

To: Junior High, JV and Senior High Varsity Girl's Basketball Coaches
From: Brian Utley, Alberta Shooting Stars Re: All-star Games, March 22, 2008

Coaches, I would like to ask your help in identifying female players to participate in either the Prospects or Senior All-Star games, March 22nd 2008. For those that do not know much about our event we are in our 15th year. We have almost 200 athletes participate in the all -star weekend. This is an event unique to girls basketball and is the biggest high school all star event in Canada.

There are two types of games. There will be five Prospects games: Grade 8/9, Grade 9/10, Grade 10, Grade 10/11 and Grade 11. The Prospects games will feature the top young players from across the province. The second type of games are the Senior All- Star Games. These games will have the top grade 12 players, in the province, in a North- South format. There will be three games: A/2A, 3A and 4A.

We are looking for help in identifying the top Prospects and Senior all- stars. If you have a player that you think we should consider please fax or e mail me the players name, grade, school name and level the school plays at (e.g. 3A). If you know of other players in your area, that are deserving, please provide me with the information. We count very heavily on the input from junior and high school coaches. We usually have a number of college and university coaches in attendance so this is a great opportunity to be scouted.

Our event will take place the first weekend after High School Provincials. We do this to try and avoid conflicts with the post-secondary ID camps , Basketball Alberta events and club basketball.

Invitation packages are generally e- mailed to the player's school coach. If any of your players are invited please give them the package immediately. We can also fax the package to you or the player. Please don't wait until after your season to give out the packages as it will be too late. Putting on an event of this magnitude is challenging and we need to get our spots filled as soon as possible. Some players have missed their opportunity due to not getting their forms back in. If we don't hear from a player within a week the invitation goes to another player.

As part of the all- star games we have an awards banquet at the Red and White club in Calgary on Friday, March 21st. All participating players receive an award and are honoured at this event. As well we give out major awards as per the following awards sheet. If you would like to nominate someone for a major award please fax or e-mail me information about the player. A player must be participating in the event to be eligible to receive a major award. Also, if you have a nomination for the coaches Hall of Fame please send me information. The coach must be a high school or college coach, past or present, that has coached girl's basketball, in Alberta, for a minimum of ten years.

We do everything possible to make this a first class event. We do not have a major sponsor so it is necessary to charge the players a fee to participate in the event. We hope that your school or a local business will help sponsor the player's fee. It costs close to \$15,000 just to stage the awards banquet.

If you are interested in coaching one of the teams in the Prospect or Senior All- star games please let me know. You will receive a gift and receive a free ticket to the banquet, as well as a small travel allowance.

It would be appreciated if you could send me your name, school and email address so I can send information, in the future, by e mail. Thanks for your anticipated help. Please contact me if you have any questions. E-mail is the most efficient way for me to get back to you.