

THE NEWSWHEEL



BC WHEELCHAIR SPORTS ASSOCIATION

September 2007

WHEELCHAIR SPORTS

JUNIOR WHEELCHAIR SPORTS CAMPS 2007



Rugby fun at Camp Coquitlam (August 2007)

As always this years' Junior Sport Camps were a huge success. BCWSA hosted two independent Junior Wheelchair Sports Camps and two camps in conjunction with the BC Lions Easter Seals Society.

Camps were held in Coquitlam (partnering with Douglas College) and Kelowna for our own camps and Shawnigan Lake and Squamish with the Easter Seals Society. The camps were a hit and introduced kids to a wide variety of sports including; rugby, basketball, hockey, team handball, and many, many more...

We were fortunate to have some wonderful guest athletes provide instruction in their sports of expertise. This provided our campers with powerful role models and professional instruction. A special thanks goes out to the athletes who generously volunteered their time and helped to make the camps a success.

A huge thank you must also go out to all of our leaders whose energy and enthusiasm was appreciated each week. Our leaders were dedicated to providing our campers with a fun, safe, learning environment for each and every camp and were wonderful role models. Thanks to Joe Skillen, Victoria Feige, Travis Murao, Kevin Bowie, Garrett Hickling, Hilary Brown, Kristen McBride and our volunteers and junior leaders. And of course we must say thank you to our campers! You were all excellent sports, full of enthusiasm and energy playing hard and improving your skills. Hope to see all of you next year!

Thank you also to our sponsors
For making the camps possible:



Rick Hansen WHEELS IN MOTION

Presented by



The 2007 Rick Hansen Wheels in Motion Vancouver Event was held on June 10th, 2007 at Playland at the PNE. It was a bit wet, but tons of fun for everyone! There were a record number of people at the Vancouver event and our 2007 participants raised a record amount of funds - congratulations to everyone involved and thanks for being there! And congratulation to all the other events held in BC. See everyone back in 2008! Visit www.rickhansen.com for a special message from Rick.

BRIDGING THE GAP HAVE A GO DAY!

This fun event is an opportunity for people with physical disabilities to try out a variety of wheelchair sports! BCWSA will provide all of the equipment and a snack. YOU JUST COME AND HAVE FUN!

VICTORIA

Sunday, September 30, 2007
11:00 am – 3:00 pm
George Jay Elementary School
1118 Princess Ave. Victoria, BC

COURTENAY/COMOX

Saturday, October 13, 2007
11:30am – 4:00pm
Lewis Centre
489 Old Island Hwy. Courtenay, BC

SURREY

Sunday November 18, 2007.
12:15—4:00pm
South Surrey Recreation Centre
14601 20th Ave, Surrey, BC



To register or for more information contact;
Jackie Ehgoetz at 604-737-3191 or
jackie@bcwheelchairsports.com

BCWSA wishes to thank...

Advanced Mobility Products Ltd.
 BC Lions Society
 BC Paraplegic Association
 BC Paraplegic Foundation
 BC Wheelchair Basketball Society
 BC Sports Hall of Fame & Museum
 Betty & Bruce Birmingham
 Bogetti-Smith Photography
 Bonsor Recreation Complex
 Bread Garden
 Canadian Wheelchair Basketball Association
 Canadian Wheelchair Sports Association
 Charlie & the Chocolate Factory
 City of Burnaby Parks & Recreation
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 Coca Cola
 Coloplast
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 Douglas College
 Gerard the Hypnotist Inc.
 GF Strong Rehabilitation Centre
 Hamber Foundation
 Hilton Vancouver Metrotown
 Hilton Whistler Resort & Spa
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 International Wheelchair and Amputee Sport Federation
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 Rick Hansen Wheels In Motion
 Scotiabank
 Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of BC
 Sport BC
 Sport Canada
 Tennis Canada
 Tourism Burnaby
 Tourism Vancouver
 2010 LegaciesNow
 Vancouver Foundation
 Vancouver Sun Children's Fund
 Wildwood Pacific Bistro
 XentelDM

ANNUAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITION NIGHT

BC Wheelchair Sports Association Annual Awards & Recognition Night was held on Saturday, April 14th, 2007 at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Richmond.

