



Horizon Central Athletic Association (HCAA)

History of the HCAA

The Horizon Central Athletic Association (HCAA) was founded in the fall of 2006 in response to the amalgamation of school divisions in Saskatchewan. The Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association (SHSAA) was directed by their membership to divide the province into 14 Districts which would correspond directly with the 12 newly-formed rural school divisions (the other two Districts being Saskatoon and Regina). All schools located within the geographical boundaries of each of these 12 newly-formed rural school divisions would belong to that District, regardless of the form of governance of each school. Thus, the boundaries of the HCAA were drawn to follow the geographical boundaries of the Horizon School Division, and initially included 45 schools from Horizon School Division (43 as of Sept. 2009) as well as 10 schools not in Horizon School Division (a complete list of all HCAA member schools and their governing body can be found on the HCAA website – hcaa.hzsd.ca). The resultant new District – the HCAA – was comprised of schools from four previous Districts:

- thirty-three schools came from Central District
- eight schools came from North East District
- six schools came from East Central District
- five schools came from North Central District

Three of the four previous Districts still exist; Central District was dissolved.

The name "Horizon Central Athletic Association" was the result of the correlation to the boundaries of the Horizon School Division - thus the use of "Horizon" - and the SHSAA's suggestion to have Districts retain some geographical reference to their position on the provincial map - hence the term "Central" (schools from the former Central District now belong to either Horizon Central or Central Valley).

The First Year (2006-2007)

The first HCAA meeting was held at Lanigan Central High School on June 28, 2006. It was at this meeting that the name "HCAA" was finalized, the makeup of an "executive" decided, and the first ever executive chosen. The first HCAA executive was comprised of:

President - Marvin Renneberg (Muenster School)

Secretary - Bill Ruetz (Foam Lake Comp)

Treasurer - Garth Anderson (Foam Lake Comp)

Officials Commissioner - Brian Grest (Lanigan Central High)

The major tasks in the first school year were:

- writing the HCAA Constitution and Bylaws (undertaken largely by Marvin Renneberg)
- creating HCAA Policy (many individuals from a number of schools contributed)
- establishing the modes of funding HCAA activities
- finalizing the format and structure of HCAA championships
- purchasing District track/cross country singlets

2007-2008

The second school year saw a few key changes to the HCAA. The make up of the HCAA executive was expanded with the addition of "quadrant reps", bringing the number of executive members to eight. The newly-elected executive members were:

NW - Lyle Gartner (Wakaw School)

NE - Darin Faubert (Wadena Comp)

SW - Bryce Krawetz (William Derby School, Strasbourg)

SE - Greg Pelletier (Raymore School)

The length of the terms of all executive positions was defined, as was the year in which each position comes up for election.

The Horizon School Division hired a fulltime "Student Activities Coordinator" (SAC) and sanctioned the SAC's active role as an "executive officer" of the HCAA, alleviating much of the time pressures

placed on the commissioners of District events and especially the District President. As a result of this hiring, the SAC, Brian Grest, stepped down from his voting position on the HCAA executive (as officials commissioner), and was replaced by Kent Lessmeister (St. Brioux School).

The second year also saw the HCAA website up and running.

A few changes were made to certain activity playdowns, but no changes were considered "major".

2008-2009

Four new executive members took over, all in the role as quadrant reps:

NW - Trevor Otsig (Three Lakes School, Middle Lake)

NE - Kellie McClellan (Quill Lake School)

SW - Jeff Stroeder (Lanigan Central High School)

SE - Richard Rink (Wynyard Composite)

Golf saw some major changes, as guidelines were added to policy pertaining to a golfer's prerequisite experience and scoring, and the scoring system in jr. golf was changed to the same system as used in cross country.

Cross Country saw the addition of a new category ("Wee Pee") which essentially broke the Pee Wee category into two groups.