



FOOTBALL CANADA

MARCH 2006 REPORT

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FLAG FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING CONFERENCE

Football Canada held its third Flag Football Development and Planning session March 10th to 12th, to continue work on the implementation of Flag Football across all regions of the country.

Focussing on Football Canada's 4-year Flag Football Strategic Plan, the Committee worked on the following issues:

- ?? Player Development (Athlete Development Model/Long Term Athlete Development)
- ?? Coach's Development
- ?? Competition Development
- ?? Official's Development
- ?? In-school Program
- ?? Community Programs
- ?? Implementation Milestones

The provincial delegates, leaders within their respective regions, will implement the strategic plan set forth last August. Many thanks to the participants, who are willing to drive, promote and develop Flag Football within their province, and are enthusiastic and interested in its development.

List of Committee participants: Barry Gunther (FC President), Kim Wudrick (FC VP Non-Contact/Admin), Jeff Yausie, Don Van Achte, Rob Berkowits, Tina Turner, Chalene Turner, Mike Fitzsimmons, Richard MacLean, Mark MacDougall, Dan Fearon, André Dion, Édith Gobeil.

ABORIGINAL SPORT DEVELOPMENT MEETING

Football Canada, National Office staff, and sport leaders from Canada's Aboriginal Sport Community have been working on a project to develop and implement Flag Football Programs for Canada's Aboriginal Youth.

To date, the participants in the project have been: Colleen Sutherland, Bob Swan, Rick Sowieta, Rod Jacobs, JJ Johnston, Courage Bear, Robin Enman, Gordon Hudson, and Dean Mastrangelo.

In February 2006, the Aboriginal Sport Circle Board of Directors threw their support behind the project. On March 9th, Football Canada hosted a meeting with ASC representatives to begin the planning process for the new initiative. The result of the meeting was a list of recommendations on how the project might proceed. These recommendations were presented at Football Canada's Flag Football Development and Planning Meeting which was held March 10th - 12th, 2006. The committee endorsed the general recommendations, which will be presented at the Football Canada's AGM in July 2006.

In the meantime, work will continue to develop the pilot projects and to support the partnership initiative.

NATIONAL COACHING CERTIFICATION PROGRAM (NCCP) MEETING

Under the guidance of our CAC consultant, Dave Hill, Football Canada Master Learning Facilitators (MLFs) met in Ottawa March 16th to 19th for final discussions on the implementation of the Community Sport – Initiation context of the "new" National Coaching Certification Program.

The MLFs reviewed changes made to the program in the last 6 months, and went through final training stages for the Novice Coach in the Community Sport – Initiation context. Work also commenced on the next stages of Tackle Community Sport – Advanced Coach, and Tackle Competition – Introduction contexts.

Several Community Sport – Initiation courses will be piloted across the country over the next few months, with the official launch expected in Fall 2006, pending context approval.

Thank you to all the participants: Jay Hetherington, Doug Krochak, Erwin Klempner, Paul Normandeau, Rob Baillie, Brian Olthuis, Jim Rion, Marc Schryburt, Todd Van Ritchie, and Kevin Artichuk.

Please see the Tackle Coaching Resources section of our website: www.footballcanada.com for detailed information and handouts regarding the new Community Sport – Initiation and Competition – Introduction contexts.

FOOTBALL CANADA CUP 2006 - TEAM FEES & DEPOSIT SCHEDULE

The Football Canada Cup 2006 team fees and deposit schedule are as follows:

U19s

Deposit 1 - \$2,500 due March 17th

Deposit 2 - \$2,500 due April 18th

Deposit 3 - \$20,000 + \$2,000 bond due May 24th

U17s

Deposit 1 - \$2,500 due March 17th

Deposit 2 - \$2,500 due April 18th

Deposit 3 - \$24,000 + \$2,000 bond due May 24th

Please note that deposits are due in the National Office no later than the deadline date. THERE WILL BE NO GRACE PERIOD GRANTED. Teams failing to meet initial payment deadlines are denied entry into the competition. Withdrawal from the competition after deposit deadlines will result in the loss of deposit(s).

CANNABIS PROJECT

INFORMING YOUNG CANADIAN ATHLETES OF THE HARMS ASSOCIATED WITH CANNABIS USE

Football Canada has partnered with the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sports (CCES) and other associations in developing a Toolkit to inform young athletes of the harms associated with cannabis use.

The CCES conducted focus groups at university, college and high school levels across the country, the last being held in Ottawa on March 20th.

The focus group asked the participants questions about the information related to cannabis that drew their attention and how to best present information to them. Current themes that were discussed included:

- ~~///~~ Cannabis use by athletes to reduce performance anxiety is a form of cheating;
- ~~///~~ Being under the influence of cannabis while competing or practicing compromises both safety and performance;
- ~~///~~ Cannabis is a prohibited in-competition substance, with offences resulting in important sanctions;
- ~~///~~ Cannabis possession is illegal according to the Criminal Code of Canada;
- ~~///~~ Young athletes can be positive role models for their peers and younger athletes by avoiding cannabis use while they are associated with sports activities.

By conducting focus groups the CCES will determine if the current themes are on target, and will identify any changes needed. These themes will then be translated into a useful Toolkit and presentation to young athletes.

Pilot presentations are scheduled to commence in the fall of 2006.