

SILVER MEDAL FOR CANADA AT 2008 PARALYMPICS



photos by Kevin Bogetti-Smith

Congratulations to go out to the Canadian Men's and Women's National Wheelchair Basketball Teams for their performances in Beijing. BC players Richard Peter, Patrick Anderson, Jaimie Borisoff, Bo Hedges, Misty Thomas, Jennifer Kremplan and Janet McLachlan were joined by other BC members as part of the coaching and support staff which will include Tim Frick, Trish Nicholson, Bruce Enns, Cheryl Corrigan, and Laura Goertz. Congratulations to you all – you have made us so proud.

On the Men's side of the tournament, the Canadian Men's Wheelchair Basketball team won silver at the 2008 Beijing Paralympics falling to Australia 72-60 in the final. Canada was the favourite heading into the final with a flawless 7-0 record. They went undefeated through five preliminary games, the quarterfinals, and a tightly contested semi-final with the USA.

Patrick Anderson led all scorers with 22 points and had a game-high 12 rebounds to secure his sixth double-double of the tournament. Through eight matches he averaged 20.4 points per game and 12.4 rebounds per game. "This team has had a really good run. The Aussies have been there and been close and knocking on the door for a long time. Maybe it was a matter of time before they had their due," said Anderson.

Joey Johnson (Winnipeg, MB) also notched a double-double matching Anderson's 12 rebounds and adding 12 points and Richard Peter was the only other Canadian to reach double digit scoring with 11 points.

"It's bitter-sweet," said Jamie Borisoff. "We only came here to win the gold. We were the team to beat coming in. We've dropped the ball so to speak. The guys played hard, we can't fault ourselves for that. I think we just weren't clicking as a unit. We weren't mentally sharp."

Australia outworked Canada down low, shooting 44% from the field on the night, they put down 44 points from the paint compared to Canada's 24. Limited accuracy on foul shots also hurt the Canadians who finished the day shooting 54% from the free throw line, while Australia hit 77% per cent of their shots.

Meanwhile in the women's draw, Team Canada women finished the 2008 Beijing Paralympics with a resounding 61-32 thrashing of the Netherlands. Canada winds up 5th in the tournament after disappointing losses earlier in the week including a loss of Australia in the quarter-finals. Canada shot a dazzling 48% from the field and held the Dutch to 23%. Sabrina Pettinichchi was Canada's top scorer with 14 points and 6 rebounds. Chantal Benoit had 13 points and 3 steals, while wound up with 11 points. Other scorers included Kendra Ohama and Tara Feser with 4, Cindy Ouellet with 3 and a host of others scoring 2 each. In other action, USA defeated Germany for the gold medal and Australia beat Japan for the Bronze. Next up for Canada is the qualification tournament next summer for the 2010 World Championships to be held in England.

BC WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL GRATEFULLY
ACKNOWLEDGES THE FOLLOWING
COMMUNITY PARTNERS FOR THEIR
GENEROUS SUPPORT:



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2008 CANADIAN JR MEN'S WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL TEAM ANNOUNCED

The Canadian Wheelchair Basketball Association is pleased to announce the official selection of the Canadian Jr. Men's Wheelchair Basketball Team that will represent Canada at the 2009 World Junior Championships in Paris next summer. Canada is looking to return to international dominance with their third gold medal after winning the first two World Junior Championships in 1997 and 2001.

"We're excited at the team's prospects for the World's in '09," said Canadian Jr. Men's Head Coach Cheryl Corrigan. "The youth and vigour of the athletes, combined with the experience of senior athlete Cindy Ouellet and returner Shayne Smith, will prove to be a tough, competitive mix for Canada."

The coaching staff will lead the 12 member team through a comprehensive year of training to get them ready for a top finish in Paris. The 2009 U23 Championship for Men are being hosted by the Fédération Française Handisport. The tournament will take place from July 7 until July 15, 2009. Teams will arrive July 5 and depart July 16. The teams will be accommodated in the newly renovated Résidence Internationale de Paris.

