

SILVER & BRONZE FOR BC AT 2005 CANADIAN WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Edmonton played host to Canada's finest wheelchair basketball athletes at the 2005 Canadian Wheelchair Basketball Championships and Women's CWBL Finals May 20th-22nd.

In the men's final, Ontario needed a five minute overtime session to get past Team BC 65-58. Tied at 52 at the end of regulation, Ontario capitalized on their free throw opportunities in overtime to take the gold medal home for their third consecutive title. BC's Ross MacDonald had an outstanding performance with 21 points and 14 rebounds, followed by Erik Hagreen with 16 points and 14 rebounds. This perennial battle featured six of Canada's 12 national team athletes who won gold in Athens at the 2004 Paralympics. Richard Peter and Jaimie Borisoff lead Team BC while Patrick Anderson, Chris Stoutenburg, Adam Lancia, and Bradley Bowden from Ontario rounded out the six. Peter and Hagreen from the BC Team were both named to the tournament All-Star Team. Anderson was named tournament MVP.

On the women's side, the BC Breakers bounced back to capture the bronze medal after a disappointing loss to the Calgary Rollers. The Breakers team defeated the Ottawa Jazz 50-43. Arley McNeney was high scorer with 20 points while Shira Golden chipped in 16. Carrie Linegar of the BC Breakers was later named MVP of the Women's CWBL Finals. In the gold medal match-up the

Edmonton Inferno defeated the Calgary Rollers 48-41 to win their 2nd Women's national title.

TOURNAMENT SCORES

BC Breakers

Women's Team

BC 51 - 25 Saskatchewan
Edmonton 63 - BC 42
BC 70 - Ottawa 53
Calgary 44 - BC 39
BC 50 - Ottawa 43
(bronze)

BC Men's Team

BC 96 - Saskatchewan 23
BC 83 - Manitoba 72
BC 70 - Quebec 52
Ontario 65- BC 58
(final)



left: 2005 BC Breakers Team
above: Tip-off with Erik Hagreen of the BC Men's Team and Adam Lancia of Team Ontario
right: 2005 Men's Team



BC WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL
GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES
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BC Men Wheelchair Basketball Champs at Defi Sportif 2005

The BC Men's Provincial Team returned from Montreal Wheelchair Basketball - Div 1 Champions of the 22nd Annual Defi Sportif held April 29 - May 1, 2005. In a great team effort, BC continued to gain momentum throughout the tournament. Team BC powered its way to an undefeated 4-0 record with wins over the Canadian Junior Nationals, New Brunswick and Team Kenda (from Ontario) to advance into the Gold Medal game against Team Alberta. In the final match-up of the tournament the BC Men overpowered Team Alberta 57 - 41. The team traveled to Defi Sportif as well as to Edmonton May 7/8 in preparation for this year's National Championships.

TOURNAMENT SCORES

BC 70 - Canadian Jr National Team 33 (round robin)

BC 65 - AL Gullison All Courts 38 (round robin)

BC 77 - Team Kenda (semi-final)

BC 57 - Alberta 41 (final)

Created in 1984, the Défi sportif is a unique multisport event which unites athletes with five types of disabilities: auditory, physical, psychiatric, intellectual, and visual. The event provides athletes from Quebec and the rest of Canada with the opportunity to compete against the best in the world, while also helping to develop the next generation of international-calibre athletes. The Défi sportif is held every year in Montreal.

Douglas College Dingos Capture Bronze at CWBL Finals

The 2005 Canadian Wheelchair Basketball League Finals took place in Winnipeg, April 15-17th where BC's conference champs, the Douglas College Dingos travelled to compete. After a semi-final loss to the Toronto Spitfires, Douglas College went on to defeat Les Gladiateurs de Laval 65-55 to capture the bronze medal. A great team effort the Dingos were represented by players Shira Golden, Arley McNeney, Brian McLennon, Jaimie Borisoff, Ken Hall, Kevin Smith and Peter Taylor.

The team was lead by the outstanding play of Brian McLennon who was high scorer for Douglas College with 28 pts., followed by Peter Taylor who contributed 22pts. McLennon and Jaimie Borisoff from Douglas College were both named to the all-star team. The Toronto Spitfires went on to win the gold medal over the Fredericton All-Courts.

