



Canadian Baton Twirling Federation

La Fédération Canadienne de Baton Sportif

## Past-President's Report– 2018 Fall Conference

The main responsibilities as Past-President are to advise and assist and to conduct the elections process.

### 2018 Elections

As this is an even-numbered year, the following Executive positions are scheduled for election:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Technical Chair

Valid nominations were received by the nomination deadline for all positions. The call for nominations was posted on CBTF.CA on July 27, and the nominations received was posted on August 24.

The position of Athletes' Rep is currently not filled after the 2017 Fall Conference. We did receive two valid nominations – Chantal Sutton and Alyssa Larade – but I was not able to conduct the election during the season. In the past, CBTF has used two methods to conduct the Athletes' Rep election:

- 1) Prior to 2011, a mail-in ballot is sent to all eligible voters (this would cost approximately \$450 with current postage rates and voter counts)
- 2) Beginning with the 2011-13 term, an online vote has been held through the CBTF.CA website.

Neither approach is an ideal solution:

- 1) The mail-in ballot approach would cost approximately \$450 with current postage rates and voter counts
- 2) For online voting:
  - The email addresses on file for many athletes are, in fact, the email addresses of their parents
  - In past elections, we have typically received 30 complaints (from parents) about being SPAM'd with the voting information

Further, both approaches require a large amount of manual effort to enable.

While I do not have voting statistics prior to 2011, but in the years since:

<i><b>Year</b></i>	<i><b>Eligible Voters</b></i>	<i><b>Votes Received</b></i>
<b>2011</b>	142	9
<b>2013</b>	155	8
<b>2015</b>	197	10
<b>2017</b>	213	Not Held

Giving our athletes a voice in the governance of the sport is an important, but our recent approaches have not been effective. On behalf of the 2018 Nomination Committee, I ask the Board to consider adopting one of these three proposals:

- 1) Appoint the National Athletes' Rep by a vote of the Board, rather than by a vote of the Athletes.
  - The appointment would be done at the Fall Conference using the current cycle (ie. Athlete's Rep is appointed in the odd-year cycle).
  - The position would remain a two-year term, running from September to September.
- 2) Elect the National Athletes' Rep by secret ballot conducted at the Canadian Winner/Championship.
  - The position would remain a two-year term but it would run from July to July.
- 3) Create an Athletes' Commission comprised of the Provincial Athletes' Reps, and they would choose the National Athletes' Rep from their own group
  - This Athlete's Commission would meet (via online meeting) at the beginning of the season (e.g. October). Their first order of business would be to choose their own Chair (who would also be their representative on the Technical Committee and Board)
  - The position of Athletes Commission Chair/National Athletes' Rep would have a one-year term.

### *Other Duties*

Unrelated to my position as Past-President, I am also the CBTF.CA website administrator. Website traffic was down in 2017-2018 as compared to the same period in 2016-17:

	<i>2017-18</i>	<i>2016-17</i>	<i>2015-16</i>	<i>2014-15</i>
<i>Total users</i>	8,905	11,477	9,203	11,383
<i>Total sessions</i>	21,222	29,047	21,537	26,193
<i>Total pageviews</i>	91,122	128,119	89,005	105,227

The CBTF website earned \$123.40 in advertising revenue in the period Aug 1 2017 through Jul 31 2018. These funds partially offset the cost of operating the website: domain name registration and website hosting. CBTF does not pay for the website design or content administration.

The CBTF Facebook presence:

- Followers: 1,279
- Likes: 1,295

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeff Johnson