



## 2022 WIBCA Year In Review

Thankfully 2022 saw opportunities to participate and function in a way similar to pre-pandemic likeness, but while also learning from 2020-2021 how we can improve communication, participation, and involvement in the sport we enjoy so much-basketball. 2022 started with continual testing for participants during the season, while adjusting to schedule changes and missed games to thriving during unforeseen and uncontrollable challenges. WIBCA, with the dedication from fellow coaches within our association, had a very positive and successful year, creating more and better opportunities for student athletes and member coaches. Upon completion of the 2021-2022 season, two weeks later WIBCA put on our annual All Star Weekend. This two-day event saw five (5) games take place. WIBCA, in collaboration with the Special Olympics, hosted our first ever Unified Sports game. We then followed that up with another first, the first-annual “Futures Game” which brought together 20 of the top underclassmen in the state to show how promising and bright the future looks for Washington basketball. Lastly, we then held our three (3) All State games of which 60 seniors for one last time showcased their hard work, dedication and talents in front of their families, friends, and collegiate coaches. WIBCA then went right into the spring with our 20th Annual Spring Showcase. This event brings together 160 of Washington’s best high school underclassmen for a two-day event at Bellevue College where they are being evaluated by college coaches from the NAIA, D2, D3, and community college levels. To start the summer, WIBCA, while working collaboratively with the WIAA, NCAA and NFHS, hosted our 2nd Annual June D1 Showcase, In front of over 60 college coaches, majority from NCAA D1 basketball programs, WIBCA hosted 128 D1 caliber players from eight different states over two-days at Bellevue College. This event was received very well by the main stakeholders of college coaches, parents, high school coaches and the student-athletes. WIBCA continues to support and promote social justice and knows fully the role our association needs to have as we continue to inform and educate all our student athletes of the importance of acceptance and understanding of this cause. WIBCA continues to support the needs of not only our current student-athletes but also supporting them as they set themselves up for the future with our scholarship program. This year WIBCA contributed to Kye Taylor’s future education with a scholarship on his behalf at Friends University. The summer of 2022 saw WIBCA

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again have a presence and leadership role at the National High School Basketball Coaches Association summer meetings in Indianapolis, Indiana. At this year's meetings, Joe Harris, President of WIBCA was recognized as he was inducted into the NHSBCA Court of Honor. Joe joins Pat Fitterer, Nalin Sood, and Gary Wusterbarth from Washington as recipients of this honor! Our annual WIBCA Hall of Fame banquets were held this year. The first one was held in Spokane, Washington, where head coaches, Ray Ricks (Northwest Christian) and Rick Sloan (Central Valley) were inducted. Two days later we celebrated the induction of five (5) coaches: John Callaghan (South Kitsap), Mike Kelly (Seattle Prep), Jason Kerr (O'Dea), Mark Schelbert (Fife) and Rick Skeen (Kings). Assistant coaches inducted this year were: John Flanigan (Kentridge) and John Medak (Gig Harbor). During both events WIBCA continued its tradition of recognizing coaches and basketball contributors for their dedication to the game with the Ed and Shirley Pepple Award, Jamie Niles (West Valley) and also the Pat Fitterer Award given to Levi Heyen (Cashmere) and JC Alexander (Mountain View). Through the NHSBCA, WIBCA was proud to recommend and see honored and recognized with the John R. Wooden Award, Hall of Fame and long-time Steilacoom head boy's basketball coach and current WIBCA Vice-President and WIBCA vs. Cancer coordinator, Gary Wusterbarth. Gary has served WIBCA in many leadership roles and is very deserving of this tremendous honor. The fall of 2022 kept WIBCA busy with our annual executive board retreat in Chelan, Washington where WIBCA leaders had a chance to discuss where we have been and how we are moving forward to best represent our membership and student-athletes. We closed out the 2022 year with a very successful fall professional development clinic and then our bi-annual membership meeting. By no means though did that stop WIBCA from advocating for the betterment of our games. WIBCA plays a continued strong role in pushing for what is best for our game. WIBCA does that by having an active role with the Washington State Coaches Association, WIAA State Tournament Committee, continuing to promote our mentoring program, and also continuing to push and promote passage of an extra-game amendment through the WIAA.

As seen from the recap, WIBCA had a very busy and productive year. With your skills, talents, and dedication we look forward to continued success and positive contributions to our WIBCA community.