



# **THE BASKETBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION OF TENNESSEE**

**November, 2024**

*Greetings* from BCAT

**Official practices have started and BCAT would like to wish everyone a great year! This newsletter is our first for 2024-25 and we are including information on our upcoming events as well as benefits of being a BCAT Member**

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# ***A LETTER FROM BCAT DIRECTOR, BRUCE SLATTEN***

Coaches...

We are entering the best time of the year for basketball coaches. It is always exciting to get started with the season and working with your players. Each season takes on a new life in your career and your team's growth. Enjoy the ride!!

I wanted to give you a run down on the state of the BCAT. In our 18th year we are in an excellent place as an organization. Last year we enjoyed continued membership growth and for the first time we reached over 950 members. This year we are on pace to reach over 1,000 members for the first time. This would not be possible without you and your program. Strong membership numbers only strengthen the organization as a whole and give all of us an opportunity to share ideas and make the game stronger.

With that being said, we need your help. We have established boys and girls committees made up of coaches from across the state. The committees are designed to help push along ideas, promote, and help with our organizational growth among other things. The list of committee members is on our website.

On the local side of things, the BCAT needs you! We need district and area coordinators that would be willing to help drive membership in your area. It is important that we have every coach, whether it is the head coach or assistants as BCAT members each year. With everything we provide for member coaches and their players it is very worthwhile to join yearly. We would be honored if you would help with the BCAT. If you would be willing to help please let us know. Just send us an email or use the link in the newsletter.

In closing, I would like to thank Forrest HS coach John Wild for serving as president for the 2023-24 school. John did an outstanding job and helped to grow BCAT tremendously. Also, we want to welcome Lenoir City coach Shelley Collier as BCAT President for the 2024-25 school year. Coach Collier is already hard at work to make the game better for all.

# ***A LETTER FROM BCAT PRESIDENT, SHELLEY COLLIER***

Greetings to everyone!

I am honored to be your president of the BCAT. I would like to thank everyone that is already a BCAT member. I would like to ask for your help in encouraging others to join and get involved in the BCAT. There are so many good things that we are currently doing to promote and recognize our players and help Coaches. I am happy to be a voice for you all and to continue to help grow our game and make things better for all of our coaches and players across the state. Our committees have worked really hard to talk about things that are important and to get people in place to help the BCAT become more personable. We have established region representatives that will reach out in your area soon. These are people that you can contact for the player of the week selections in your region each week.

As our 24-25 season kicks off I would like to wish each of you and your teams the best! I look forward to being a positive representative for all of you!

Sincerely,

**Shelley Collier**  
**Head Girls Coach**  
**Lenoir City HS**

# BCAT COURT OF HONOR

## **BCAT Court of Honor All-Star Weekend**

**BCAT will honor the 2025 BCAT Hall of Fame Inductees, 2025 BCAT Coaches of the Year and The 2025 BCAT All-Star Teams the weekend of March 29, 2025 at the BCAT Court of Honor at Ravenwood High School in Franklin. BCAT Members are welcome to attend at no cost. More information will be sent out at a later time.**

## **BCAT 2025 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES**

**We are happy to announce the 2025 BCAT Hall of Fame class. The following coaches were selected by the BCAT Hall of Fame Committee:**

**Jill Prudden, Oak Ridge HS**

**Charles Mitchell, Pickett County**

**Gary Smith, Battle Ground Academy**

**Chris Fryer, Mt. Juliet**

**Tim Halford, Munford**

**These coaches will be honored at the BCAT Hall of Fame brunch on Saturday March 29, 2025 at Ravenwood High School in Franklin. Our new title sponsor for the BCAT Hall of Fame is Josh Houston and Associates. We are very appreciative of JH1 and their sponsors**

# BCAT Scholarships

## **BCAT SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS**

**Over the last 8 years we have given over \$20,000 to deserving seniors of BCAT members coaches from across the state. We award these yearly \$500 scholarships to the children, players and managers of member coaches. To be eligible, coaches must be members for 3 consecutive years at their current school, including the 2024-25 school year. Applications are due by April 1, 2025. Applications can be found at**

**<http://bcathoops.com/bcat-scholarship/>**

# BCAT HOOPFEST

The 2024 BCAT HOOPFEST team camps were a tremendous success. Our Girls event in Lebanon featured 93 teams from around the state. Our Boys event in Memphis hosted 115 teams from around the state. We played over 400 total games and showcased our players talents to over a combined 130 college programs at all levels of college basketball.

The 2025 BCAT Girls HOOPFEST will be June 12-13 in Lebanon again.

The 2025 BCAT Boys HOOPFEST will be June 20-21 site TBA.

To go ahead and reserve your team a spot use the links below.

**[2025 BCAT Girls Hoopfest Team Commitment](#)**

**[2025 BCAT Boys Hoopfest Team Commitment](#)**



# 2025 BCAT ALL ACADEMIC

## BCAT District All-Academic Teams:

The BCAT will honor all of your athletes who have a GPA of 3.5 or higher for the year. To be eligible the head coach must be a member for the 2024-25 school year. Each athlete who is honored will receive a certificate for District All-Academic Team that will be sent to the head coach so it can be awarded at the District Tournament. All nominees must be received by noon on 2-1-2025.