The 2008 Canadian Jr. Men's Wheelchair Basketball Team consists of:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| # 4 Nikola Goncin (Regina, SK) | # 5 Josh Giles (Brampton, ON) |
| # 6 John Lohnes (Halifax, NS) | # 7 Cindy Ouellet (Quebec, QC) |
| # 8 Aaron Moseley-Williams (Winnipeg, MB) | # 9 Phillipe Vermette (Montreal, QC) |
| # 10 Jonathan Vermette (Montreal, QC) | # 11 Shayne Smith (Toronto, ON) |
| # 12 Matt Ficocelli (Kelowna, BC) | # 13 Deion Green (Victoria, BC) |
| # 14 Peter Won (Sylvan Lake, AB) | # 15 Gregg Johnstone (Regina, SK) |

Accompanying the Jr. Men's National Team to France will be a group of coaching and support staff led by Head Coach Cheryl Corrigan of Richmond, BC. She is serving in her second season at the helm and brings over a decade of experience at almost every level of stand-up and wheelchair basketball. She also worked with the Sr. Women's National Team at the 2008 Paralympic Games in Beijing.

Other staff members include Assistant Coaches: Mandy Johnson (Winnipeg, MB), Michael Broughton (Toronto, ON) and physiotherapist James Laskin (Missoula, MN)



BC ATHLETE VOICE

SUPPORTS BC ATHLETES...

BC Athlete Voice is dedicated to supporting
High Performance Athletes in British Columbia through education,
leadership and advocacy.

find out how we can help you at

www.bcathletevoice.ca

with programs, resources and services such as...

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| BC Athlete Funding Notification Network | BC Athletes' Handbook |
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BC Athlete Voice Membership is available at no cost and athletes
can join online at www.bcathletevoice.ca

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photos of the Men's and Women's Paralympic teams by Kevin Bogetti-Smith



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 2008

- 1 BCWBS Annual General Meeting, Douglas College, New West
- 1/2 BCWBS High Performance Camp Douglas College, New West
- 6-9 Sport Leadership Conference/Spin Summit Calgary, AB
- 8 Skill Development Camp Victoria, BC
- 15/16 Junior Wheelchair Basketball Challenge Richmond, BC
- 23-30 Kitakyushu Champions Cup Kitakyushu, Japan
- 29 Skill Development Camps Chilliwack, BC

DECEMBER 2008

- 7 Skill Development Camp Prince George, BC
- 13/14 BC-CWBL Tournament Douglas College, New West

JANUARY 2009

- tbc BCWBS High Performance Camp
- tbc BC-CWBL Tournaments

FEBRUARY 2009

- 14/15 BC Breakers Women's Tournament

MARCH 2009

- tbc BC-CWBL Finals

APRIL 2009

- 10-12 2009 CWBL Finals Halifax, NS

MAY 2009

- 1-3 Defi Sportif, Montreal, QC
- 22-24 2009 National Championships Montreal, QC

JUNIORS

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE 9TH ANNUAL JUNIOR WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL CHALLENGE



November 15/16, 2008 at McRoberts Secondary School, Richmond, BC

Mark your calendars for the 9th Annual BC Junior Wheelchair Basketball Challenge Tournament. The tournament features 2 divisions (8 ½ ft and 10 ft hoop heights) to provide all of our junior players with the most positive and successful experience. Junior players from around BC, as well as teams from across Canada and our friends from Seattle are invited to participate. Registration forms are available from BCWBS and through your coaches at weekly BCWBS Junior programs. BCWBS members can also apply to receive travel support to this event through the Sportsfunder program from BC Wheelchair Sports.

Registration Information:

Registration Fee: \$10.00/person with payment by Oct. 29th or Late Registration Fee: \$15.00/person after Oct 29th. There will also be a \$20 jersey cost for BCWBS players who do not already have a reversible jersey. You may register as a team or an individual and you will be placed on a team. BC/Lower Mainland players will likely be divided into teams based on your appropriate division of play.

Registration deadline is October 29th.

Tournament Hotel

Holiday Inn Express Vancouver Airport, 9351 Bridgeport Road, Richmond (incl. deluxe continental breakfast)

Reservations Direct: 604 214 8450 Carolyn – Tanner Tredgett - Hotel Manager

Call Toll Free: 1 877 273 8080 or Hotel Direct: 604 273 8080

Rate: \$99.00 Cdn. per night (single – quad occupancy)+ 15% tax

Hotel rooms must be booked by October 31, 2008

Website: www.holidayinnexpressvancouverairport.com

Mention booking code: BC Wheelchair Basketball



SUPPORT BCWBS AT CANADA HELPS

BC Wheelchair Basketball Society is a non-profit organization and registered charity. To that extent many of our services are made possible only by the generosity of individuals who donate to our cause. If you would like to make a one time donation or sign up for a monthly giving program to BCWBS visit Canada Helps at www.canadahelps.org.

Thank you for your support.