Congratulations to all the nominees and to these award recipients:

MICHELLE STILWELL—Female Athlete of the Year

JAIMIE BORISOFF—Male Athlete of the Year

TRAVIS MURAO—Most Improved Athlete of the Year

DEION GREEN—Junior Athlete of the Year

ADAM FROST—Coach of the Year

JESSICA DES MAZES – Spirit of Sport Award

MARY NGUYEN – Volunteer of the Year

KINSMEN CLUB OF PRINCE GEORGE—Outstanding Community Support Award

TENNIS

Sarah Hunter of White Rock, BC attend the World Team Cup held in Stockholm, Sweden, June 11-17. At the beginning of September Sarah became the first Canadian ever to participate in the Quad Division of

the wheelchair tennis tournament at the US Open in New York. Congratulations!

There were three big tournaments in July: BC Wheelchair Tennis Championships (Sport Town, Richmond), ITF Futures Stanley Park Open (Vancouver, BC) and BC International Tennis Festival (Coquitlam, BC). Finally the BCWSA Wheelchair Tennis Spring League ran from April to June 2007 with great participation.

REGULAR PROGRAMS

Grant Connell Tennis Centre (North Van) - Thursdays

Contact - Uros at uros@bcwheelchairsports.com

YY Tennis Club (Richmond) – Sundays & Tuesdays

Contact - Jonathan at jonathanlim@hotmail.com

Cedar Hill Recreation Centre (Victoria) - Mondays

Contact - Dean at gillisd@saanich.ca

Vernon Tennis Club (Vernon)

Contact - Randy at rischell@shaw.ca

For more info: Lower Mainland: Uros Budimac at uros@bcwheelchairsports.com or 604-616-0495

Vancouver Island: Dean Gillis at gillisd@saanich.ca or 250-475-7126

Kelowna: Louise Roberts Taylor at lroberts@city.kelowna.bc.ca or 250-469-8784

UPCOMING EVENTS

* Sept 30, Oct 14, Nov 11, 2007

Provincial Team Training Camps

* Nov. 22-25, 2007

Birmingham

National Championships

Whistler Racquet Club-Whistler, BC

RUGBY

The 2006-07 wheelchair rugby season was a big year for BC athletes as five of them played for team Canada at the *World Wheelchair Rugby Championships* held in Christchurch New Zealand (September 2006).

Congratulations to Garrett Hickling, Ian Chan, Travis Murao, Say Luangkhamdeng and Trevor Hirschfield who all represented Canada and BC admirably and came home with a bronze medal.

Two teams competed at the *National Championships* this past May in Edmonton and both finished second in the A and B pool in very close and exciting final games.

The league continues to grow and provide new players with a fun and competitive environment in which to learn rugby. The league consisted of players from Seattle, Victoria and Vancouver. The season also saw the BC teams participate in: *Best of the West* in San Diego (placing 2nd), *NORAM* held in Disney World (placing 8th) and the *Vancouver Invitational* (placing 4th and 7th).

Thanks for a great season last year and stay tuned for all the details of this coming season!

For more information contact: Adam Frost at 604-737-3193 or adam@bcwheelchairsports.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

* September 29, 2007
Rugby 'Have A Go' Day
 Victoria, BC (contact Adam Frost for details)

* March 28-30, 2008
Vancouver Invitational Tournament
 Bonsor Rec. Complex,
 Burnaby, BC

Regular Programs
Ray Cam Community Centre, Vancouver
 Tuesday & Thursdays
 6:00-8:00pm

