICT ADMIN, ZONE PRESIDENTS**

I want to briefly take this opportunity to remind our member schools that part of the BCSS Member School expectations as listed in the handbook, and agreed upon by school administrators each year, is *"to maintain appropriate crowd control, as per the Spectator Code of Conduct, at all interscholastic contests and events."* We have had a significant increase in code of conduct incidents this year from student-athletes, coaches, and fans alike. Noticeably, there have been several troubling reports of poor fan behaviour in the last couple of weeks, mostly during playoff and zone basketball games.

It is important to note, even if the game is played at a non-school venue, it is important to have a school leadership present at games where one may anticipate the potential for issues to assist facility and event staff with the management of the student body. In situations where a game may be taking place in the evening, or against a rival or in an important situation (e.g., Provincial Semi-Final), we ask that schools ensure there are a couple staff on-site, especially over the next two weeks during basketball championships. If you are an Administrator or Athletic Director at one of the participating schools, please identify yourself to facility staff upon arrival.

BC School Sports is committed to providing a safe and positive environment for all individuals involved in all school sporting events and expect all participants; athletes, coaches, and spectators to conduct themselves in a manner which supports the values of BC School Sports. BCSS hopes to avoid situations where we ask those supporting our student-athletes to leave the facility, but will do so, when actions don't meet the expectations for a school sport event. We thank our member schools and their leadership teams in advance, for their support.