

Opening Remarks
15th Season, Women's Colleges Sports Association (WCSA)
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Rizal Memorial Coliseum

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Ms. Vivian Manila, Executive Director, and the Management Committee of the Women's Colleges Sports Association, (WCSA), School Presidents, administrators, faculty members, students, athletes, parents, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

Good morning and peace be with you!

On behalf of the Bedan community, I would like to personally welcome you to the opening of the 15th season of the Women's Colleges Sports Association. San Beda College Alabang is honored to be the host school for the 15th Season.

The opening ceremony is an event we all look forward to because of the excitement and entertainment it provides us. We watched with curiosity and interest the parade of athletes to see which team has the tallest players and to guess which team could be the toughest team to play with. We await with expectancy the entertainment numbers to be provided by San Beda Bedanz Dance Troupe. And of course, we are excited and look forward to the Cheerdance Competition which will showcase the dancing, cheering, tumbling, jumping, tossing and gymnastic moves of the participating teams.

We must remember however that the opening ceremony is just a prelude to the central event of the 15th season which is the athletic games.

My dear athletes,

As we start the games of the 15th season, I would like to remind you of what WCSA stands for. First, **WCSA stands for women empowerment in sports**. Your school joined WCSA to participate in friendly competition with the teams of the other member schools. The purpose is for you to put into practice and hone the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes that you acquired from training in your schools. With the games you play during the season, you develop yourselves and become outstanding athletes or even superstars. When you become superstars in your sports like basketball or volleyball, remember WCSA for it was your training ground that shaped and developed you to become what you are.

Second, **WCSA stands for friendly competition** which fosters respect for others, camaraderie, cooperation and harmonious relationship among the member schools. In competition, except in rare cases, you do not win all the time nor lose all the time. You either experience a win at one time or a loss at another time. You neither both win and lose at the same time. Whether you win or lose, it is always good to follow the saying: **be magnanimous in victory and gracious in defeat**. Thus, you strengthen the bond of unity and friendship among you athletes and among the member schools.

And lastly, **WCSA stands for character building in sports.** It provides through competition the opportunity for you to practice the values you have been taught in your training. You learn to practice discipline and to follow rules and regulations. Otherwise, you will be called for a foul and be penalized. You learn to tell the truth. If you or your school lies about your true age or your true academic performance, both you and your school will be penalized with disqualification. You learn other good values like sacrifice, hard work, teamwork which are important to be successful in sports. These values are the same ones which will make you successful in life, whether as a student, a citizen, a professional, or whatever you want to be in the future. I would like to acknowledge and thank all those who helped in planning, organizing and implementing the program of 15th Season of the WCSA:

- . Ms. Vivian Manila, Executive Director and the representatives of schools of WCSA.
- . Ms. Angie de la Cruz, Athletics Director of San Beda College Alabang
- . Dr. Andres San Mateo, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences of SBCA and his organizing committee headed by Prof. Lea Martinez
- . Prof. Cynthia Manalo and her Bedanz Dance Club
- . The sponsors and friends of WCSA.

In closing, I pray for God's blessing for the success of the 15th season of the WCSA. May God bless our athletes and grant them the grace of realizing their dream to become not only outstanding athletes but also exemplary citizens of our country for the honor and glory not only of themselves but also of their schools, their country and God.

God bless. Mabuhay kayong lahat. That in all things God may be glorified.