

USADB Deputy Commissioner's Report

April 10, 2009

At the end of 2008 I accepted the responsibilities to run the USADB organization as interim Deputy Commissioner on the behalf of the Executive Board. The position ended up requiring me to do more duties than I expected. It is the most difficult job I have ever seen as volunteer in my whole life. Ten years ago I was the vice president of the USADB and my duties were much easier than today. I do care about young athletes in the deaf basketball community and basketball always has been my favorite sport since I was very young. Also, I am proud to be a 1965 Washington, DC Deaflympics medal holder for the Canadian Men's Basketball team.

Since I live in Tustin, I am also the Liaison of the USADB's Local Support Committee in Orange County. I want to give personal thanks to the many local volunteers, especially the senior students from the Deaf and Hard of Hearing program at University High School in Irvine. The USADB webmaster, Reza Kuweiti is 2008 graduate of University High School. We are very fortunate to have him. Without these volunteers' help, the USADB tournament wouldn't possible because since it is in the FAAD region. We have been unable to get support from the region, except my few good friends who are willing to work with us.

Personally, I want to thank Dennis Platt for accepting the position of interim law committee chairman and spending a lot of time reviewing and studying the current bylaws and guidelines with his colleagues.

I have seen with my own eyes, the teamwork of the USADB board members, who have been working together so hard to ensure that the 65th men's and 19th women's championship tournament will run as smooth as silk. We want to make sure that the tournament attendees from everywhere in the nation will enjoy their stay in Anaheim and make it worth the sacrifice of their time and money.

At the USADB Council meeting to be held at DoubleTree, we hope it will be a very pleasant experience for every delegate as they try their best to improve the image of the USADB in many different ways. Delegates such as regional officers, coaches, managers and others are responsible for making this tournament about the players, and enable them to enjoy playing every moment without injury and earn the respect of their opponents as well as observers and fans.

We greatly appreciate your full support while the Board has confronted many issues brought up the last few months. With the continuous support of the deaf basketball community members, the USADB stays alive and well.

Looking forward to participating in the 2009 National Championship Tournament with all of you, I am,

Respectfully yours,

Donald E. Kitson