Round Robin Games:

Douglas College 65 - Fredericton Allcourts 69

Douglas College 64 - Winnipeg Thunder 41

Douglas College 56 - Calgary Grizzlies 42

Play-Off Games:

Semi - Finals:

Douglas College 51 - Toronto Spitfires 67

Bronze Medal:

Douglas College 65 - Glads de Laval 55



credit: Bogetti-Smith Photography

2005 CWBL Finals Bronze Medallist, the Douglas College Dingos.



credit: Bogetti-Smith Photography

2005 CWBL Finals All-star Brian McLennon, Douglas College.

OUR CONGRATULATIONS GO OUT TO...

Richard Peter, member of the Coast Salish Nation in BC, who won the 2004 Tom Longboat Award presented to the most outstanding male Aboriginal athlete in Canada. This award is presented by the Aboriginal Sport Circle and annually recognizes the achievements of gifted Aboriginal athletes.

BCWBS Board of Director **Chris Samis** who received the Institute of Chartered Accountants Community Service Award.

BC athletes **Jaimie Borisoff, Richard Peter, Arley McNeney, MJ Boudreault,** and **Jennifer Krempien** for being named to their respective Canadian Men's and Women's National Teams for 2005-06.

BC Men's Team players **Erik Hagreen** and **Richard Peter** for being selected as all-stars at the 2005 Men's National Wheelchair Basketball Championships and to BC Breaker player **Carrie Linegar** for being named MVP of the 2005 Women's CWBL Finals.

Richard Peter for being named a NWBA Division 1 All-Star for his play this season with the Florida Force.

Douglas College Dingos **Brian McLennon** and **Jaimie Borisoff** for being selected as all-stars at the 2005 CWBL Finals.

BC athlete **Sunera Samarakoon** for being selected to the Canadian Junior National Team which will travel to Birmingham, England in August for the 2005 Junior World Championships.

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 bcwbs.ca and click 'For Athletes' and then 'Wheelchair Loan Program.'



BURNABY FIRE FIGHTERS CHAMPS AT HOOPFEST 2005



Hoopfest 2005 Champions, the Burnaby Fire Fighters.

BC Wheelchair Basketball Society would like to extend our thanks to all of the participating teams, volunteers, and supporters of Hoopfest 2005. Hoopfest was held on Saturday April 23 at Cambie Secondary School in Richmond and was a great success, raising \$9,500 to support wheelchair basketball programs across BC.

After a great day of games, fabulous food including Panago Pizza, the Original Cakerie, coffee from Starbucks, treats from Hershey Canada and a great silent auction - the Burnaby Fire Fighters were the overall champs of our 12th annual event. In a Hoopfest first, the Burnaby team beat out 1st time Hoopfest participants the Vancouver Fire Fighters Union in a shoot out after the teams were tied 22-22 in regulation time. In the other play-off game ICORD beat the Surrey Fire Fighters for third place. Thank you to all of our teams including the New West Kinsmen, ICORD, the Performance Institute, and the New West, Burnaby, Surrey, Delta Fire Fighters and Vancouver Fire Fighters Union.

Our sincere thanks goes out to the many organizations who donated prizes including: Shell Canada, Milestones Restaurant, Panago Pizza, DeDutch, Orca Bay Sports & Entertainment, Joe Campbell, the Pan Pacific Hotel, Bogetti-Smith Photography, Trafalgars Bistro, The Cannery Restaurant, Dockside Restaurant, BC Lions Football Club, Vancouver Canadian Baseball, Grouse Mountain, Hyack Adventure Tours, Pacific Palisades Hotel, The Keg, Paddlewheeler Riverboat Tours, The Inn at Westminster Quay, VSO, Greater Vancouver Zoo, Fish House Restaurant, Harbour Cruises, AAA Horse & Carriage in Stanley Park, Westin Bayshore, Sammy J Peppers, Museum of Anthropology, Capilano Suspension Bridge, Purdy's Chocolates, Ego Aveda Lifestyle Salon, Holiday Inn Vancouver Airport, Dr. Sun Yat Sen Gardens, Ming Wo, Rogers Video, The Book Warehouse and the Big River Brew Pub and Zone Bowling Centre.