Pearkes, Victoria
 Wednesdays
 6:00-8:00pm

ATHLETICS

2007 TRACK

The *Meet-in the-Heat* which was held in Atlanta, Georgia in June. Brad Skeats and Jessica Des Mazes joined 80 racers from around the world with great competition on North America's fastest track. The *Boiling Point Track Meet* in Windsor, Ontario, had four BC Athletes attending and was the first major track meet for new racer Nathan Dewitt. *Canadian Nationals*



were held in Windsor, ON and was the first integrated National Championship for Track and Field. Three athletes attended with great showing. Michelle Stilwell won three gold's, Brad Skeats won a silver and Jessica Des Mazes won one gold, one silver and one bronze. The *Western Canada Summer Games* were held in Strathcona County Alberta and had two athletes from BC attending. After training all year, Nathan Dewitt had a strong showing with two silvers and one bronze medal in 3 events. And despite an injury prone year Stephanie Degagne came away with a bronze medal performance in the 200m.

2007 ROAD

The *Squamish 10K* was held on a perfect race day with sunny skies with very little wind making for fast times once again. Simmon Harrington lead the charge both at the race and at serving up lunch at the annual Alice Lake post race picnic. The *Delta Half - Marathon* conflicted with another BC attended race in Saskatchewan, though only a few racers were able to attend Delta they course was kept alive.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 7, 2007 Royal Victoria Marathon – Victoria
 October 13, 2007 – Canadian Championship 10K – Ottawa, ON
 October 14, 2007 Richmond Flatlands 10K– Richmond

For more info contact: Jen Brown at 604-647-0447, info@wcraceseries.com
 or James Hustvedt - james@bcwheelchairsports.com
 Victoria: Peter Lawless— plawless@jsg.bc.ca
 Kelowna: Paul Clark – eyeclark@telus.net
 Vernon: Lars Taylor – larst@telus.net

HOCKEY

The hockey season has wound down for another year and it was another great one! Several new players came out to the weekly games. Thanks to all who joined us and welcome to anyone looking to join us next season.

For information on next season contact:

Hilary Brown: 604.323.7944 or hjbrown@shaw.ca



Learning tennis skills at Camp Coquitlam (August 2007)

Camp Kelowna enjoys some indoor curling



BRIDGING THE GAP

Special dates:

'HAVE A GO' Days

(See Front page for details)

GF Strong 'HAVE A GO' Days

Nov. 13, 2007, 3:00 -5:00pm

GF Strong Rehab Facility (Approx. 6/year)



PROGRAMS

BTG oversees winter programs for Rugby, Curling, Basketball and Tennis. Following are the current cities with regular programs:

Rugby - Vancouver and Victoria

Curling - Vancouver, Kelowna, Vernon & Victoria

Basketball - Various - contact BCWBS

(info@bcwbs.ca for more information)

Tennis – Richmond, North Van, Victoria & Vernon

Additional Programs

GF Strong Weekly program -(GF Strong Gym)

3:00pm Tuesdays –Intro to WC Sports

Gym Rats (Sept.–June) -(GF Strong Gym)

6:00pm Wednesdays -Partnering with GF Strong and the Spina Bifida Assoc. for teens/young adults

For information on these BRIDGING THE GAP programs and/or other wheelchair sports contact:

Kevin Bowie kevin@bcwheelchairsports.com

604-737-3194

Jackie Ehgoetz jackie@bcwheelchairsports.com

604-737-3191

CURLING

CANADIAN WHEELCHAIR CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

BC Wheelchair curlers, (skip: Darryl Neighbour, third: Frank LaBounty, second: Whitney Warren, lead: Jacqueline Roy and fifth: Jim Shannon) attended the Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championship April 6 - 11, 2007 in Ottawa Ontario. Team BC had a round robin record of wins with only 1 loss. In the playoffs, after winning their first game, Team BC advanced to the Final and came away as Gold Medalists and National Champions.