JUNIORS

DEION GREEN RECEIVES 2008 FAST TRACK AWARD

Congratulations to Deion Green of Victoria, BC who has been named a recipient of the 2008 Canada Games Fast Track athlete grants from the Canada Games Council (CGC) and the Foundation for Athletes and Sport Training (FAST). The program was designed as part of the Canada Games' Dreams and Champions programs, to fill a void in Canada's sport system and support Canada Games level athletes who are targeted and on the pathway to excellence. Each year, worthy applications are received and following the selection process letters of thanks and or appreciation are received by the Council.

SPORT WHEELCHAIR RENTALS

BCWBS has a limited number of sport wheelchairs available for rental through the Wheelchair Loan Program. The program requires you to sign a loan agreement one-year in length and submit a \$100/year or \$10/month rental fee. If you are interested please read our policy and fill out a wheelchair loan application form on-line at www.bcwbs.ca and click for **athletes** and then **wheelchair loan program**.

BC JUNIOR PROGRAMS UNDERWAY ACROSS BC

BC Junior programs are well underway and the number of participants continue to grow. Chilliwack has come on board with juniors and local adults experiencing the sport on a regular basis in this community on Mondays at the Cheam Center YMCA. Thanks, Brad, for helping to make this happen and joining our growing coaching staff. Maple Ridge will soon be starting with a similar program, so if you are interested in playing in the Tri-Cities area, give the office a call. The program starts Tuesdays on October 14th at the Pitt Meadows Recreation Centre. The Junior programs are always looking for more participants and the regular programs in Surrey, Richmond, Nanaimo, Vanderhoof and Prince George continue. You can view a list of all BCWBS programs in this newsletter.

The Junior Challenge is once again happening at McRobert's Secondary School in Richmond where juniors from all over the province and Seattle meet to have a great weekend of wheelchair basketball. Both 8 ½ foot and 10 foot hoop teams will be represented at this weekend tournament November 15th and 16th.



2008 JUNIOR SUMMER CAMP & COACH CLINIC A HUGE SUCCESS!

On August 23/24, BC Wheelchair Basketball, in conjunction with Douglas College, hosted their 2008 Junior Camp and Coaching Clinic. With over twenty athletes in attendance, and a bevy of coaches, it was a fantastic, basketball-packed weekend! Provincial Coach Marni Abbott-Peter organized the weekend and helped Joe Higgins with instructing in the Coaching Clinic. Coaches from all over the province, including Kelowna and Kamloops, as well as Seattle coaches were in attendance. Not only in the classroom, coaches in the clinic also got a chance to try out their skills in the gym with the mini-age athletes.

Provincial Coach Cheryl Corrigan, with Regional Coach Pat Harris, John Lundie and Bob Thorpe kept the junior age athletes busy, as players from every region of BC attended the camp as part of the identification process for the 2011 Canada Winter Games. All in all, it was a successful weekend for all. BCWBS would like to thank all the coaches and parents in attendance, as well as Douglas College Facilities and Subway.

WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL PROGRAMS AROUND BC

CITY	LOCATION	DAY/TIME	CONTACT	COMMENTS*
Chilliwack	Cheam Centre YMCA	Mon 6:00–8:00 pm	BCWBS	Sept 22 – Dec 1
Kamloops	Tournament Capital Ctr	Tues 6:00–8:00 pm	Bob Thorpe 250-377-7502	Adult Program Starts Sept 16
Kelowna	Parkinson Rec Centre	Sun 10:30 am–12:00 pm	Brian Shore 250-212-0997	Recreational
	TBC			Okanagan Thunder and City League
Pitt Meadows/ Maple Ridge	Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre	Tues 5:00–6:30 pm	BCWBS 604-333-3530	Open/Recreational
New Westminster	Douglas College	Mon 2:00–4:00 pm	Cheryl Corrigan 604-333-3532	Skill Development Drop-in
	Douglas College	Mon 6:30–8:30 pm	Cheryl Corrigan 604-333-3532	City League ends Nov 20 High Performance Group
	Douglas College	Wed 8:00–10:00 pm	Cheryl Corrigan 604-333-3532	High Performance Training Group
	New West Secondary	Fri 7:00–9:00 pm	Gaby Gasztonyi 604-290-7450	Adult Drop-in
Nanaimo	Coal Tye Elementary	Thurs 7:00–8:30 pm	Bert Abbott 250-741-9889	Jr Program 10-15 yrs starts Sept 25
	Oliver Wood Gym	Tues 7:45–10:45pm	Bert Abbott 250-741-9889	Adult Program 15+ yrs starts Sept 16
Prince George	Kinsmen Complex	Mon 5:30–7:00 pm	Pat Harris 250-563-6942	Jr/Minis – 8 1/2 ft
	Kinsmen Complex	Mon 7:00–9:00 pm	Pat Harris 250-563-6942	Recreational – 10 ft
	Kinsmen Complex	Wed 5:30–7:30 pm	Pat Harris 250-563-6942	Recreational – 10 ft
Richmond	Steveston Comm. Ctr.	Thur 6:45–8:10 pm	BCWBS 604-333-3530	Mixed Jr and Adult Sept 19
Surrey	Surrey Family YMCA	Fri 5:30–7:00 pm	BCWBS 604-333-3530	Jr Program Sept 20
	Guilford Rec Centre	Tues 5:45–7:15 pm	Rec Centre 604-502-6360	Drop-in fee program
Vancouver	GF Strong Rehab Ctr	Tues 6:30–8:30 pm	BCWBS 604-333-3530	Development program Sept 16 – Dec 16
Vanderhoof	Sinkut View Elementary	Mon 6:00–7:30 pm	Mark Cormack 250-567-4215	Oct 20 – Dec 8 Jan 5 – Mar 9 Junior Adult
		7:30–9:00 pm		
Victoria	Stelley's High School	Thur 7:00–9:00 pm	Tony Golston 250-598-4826	Adult Program