COACHES CORNER

Call for BC Winter Games Coaches & Managers

BCWBS is gearing up for the 2006 BC Winter Games in Greater Trail February 23-26. Individuals interested in being a zone coach or manager should contact BCWBS by July 15th, 2005. All coaches for the 2006 BC Winter Games must have full NCCP Level 2 certification. Please contact BCWBS for a job description and application form for these positions.

NCCP Level II Technical Coaching Clinic

August 27-28 2005, Douglas College, New Westminster

BCWBS is offering a NCCP Level II Wheelchair Basketball Technical Clinic on August 27-28, 2005. This clinic will be held in conjunction with a Team BC Canada Games training camp, and will be facilitated by national team coach and master Learning Facilitator Tim Frick. Registration fee is \$50 for BCWBS members and \$75 for all non-members and includes lunch and your coaching manual. Travel subsidies will be available to BC coaches from outside the lower mainland. Space is limited so please contact BCWBS to register. **Registration deadline is August 15.**

JUNIOR SECTION

BC JUNIORS ATTEND 2005 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2005 National Junior Championships were hosted in Kitchener, Ontario this spring. Seven junior teams and five mini teams from across Canada attended the round-robin tournament. For the first time all areas of the province were represented on Team BC, this year's team members were: Ashley Buttress and Dallas Sirois - Prince George; Mark Saunders and Iain Warren - Vancouver Island; Matthew Ficocelli - Kelowna; Peter Won - North Vancouver; Sunny Samarakoon - Burnaby; Jon Vliengenthart - Quesnel; and Nick Konishi - Richmond.

Team BC started out strong winning their first game against PEI 50-30. In the second game of round robin play BC met the remarkably improved team from Saskatchewan. Despite a 27-point performance by Dallas Sirois the BC team lost 58-47. In the third and final game of pool play, BC faced the heavily favoured Variety Village team. BC's defence did a great job shutting down the tournament MVP, Dayton Sofa but were unable to capitalize on many

of their own offensive opportunities and lost the game 58-40. BC finished the tournament in 6th place, after losing in overtime to Manitoba 50-48. Ashley Buttress of Prince George, BC scored 14 points for BC. The Bulldogs of Quebec City won the Mini Division with a 55 - 43 win over the Tornades de CIVA (Montreal). The Quebec Juniors defeated the team from Variety Village (Toronto) by a score of 74 - 64 in the Junior Division Final.

Coaches, Marni Abbott and Ross MacDonald were very pleased with the performance of the BC team, both on and off the court. The athletes did a great job executing the game plans and displaying sportsmanship even when things weren't going so well.

Coach Abbott commented "This tournament was a great opportunity for BC athletes to compete at the national level. I am very optimistic and excited about the future of the BC junior team as we head towards the 2007 Canada Winter Games."

CWBA ANNOUNCES THE 2005 CANADIAN JUNIOR NATIONAL TEAM

The Canadian Wheelchair Basketball Association is proud to announce the final selections to the Canadian National Junior Team who will compete in the 3rd annual IWBF Junior World Wheelchair Basketball Championships in Birmingham England August 8-13, 2005. The Final selections are; Shayne Smith(ON), Brandon Wagner(ON), Steve Hayward(MAN), Katie Harnock (ON), Bradley Bowden(ON), Manuel Cloutier(QUE), Kyle Cicerella(ON), Mickael Poulin(QUE), Billy Langeveld(ON), Sunny Samarakoon(BC), Corey Smith(ON), and Billy Bridges(ON).

The head coach is Stephen Bialowas, assistant coaches are Bill Johnson, Marni Abbott (BC) and Alain Gamache. On the sports medicine front, working his magic to keep everyone happy and healthy, James Laskin is providing his invaluable experience to the team.

New to the rules in 2005, female players are included on the junior teams and, as we play in Canada, the teams will play +1 pt on the floor when female players participate. All indications are that this will be the largest Junior World Championships to date

with 12 teams competing for the Championship. The sport of Wheelchair Basketball is undergoing tremendous growth across the world and this has generated excitement across all nations. For the first time Japan and Turkey will be making their debuts joining old stalwarts Canada, USA, Australia, and Great Britain. Vying for two spots from the Americas will be Brazil, Mexico, and Argentina.