Upcoming Events/Programs:

Beginning September 30 - Regular curling sessions
 Marpole Curling Club, Vancouver, BC -Sundays 1:00–3:00 pm

January 7-11, 2008 - BC Winter Games Playdowns
 Juan de Fuca Curling Club, PG Golf & Curling Club

For information about wheelchair curling, contact:
 604-737-3143, curling@curlbc.ca or
memberservices@curlbc.ca



224- 1367 W. Broadway Vancouver, BC V6H 4A9

P: 604-737-3090 Toll Free: 1- 877-737-3090 F: 604-737- 6043

www.bcwheelchairsports.com e-mail: info@bcwheelchairsports.com

TARGET SPORTS

This is a busy time for Target Sports with competitions all over the world! BC shooter Chris Trifonidis heads for the Continental Championships in Australia while BC's Greg Labine will be competing in the Hibernation Match in Richmond. Chris will be going to England in January 2008 for ammunition testing and then both Chris and Greg are in Toronto for the Crossman in February. In May, Chris is off to Germany for the Trials for the 2008 Beijing Paralympics. *Congratulations* to Chris Trifonidis who won two Gold medals and the Grand Aggregate at the National Championships held in August in Beachburg, ON.

Upcoming Events

Oct. 27-Nov.3, 2007- Continental Championships
–Sydney, Australia

November 3-4, 2007 -Hibernation Match – Richmond, BC
February 2008 – Crossman – Toronto, ON

For more information contact: Chris Trifonidis at
604-876-9932, triffs@shaw.ca



The 2006/2007 basketball programs were very successful. BC Wheelchair Basketball ran two well attended developmental City Leagues in partnership with BCWSA as well as a women's only league that went extremely well. Several clinics were held over the past year, including a high performance camp as well as training camps for BC Jr. Team who attended the Canada Winter Games in Whitehorse, Yukon.

The BC CWBL had a strong season with our BC Final going to double overtime with the Prince George Titans emerging with the win. They also represented BC well at the national CWBL tournament coming a close second. Finally BC's men's and women's teams represented the province well placing Gold and Bronze respectively at the CWBA National Championships.

In September BCWBS welcomed Scott Stefani as the new Program and Member Services Coordinator. The 2007/2008 season is already looking good, with one City League already started and Jr. and Senior programs about to start. Hope to see you all out there!

For information on programs all around BC, contact:

Lower Mainland: BCWBS – 604-737-3138, info@bcwbs.ca

Okanagan: Joe Higgins – joe@bcwbs.ca

Kamloops: Bob Thorpe – 250-377-7502, jthorpe2@telus.net

Nanaimo/Parksville: Bert Abbott – 250-741-9889

Prince George: Pat Harris – 250-967-4665 or pat@bcwbs.ca

Quesnel: Jody Vliegenthart – 250-249-5531

Vanderhoof: Mark Cormack—mark@bcwbs.ca, 250-567-4215

Victoria: Marilyn LaPointe – 250-595-5039

For other areas or general information, contact: BCWBS at 604-737-3138 or info@bcwbs.ca

IN MEMORY...

BCWSA mourns the loss of our good friend Avchen (Harivel) Pinkard

We are very saddened at the passing of Avchen (Harivel) Pinkard and her infant daughter Abigail on July 26, 2007. Avchen was a much loved and respected member of the BC Wheelchair Sports family and especially the wheelchair racing community. She was an international level classifier in wheelchair athletics and a dedicated volunteer for BC Wheelchair Sports Association, BC Wheelchair Basketball and the WC Race Series. Through her work at GF Strong as a physiotherapist working with adolescents and young adults, she was able to fulfill her dream of impacting those around her in a positive way and empowering others to reach their potential. Avchen will be greatly missed.

WHEELCHAIR LOAN PROGRAM

Want to try one of our sports

but don't have the equipment? We do!

BCWSA offers the wheelchair loan program which allows you to rent a chair for a nominal fee and try the sport of your choice. The cost for the rental is \$10 per month or \$100 dollars for the year. If you're interested in trying one of our chairs please feel free to check out the web site,

www.bcwheelchairsports.com or contact:



Kevin Bowie at 604-737-3194

Kevin@bcwheelchairsports.com.

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