

**Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports**  
**Quarterly Meeting**  
**December 13, 2017**  
**10:00 AM**

**Introductions:**

Jarvis Claiborne  
Jennifer Duhon  
John Boyer  
Bill Skinner  
Robert Boudreaux  
Joey Odom  
Pam Carey  
Kathy Hill  
Ben Berthelot

Beau Wiliford  
Ken Jenkins  
Dr. Rani Whitfield

**Governor's Games**

**Jarvis Claiborne- Girls Basketball:** Gov. Games girls basketball will be held either on Father's Day weekend or the weekend before in Opelousas. Annual fundraisers has helped families that could not afford insurance (\$14). Scholarships are awarded annually to deserving young ladies that totaled up to \$6,000.

The Girls enjoyed being on Cox Cable twice, and Jarvis' team is called Claiborne Sparks.

Rudy Macklin asked how many other tournaments would conflict with the Gov. Games, and having the tourney during Father's Day weekend made it difficult for the older girls to participate. Jarvis distributed surveys to the coaches asking their input and comments for making the tourney better each year. When you have great officials, a good venue and a great concession stand people will very seldom complain.

Jarvis says they get good support from coaches and have no problem securing gyms.

Rudy needed to know the P.E. Supervisor for St. Landry parish to get them back involved in the Elementary Fitness Meet. Jarvis will contact Mr. Jerome Robertson to get them involved.

Jarvis still asks parents to purchase additional insurance through AAU. Jarvis can use the Gov. Games insurance provided by the state's Risk Management but Rudy encourages Commissioners to provide that extra layer of insurance if available. Schools require the Insurance certificate before they could lease venues.

**Jennifer Duhon:** A registered dietitian covers the entire state for the Southeast Dairy Association. She works with schools to secure grants and runs the Fuel Up to Play 60 program. Jennifer is involved in securing the *Girls on the Run* program for St. Landry parish and will start in the spring. Jennifer wrote the nutrition program for the Own Your Own Health online physical activity and nutrition program. Rudy wants Girls on the Run to be under the Gov. Games. Rudy gave Jennifer the task to help bring the program under the Gov. Games, update the nutrition component of Own Your Own Health, and also create a nutrition component for the Native American Healthy Tribes Initiative which is also under Own Your Own Health.

**Joey Odom, Commissioner for Gov. Games Baseball:** Joey's Tournaments are located in Lake Charles, Sulphur, Baton Rouge and Lafayette with three hundred teams competing. He will be celebrating his 20th anniversary with the Gov. Games. Joey says a number of new turf fields has sprung up in the Lafayette area, which is where the major events are migrating to. Joey says the influence of baseball has produced from 4 artificial turf fields in the state of Louisiana to 130 artificial turf fields throughout the state.

Joey says the Gov. Games touch a lot of people attracting teams from Texas and Mississippi. End of May and 1<sup>st</sup> of June are the dates for baseball.

Rudy states that the Gov. Games has been so successful, that the reason it has lasted this long compared to other states is the economic impact it has on communities where the Games are played. Baseball has made the biggest economic impact for the Gov. Games. Joey says the CVBs and hotels in the locations where baseball is held love the Games. Baseball has a 10-12 million dollars economic impact in the areas for Gov. Games baseball alone.

Rudy reminded Council members that if they need banners to let him know well in advance because every event must have them displayed around the venue to let the public know that your event is a Gov. Games event.

**John Boyer, Commissioner of Track and field, Cross Country:** Boyer is one of the original members of the Louisiana State Games at 81 years of age. Track and Field will be held on June 2-3, 2018 at Tad Gormley stadium, New Orleans. Gov.

Games Track and Field normally has between 1,500-2,000 kids competing. John started a new event for the Games: Elementary and Junior High Cross Country at City Park, New Orleans with more 1,500 kids participating. Cross Country is held in October. The Governor's Games **will not** host an indoor track and field meet in 2018, but will discuss an indoor meet for 2019 this summer.