The tournament is shaping up to be a dynamic show of talent. All the players on Team Canada are excited not only of competing for the World title but by the fact that the sport of Wheelchair Basketball has developed so quickly across so many nations. The coaches all agree that this 2005 edition of our Team Canada Juniors is dynamic and exciting to watch. Team Canada was crowned Junior World Champions in 1997 (Toronto, Canada), and 2001 (Blumenau, Brazil). The challenge ahead is a great one and our junior players are up for it.

Good luck!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 2005

13-17 BC Disability Games
Nanaimo, BC

28 - Spitfire Challenge
Aug 1 Toronto, ON

AUGUST 2005

8 - 13 Junior World Wheelchair
Basketball Championships,
Birmingham, EN

16 - 21 Women's Roosevelt Cup
Warm Springs, GA

27/28 Team BC Canada Games
Training Camp
Douglas College, New West

27/28 Level II Technical
Coaching Clinic
Douglas College, New West

29 - Men's Roosevelt Cup
Sept 3 Warm Springs, GA

SEPTEMBER 2005

Wheelchair Basketball programs
across BC

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2005

28 - 2005 Americas Cup
Dec 4 (Worlds Qualifier)
Colorado Springs, Colorado

FEBRUARY 2006

18/19 BC Breakers Women's
Tournament,
Douglas College, New West

23 - 26 BC Winter Games
Greater Trail, BC

JUNIOR SECTION cont.

BASKETBALL CAMPS

Dribble on Wheels Youth Wheelchair Basketball Camp
August 13-14, 2005, Meany Middle School Seattle, Washington

Dribble on Wheels Basketball Camp has exposed youth from all over the Northwest to world-class basketball instruction. The Camp has two goals: 1) to learn fundamental individual and team skills the athletes will need to be successful on the court and; 2) to have fun and continue to develop a love for the game. The camp will feature Janna Crawford, member of the US National Women's Wheelchair Basketball Team. The cost of this camp is \$45 and includes lunch and a t-shirt. For registration information contact Chuck Fleming at 425-861-9114 or BCWBS for more information on this great camp. Registration closes July 15th.

Junior Wheelchair Basketball Skills Camp
August 27-28, 2005, Douglas College, New Westminster

BC Wheelchair Basketball Society is hosting a wheelchair basketball skills development camp! This camp is designed for junior athletes eligible for the 2007 Canada Games (born on January 1st, 1983 or later), males and females, both with a disability and without. Heading up the camp will be Coach Marni Abbott, Team BC Canada Winter Games Head Coach from 1995, 1999, & 2003 as well as other guest coaches from around BC. The early bird camp fee is \$50 and this will include lunch and a quality BCWBS reversible. Please register before August 1.

BC WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL WELCOMES MARNI ABBOTT AS PROGRAM COORDINATOR

BC Wheelchair Basketball Welcomes Marni Abbott as Program Coordinator
The BC Wheelchair Basketball Society (BCWBS) is pleased to announce the addition of Marni Abbott as a staff member. Marni joins BCWBS in the position of part-time Program Coordinator. Marni's extensive knowledge of the sport system and wheelchair basketball through her involvement as a high performance athlete, coach, administrator and volunteer will make her a great addition to our team.

Marni's primary responsibilities will include coordinating BCWBS programs such as the BC Winter Games, Canada Games, coaching, junior and developmental initiatives for our membership. By providing leadership in the planning, implementation and evaluation of these programs we know the wheelchair basketball community will greatly benefit from Marni's involvement.

Marni can be reached at marni@bcwbs.ca or 604-737-3138 starting June 2nd, 2005 and will work Tuesdays and Thursdays from the BCWBS office.

JUNIOR SECTION cont.**2006 BC WINTER GAMES UPDATE**

Greater Trail - February 23-26, 2006

Preparations for the 2006 BC Winter Games continue as the Greater Trail Games organizing committee is working hard to host BC's best junior athletes next February. The BC Winter Games give young, developing athletes the opportunity to improve their skills, while learning to deal with the excitement, triumphs and defeats of participating in a major sporting event. In wheelchair basketball, athletes must turn 15 - 23 years of age in 2006 to be eligible to participate (athletes born in 1983 to 1991). Eight players per zone team plus one coach and one manager per team - both male and female athletes are eligible to compete (zone try-outs will be held). The Games Society pays for and organizes charter transportation, accommodation, meals, and entertainment, all for a registration fee of \$75. Competitors must also be current members of the BC Wheelchair Basketball Society.

