

Founders and General Membership

Circa 1991 - Founders

Mr. Pan dela Cruz, Mr. Sergio Relova, Mr. Sonny Bateria, late Mr. Prose Paraiso, Mr. Teddy Gonzales, Mr. Albert Barcelon, Mr. Boy Plan, Mr. Willy Durana, late Mr. Archie Jubillo, Mr. Pete Melanio, Mr. Edwin Abshire, Mr. Chito Ilano

Objective:

The idea was conceived by Mr. Pan de la Cruz to have an organized sports league for young school boys and girls of Filipino heritage, which is basketball. Wherein the sons and daughters of the founding members could play as well as the Filipino community boys and girls can spend their weekends playing basketball, have the weekend exercise and do something better rather than roaming around the shopping malls. At the same time, parents and grandparents alike can watch their sons and daughters play, enjoy the game of basketball with friends and enjoy the Filipino favourite food and camaraderie

Other Sports & Social Activities:

Slow-Pitch Ball Tournament

It was formed with the leadership of Mr. Chito Ilano. The Slow Pitch tournament was widely popular amongst other Filipino organizations and played every summer. The tournament was so successful in the five years running from 1996 to 1999.

Men's Seniors/Masters Basketball Tournament

Filipino community organizations and groups that play basketball were invited to join this tournament. The Seniors basketball age group is from 20 to 35 and Masters basketball age group is from 35 and older. Mr. Chito Ilano organized and managed these tournaments so well that gained popularity and support from other Filipino organizations.

Seattle - Vancouver Weekend Basketball Tournament

Basketball being a popular sports in the Philippines gained momentum not only here in Metro Vancouver but south of the border as well and Seattle - Vancouver Weekend Basketball Tournament was introduced. Road trips to Seattle and vice versa of different divisions specially the popular " Under 13 " divisions managed and coached by Mr. Pan dela Cruz, Mr. Chito Ilano, Mr. Len Castillo and Mr. Jun Magbitang

Filcansa Golf

It was formed and organized by the Filcansa group led by Mr. Pan dela Cruz, Mr. Albert Barcelon, late Mr. Nap Santos, Mr. Len Castillo and Mr. Manny Yatco, a prominent member of the community and a staunch supporter of FILCANSAs, has contributed to the success of this activity. Golf had never been really an activity of FILCANSAs however it was named after Filcansa until the present because the original golfers of the group were Filcansa officers and members.

Annual Summer Picnic / Camping

It is another social activity in the 90's which is still being undertaken by the organization to the present. Filcansa organized and take the lead to manage this multi-Filipino organizations and social clubs co-ordinated annual picnic

Annual Christmas Party

Just like the annual summer picnic / camp, this is another social activities that we celebrate and share with our families, friends and Filcansa community in the spirit of Christmas. As Filipino tradition, we have Christmas carols singing, karaoke, a short Christmas programme, eating & dancing and most important of all especially with the kids is the sharing of gifts with our very own Filcansa " Mr. Edwin Abshire " Santa Claus

All thru the years ...

With the guidance, influence and support of **Mr. Romy (Manager) Tomayao**, a successful Filipino businessman, Filcansa was born...January 1991. There were lots meetings, discussions, debates among officers and members but at the end of the day a unified and constructive decisions has been reached without amonoscity amongst themselves. The inaugural first game was held on the second Saturday of March 1991 at St. Joseph Elementary school with 8 teams.

As soon as the community learned about Filcansa basketball league inaugural day, there was a tremendous outpouring support from the Filipino community. The members' spouses had their full support and assistance many parents assisted in the registrations and volunteered in the operation of the tournament. Approximately 400 players from grade 3 to 12 participated and since then a yearly average of 300 boys and girls participated. The inaugural opening was held at St. Joseph School Gym in Vancouver and a year after and we outgrown St Joseph School gym and moved to Boys & Girls Club in Victoria Street.

Filcansa participated for 2 consecutive years (1993 & 1994) in the Philippine Independence Day celebrations where different teams in each division joined the parade that showcased FILCANSAs organization.

With no home gym as the venue, Filcansa tournament were help in several gymnasiums from St. Joseph School Elementary School gym, to Boys & Girls Club in Victoria Drive, Vancouver, to St. Thomas Moore, to New Westminster Secondary, to Vancouver College, Bonnacord Elem School & Grizzlies Practice gym, OLG/Don Bosco, Xavier Elementary School, to St. Patrick Regional Secondary School and now Notre Dame Regional Secondary School.

All thru the years, the Filcansa organization had prospered and still one of the active and strong non-profit Filipino sports organization in B.C. FILCANSAs has indured and overcome the ups and downs associated with Filipino organizations either be financial or political.

FILCANSAs today is still stable, strong and in good standing and thanks to the deligence, enthusiasm and good management of the present officers and members wherein 6 of the founders are still in the Filcansa organization and also thanks to their spouses for their support and understanding