**Bill Skinner, Commissioner for Softball:** Bill is one of the original Commissioners of the Louisiana State Games. Bill has softball in different classes: Adult, Co-ed, kids' slow pitch and fast pitch. Gov. Games softball can be found in Erath, Patterson, Livingston and Slidell. Softball is usually three weeks in June each year. Bill reached out to Shreveport again to establish the Gov. Games, but that area is very difficult to deal with.

**Pam Carey, Commissioner for the Gumbo Games:** The Gumbo Games will not be funded in part from the dept. education any longer but has formed its own non-profit organization. October 6, 2018 is the date for the Gumbo State Invitational Games in Alexandria. The Gumbo Games has around 100 students with visual and physical disabilities. Next year's Games will include deaf students. The Gumbo Games is not limited to LA kids. Some students come from Mississippi and Texas.

**Kathy Hill, Director of Tour deFitness, Statewide:** In January of this current year, Kathy and other P.E. specialists came together and re-worked the LA Physical Education Standards K-12. With help from Gov. Council on Fitness, LDH, Department of Education, LAPERD and others, Kathy and her team put together a training module, reached out to P.E. teachers across the state and introduced them to the new P.E. Standards. In August, the Tour team trained 13 parishes in 14 days. They had three trainings in one day: Lafayette, EBR and St. James. All together, the Tour deFitness team in-serviced more than one thousand teachers. They distributed copies of the new P.E. Standards, had clinicians travel the state, and one of the trainings was filmed and aired on Cox Cable. The Tour received great feedback from across the state. Upcoming trainings will be Beauregard on January 4<sup>th</sup>, Baker School district on the January 5<sup>th</sup>.

John Boyer asked if the rumors are true that several schools are eliminating P.E. Kathy says that's what we are fighting for: to keep P.E. alive in our schools. There are parishes that are not hiring P.E. teachers in places like Jefferson and Orleans areas. John offered to setup a meeting with the new P.E. supervisor in Jefferson parish. Rudy says the Governor's Fitness Council need that parish to compete in the Elementary Fitness Meet.

**Ben Berthelot:** Lafayette hosted the National Golden Gloves Boxing Tournament co-sponsored by the LA Gov. Fitness Council in May 2017 and won a national award. There is a brand new sports complex that will open in Broussard, LA and improvements in Pelican Park will draw multiple sports in that area.

**Rudy gives the Director's Report:** The Governor's Fitness Council's budget is intact, with all the sponsors and a couple of new sponsors supporting the events in 2108. The Governor wants to be part of the Governor's Games in 2018. Last year the special session kept him from attending the Games. Rudy asked for Governor's Games' dates from the Commissioners so the Governor can set his schedule to attend. Rudy gave a rundown of the remaining events: Elementary Fitness Meet in Baton Rouge; Bayou Blast Girls Volleyball Tournament in New Orleans at the Morial Center, and the second tourney will be held in March also in New Orleans; both Girls Gymnastics events at the Alario Center; Boys Basketball in Westwego, LA; Fit For Life Weekend, Olympic Weightlifting and Boxing in Shreveport.

The Governor's Fitness Council renewed their partnership with the U.S. Olympic Committee to train future Olympians and designate LSUS as an official weightlifting training facility managed by Dr. Kyle Pierce. Olympic athletes from all over the world train at the facility. Kyle will have a division for the Para Powerlifting participants. Governor's Games Boxing will remain in Lafayette. Cox Cable will once again air the Governor's Games events in 2018. Rudy made members aware that Jake Feinstein a.k.a. 'Body By Jake' is not affiliated with the LA Governor's Council on Fitness or the National Association of Health and Fitness which the LA Council is a part of. He is touring elementary schools across the country giving away fitness equipment using our Fitness Councils' name. States around the country are really upset about it, because he is using our state councils' name without our permission. Rudy Macklin and the president of the National Association of State Governor's Fitness Councils wrote a letter to the Governor about our concerns, and that Jake is taking advantage of our name to make money.

Meeting adjourned