*Please note if program time is for juniors, adults or a mixed group in the comments column

UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

BCWBS Fall High Performance Camp November 1/2, 2008

High Performance athletes from across BC are invited to attend the Fall BCWBS High Performance Camp November 1st & 2nd at Douglas College. The purpose of the camp is to bring together the best players and coaches in BC to focus on skill development, team system play and kick the 2008-09 training season into gear. With a mix of both up and coming players and established veterans from the our Provincial Teams, a great weekend is planned for everyone including presentations from sport science practitioners. All targeted athletes have been sent camp information and travel support is also available for regional athletes. Please contact Provincial Coach Cheryl Corrigan asap to confirm your attendance at cheryl@bcwbs.ca or 604-333-3532.

2008-09 BC-CWBL League Information

It's that time again...time to dust the cobwebs off your sport chair and head to the basketball court for another year of competitive and friendly games in the BC-CWBL. The BC-CWBL is a league that provides competitive opportunities for teams throughout British Columbia. The league also features two divisions to cater to different levels of ability and experience. The league features tournaments through out the season and culminates in an annual provincial championship tournament and awards banquet for all participants, coaches, and officials. This league is open to any team interested in participating. There are a total of three tournaments in each division scheduled for the year.

RICK HANSEN FOUNDATION CHAIR THANK YOU!



The BC Wheelchair Basketball Society (BCWBS) is thrilled to have received a grant from the Rick Hansen Foundation to support the purchase of

sport wheelchairs for use across British Columbia. This is a great opportunity to expand our programming and awareness initiatives in wheelchair basketball across BC and for this support we are truly grateful. Availability of equipment is a key factor in making a new program a reality and ensuring a positive experience for participants. Opportunities for continued program development and growth in participation in our sport are huge through initiatives such as school programs, regional programming, programs in rehab centres for new participants, and more. As an example in BC we have just started new programs in Maple Ridge and Chilliwack with more to come. These wheelchairs will go a long way in making a difference. In addition, this equipment will also support the community implementation of Rick Hansen Wheels in Motion events around BC. Thank-you to the Rick Hansen Foundation!

All teams must submit a team roster along with their league registration fee by November 15th, 2008 in order to be eligible to play. Players must also be current BCWBS members in good standing. The registration fee for both division 1 and 2 is \$575. The late registration fee is \$675 if paid after November 15th. A rules and registration package is available on-line and at the BCWBS office. If you or someone you know who would like to play on a BC-CWBL team, please call the BCWBS office as soon as possible and we will do our best to link you with an existing team. Please note that deadlines for team registration, roster submissions and tournament entry will be closely adhered to, so make sure to submit necessary information and fees in time. Our first tournament will take place in December so get ready. The complete season's schedule will be available soon on our website and through your team representatives.

NANAIMO Update – Bert Abbott

Our club had a very successful year last year. Since the end of last season, club members participated many activities such as, the junior team members joining the Vancouver Island team and winning silver at the BC Games, Mark Saunders from our senior program participated at Defi Sportif, and Karen Townsend along with several junior players attending the summer training camps. Anthony Townsend stepped into the coaching role of our junior program last year and attended the BCWBS coaching clinic this summer. Anthony also presented a wheelchair basketball program during the Pacific Sport youth summer sport program here in Nanaimo.