# COACHES V CANCER

## Coaches Vs Cancer Partnership:

The BCAT is proud to partner with Coaches vs Cancer for the 2024-25 school year to help raise money for cancer research and awareness. We all know of someone who has battled cancer whether it is friends or family. This is a great way to contribute through the game. We have a goal statewide to reach \$50,000 in contributions this year.

To be able to contribute you can pick a game or games that are designated as your Coaches vs Cancer games to raise money from your school/program. You may sign-up for a specific game or event by using the link below:

[BCAT Coaches V Cancer Partnership](#)

# BCAT Leadership

## BCAT Executive Board:

**Executive Director- Bruce Slatten**

**Associate Director- Tim Halford**

**Associate Director- Tim Allen**

**Associate Director- Bobby Luna**

**Associate Director- Lonnie Starks**

**Associate Director- Jason Welch**

**Private School Assistant Director- Dexter Williams**

**Boys Assistant Director- Jim McDowell (Lebanon)**

**Girls Assistant Director- Dana McWilliams  
(Upperman)**

**BCAT Officer/ Staff: President- Shelley Collier  
(Lenoir City)**

**Girls Vice President- Cory Barrett (Lebanon) Boys  
Vice President- Gregg Tipps**

**Treasurers / Secretary - Chris Lawson and Chad  
Tipps**

**Technology Director - Patrick Whitlock  
(Ravenwood)**

# BCAT Leadership

## Girls Committee:

**Shelley Collier**

**Dana McWilliams**

**Michael Dodgen**

**Katie Moore**

**John Wild**

**Molly Ashley**

**Wes Shappley**

**Cory Barrett**

**Tony Williams**

**Katie Wright**

**Lynn Burkey**

**Becky LeGate**

**Joel Ayers**

**Lenoir City**

**Upperman**

**White County**

**Gatlinburg-Pittman**

**Forrest**

**Wayne County**

**Bartlett**

**Lebanon**

**Ooltewah**

**Soddy-Daisy**

**Middle Tn. Christian**

**CPA**

**USJ**

# BCAT Leadership

## Boys Committee:

**Jim McDowell**

**Lebanon**

**Patrick Whitlock**

**Ravenwood**

**Bubba Lockett**

**Christian Brothers**

**Greg Tipps**

**Loretto**

**Bobby McWilliams**

**Upperman**

**Chris Lawson**

**Cascade**

**Brad Woolsey**

**Greeneville**

**Chris Poore**

**Dobyns-Bennett**

**Dion Real**

**Bartlett**

**Blaine Mahaffey**

**Dyersburg**

# **BCAT Leadership**

## **BCAT Girls Region Representatives:**

**Region 1 and 2 Katie Moore-  
Gatlinburg Pittman**

**Region 3 Katie Wright - Soddy Daisy**

**Region 4 Michael Dodgen -  
White County**

**Region 5 John Wild - Forest**

**Region 6 Molly Ashley - Wayne County**

**Region 7 and 8 Wes Shapley - Bartlett**

**D-2 A Lynn Burkey - MTCS**

**D-2 AA Becky LeGate - CPA**

# **BCAT Leadership**

## **BCAT Boys Region Representatives:**

**Region 1 Chris Poore - Dobyys Bennett**

**Region 2 Aaron Green - Oak Ridge**

**Region 3 Nick Fike - Red Bank**

**Region 4 Bobby McWilliams -  
Upperman**

**Region 5 Patrick Whitlock -  
Ravenwood**

**Region 6 Bobby Luna - Galatin**

**Region 7 Blaine Mahaffey - Dyersburg**

**Region 8 Dion Real - Bartlett**

# BCAT COACHES CORNER

## Coaches Corner:

Mike Neighbors, University of Arkansas

Mike Neighbors Dribble Drive Drill

Rodney Terry, University of Texas

Rodney Terry Texas Charge Drill

Fred Williams, University of Auburn

Fred Williams Auburn Chair Pivot Shooting



# BCAT BENEFITS

1. Membership gives every coach coverage from our exclusive \$1,000,000 liability insurance policy.
2. Membership makes your senior children, players, and managers eligible for the \$500 BCAT Scholarships.
3. Membership gives every member a voice we can relay to the TSSAA to make the game better across Tennessee.
4. Membership makes your players eligible for the BCAT All-District, All-Academic, and All-State Teams. WE WILL HONOR PLAYERS OF THE YEAR FOR EAST, MIDDLE AND WEST IN ALL CLASSES. AS WELL AS ALL-STATE TEAMS IN ALL CLASSES. ALSO WE ARE CHANGING THE ALL-STATE GAME AND WILL NOW HAVE A GAME FOR ALL CLASSES.
5. Membership makes you eligible for our Coach of the Year awards, on the district and state level.
6. Member schools (those with a school membership) a catered meal for their team if they make the state tournament. We provided 15 meals last year.
7. Members receive weekly playbooks during the season as well as monthly newsletters that keeps coaches updated on the game.
8. Members are allowed to post on the BCAT website at [www.bcathoops.com](http://www.bcathoops.com) about anything their program may need
9. Membership will allow you to attend the BCAT Hall of Fame and All-State banquet we are starting this spring. It will be held Friday March 29, 2025.
10. Membership allows one vote for each member for the All-State team and Players of the Year awards.
11. Members receive BCAT membership cards that are good for entry to games through the region tournament as long as approved by school and district (approved by the TSSAA 2014).

Click Here  
to Join



# BCAT SPONSORS



**Our mailing address is:**  
PO Box 6306 Sparta, Tn 38583