

History OF SMASH

It started with an idea!! A former student of Louis St. Laurent School (Dan Desmarais) was coaching in 1988 for the Varsity Men's Volleyball Team and heard about other schools going to tournaments. He was frustrated that they never went to a tournament and simply made a comment to the Athletic Director...

“WHY Don't We Host Our Own Tournament?”

At the time Louis St. Laurent hosted no tournaments and thought this would be a great idea to help build school spirit and showcase the school.

The very next year, SMASH was born!

In 1989, Ron Woytiuk chaired the first SMASH tournament. Previously he helped St. Joe's start the Father Michael Troy Basketball Tournament and with the help of Tom Solyom, SMASH was modeled after the Troy. The tournament began as a local tournament and progressed to only being open to Catholic Schools from across Alberta. Today SMASH has evolved into the premier 3A volleyball event and preview of the Provincial Championship.

From the start, the aim was to put together a classy tournament (every athlete was given a gift that was donated by our sponsors, a team dinner was supplied and each team had two hosts/hostesses). At first a Friday night dance was held for the high school and competing athletes. As high school dances slowly became less popular among students, it was replaced with SMASH Fest in 2003.

Playing the opening game each year in front of the student body also helped to entrench the spirit of the tournament into the fabric of LSL.

TRADITION of EXCELLENCE yet friendly competition has continued today. This entire school event is the highlight of our Athletic calendar!!

Today there are almost 200 student and teacher volunteers spanning all departments of our school that make SMASH a SUCCESS!!