Our most notable change for this year is that after many years of trying, we were able to find gym space in Nanaimo and we moved our senior basketball and Tsunami programs from Parksville to Nanaimo. The senior programs are being offered in the new Oliver Wood Gym and we are anticipating this move will increase participation in our sport. Along with this change in venue, we say goodbye to our old senior team name, the Oceanside Tsunami, and introduce the Mid Island Tsunami - to better reflect our participation area. Our juniors also have a new team name, the Nanaimo Chariots. We look forward to our year and seeing many of you at the tournaments.

SAVE THE DATE!
BCWBS Annual General Meeting
Saturday, November 1st
Douglas College Gymnasium
12 noon

COACHES CORNER

BCWBS Coach Updates

Provincial Coach - Cheryl Corrigan

Well, it's been a hectic summer, and now that I settle into the office without Marni's guidance, I find myself getting acquainted with all that we have going on out here in BC. There is a lot to learn about the goings-on at BCWBS! Joe has started up and guided the community coaches in their programs in places like Chilliwack and Surrey, while Pat has the northern programs up and running. City League is going strong out at Douglas College on Monday evenings, while the high performance group has started their practices on Monday and Wednesday evenings as well. I have also been to my very first Bridging the Gap Have-A-Go Day, and our following basketball program at GF Strong in the evening. It's wonderful to touch base with all our participants, from the grass-roots level up to the high performance folks.

Up next in the schedule is the start of Steve Ramsbottom's training sessions during the Monday practice time slot, and the November 1/2 High Performance Camp. Watch for details on both. I look forward to getting out to all the programs within the next month!

Regional Coach - Joe Higgins

GF Strong Program: We're very excited about a new initiative at GF Strong in Vancouver that has been running on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. This is a joint venture that has clients at GF Strong and people in the local community coming to play wheelchair basketball, many for the first time. This program serves as a stepping stone to other wheelchair basketball opportunities. If you are looking to experience wheelchair basketball, come on out for a great evening of fun and sport.

City League: City League is off to a great start with a mixture of seasoned city league veterans and people who are participating in wheelchair basketball for the first time. Everyone seems to be having a great time and the improvement of the players week to week is very noticeable. This year, our league is supported by "league ambassadors" who bring their enthusiasm and efforts every Monday night. You can see them keeping score, running the temperamental time clock, or contributing to skill development sessions. And our mother and son referee team are working on both sides of the whistle - thanks Laurie and Chris. We are looking forward to a great second half. To all those on Facebook talking about City League, keep it up!! Anyone interested in future City League tournaments, please contact the office or Joe Higgins at joe@bcwbs.ca

Upcoming Opportunities: Planning has started for some regional camps in different areas of the province. Some of the targeted areas so far include the Okanagan in November, Vancouver Island, and possibly Kamloops. If your local region would like a camp run by one of our BCWBS coaches, please contact the office to make arrangements. This is a great opportunity to expose the potential athletes and officials in your community to our great sport, as well as enhance current local programs. The BC-CWBL will soon be underway. If you're interested in putting in a local team or are interested in playing and have not yet identified a team to play with, we need to hear from you. Contact the office or Joe Higgins at joe@bcwbs.ca

The Be-Squad is looking forward to another year of skill development and competition in High Performance basketball. Thanks to all of you who have already expressed interest in participating this year. Anyone interested in taking advantage of what Be-Squad has to offer, please contact Joe Higgins.

Regional Coach - Pat Harris

The PG Titans program has started again with the mini hoops and adult programming Monday and Wednesday evenings at the Kinsmen Gym in Prince George. It is good to see people return to the court and also great to see some new faces trying out wheelchair basketball for the first time. We plan on hosting a couple of clinics this year in Williams Lake and Prince George and look forward to seeing people from around the region try out wheelchair basketball and have some fun at the same time. Vanderhoof programming is up and running again this season with both an adult and junior program time as well under the leadership of Mark Cormack.

We are all very proud of Paralympic athlete Bo Hedges who was a guest at a recent Pac Sport breakfast held in his honour. Bo gave the crowd a great account of his experience at Beijing and everyone was thrilled to be able to see a Paralympic silver medal. We continue to spread the word of wheelchair basketball through Pac Sport Multisport Days as well as some school demos featuring Bo Hedges, paralympic athlete.

See you on the court.

BC Wheelchair Basketball is pleased to welcome Makiko Harada as Program Coordinator! She can be reached at 604-333-3532 or makiko@bcwbs.ca.