

Child Care at BC Summer and BC Winter Games

BACKGROUND

As a result of a participant wishing to attend a BC Games with an infant child, the Society saw the need to make provisions for new mothers to attend the Games as participants.

POLICY

AS recommended by ProMOTION Plus and agreed upon by the BC Games Society the best option is for the child to remain at home in a familiar environment. If the child is of an age where s/he cannot be separated from their parent or a suitable long-term caregiver is unavailable, then the BC Games Society has a responsibility to assist the parent by allowing the child to attend the Games. This will ensure that while the home environment is not available to the child, the parent and a familiar caregiver will be. This is considered to be a better option than hometown or Games community day-care.

The parent, child, and caregiver attending the Games would be transported on BC Games transportation to/from the Games and within the Games community, provided access to BC Games meals, and housed in Games accommodation in a separate room. The BC Games Society or the Host Community will not reimburse the parent for any childcare costs related to the parent's attendance at the Games.

It will be the responsibility of the parent to:

- find the caregiver;
- provide any special dietary requirements for the child;
- if the parent is a coach or assistant coach, find an adult supervisor to assist with the supervision/management of their zone team. The adult supervisor must be a minimum of 19 years of age.

The formalization of this policy shall be communicated to all participating Provincial Sport Organizations.

History has shown that the demand for this program is minimal and has had no effect on the BC Games Society budget. Should the availability of child care at the Games increase the demand to a significant level, the Society will have to ensure that funds are available within the budget or revise the policy accordingly.

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