We want to hear from you!

Please contact your zone representative below if you are interested in participating in the 2006 Games:

Zone 2 Thompson/Okanagan

Tracy Ficocelli - tel. 250-764-4179 or
email: kenfic@telus.net

Zone 3 Fraser Valley

Emily Herd - tel. 604-584-3330 or
email: emme_02@hotmail.com

Zone 4 Fraser River/Delta

Marni Abbott - tel. 604-731-7486 or
email: peterabbott@shaw.ca

Zone 5 Vancouver/Squamish

Carrie Linegar - tel. 604-737-3138 or
email: info@bcwbs.ca

Zone 6 Vancouver Island/Central Coast

Patti Saunders - tel. 250-390-2263 or
email: pattibob@shaw.ca

Zone 8 Cariboo/North East

Nancy Harris - tel. 250-967-4665 or
email: pgtitans@hotmail.com

Special thanks to the following BCWBS supporters:



All of our **Hoopfest 2005** teams including the New West Kinsmen, ICORD, the Performance Institute, and the New West, Burnaby, Vancouver, Surrey and Delta Fire Fighters for your great support.

The **City of North Vancouver** for your support of the North Vancouver Junior Wheelchair Basketball Program and the purchase of a sports wheelchair through the 2005 Children and Youth Initiatives Fund for Special Projects



BC Wheelchair Basketball Society acknowledges the financial assistance of the **Province of British Columbia** for your support of the BC-CWBL, CWBL Finals, Junior, Women's, and High Performance Programs

Our many individual donors and companies for their continued support of BCWBS.

Here is Your Chance to Get in the Game!

BC Wheelchair Basketball will launch an exciting new program in September 2005. The lower mainland City League will be a rousing 8-week recreational league, where new players, juniors, and some seasoned retirees can develop their game skills and have some competitive fun! The City League will be hosted at Douglas College in New Westminster on Wednesday evenings. The proposed structure of the league will include four teams, with each team playing two games per night, including semi-finals and Finals nights to determine the City League champions. Contact BCWBS if you are interested in participating. Stay tuned to the BCWBS website www.bcwbs.ca for details and registration information.

**stay connected to all BCWBS news and events through our website
at www.bcwbs.ca**

10 REASONS FOR EQUAL PLAYING TIME

by Jeff Farris, CEO, Sports Esteem, Inc.



At some point, youth sports become more about the team than about the players and spectators start including more than just team family members. As kids reach adulthood, an increased focus on team performance separates recreational players from the truly motivated ones. These players then feed the needs of competitive high school, college and professional programs. Until then, youth sports are more about developing motivation and talent than judging them. Parents facilitate their child's participation to help make their child better in life and to provide a chance at sports participation past puberty.

On most youth teams, there are players who are physically two or three years ahead of their teammates in size, speed or strength. These players often form a core of talent that coaches can use to their advantage to win games. Especially in youth travel and select teams, the temptation for many coaches is to use this talent more during a game to go for the win. While this method is appropriate at the highest level of athletic competition, it seldom has any place in youth sports. Here are ten reasons why equal playing time is a better strategy:

Avoids contention between coaches and parents

Parents will not objectively judge their own child's abilities. No coach should expect objectivity from parents.

Avoids contention among parents

The resentments that can build between coaches and parents can often build among parents for the same reasons. More than a few youth teams have had successful seasons poisoned by hard feelings arising out of a coach's game decisions.

Avoids contention among players

If players feel that coaches have favorites, they may stop trying their hardest.

Minimizes player fatigue

In tough physical games, coaches will lack skilled players if the top players are exhausted and lesser players have had limited game experience.

Maximizes player development

Without access to playing time and special situations, players cannot learn.

Simplifies coaching decisions

Coaches won't have to guess which players are most likely to play well in a given situation.

Recognizes equal investments

Players and parents often make equal contributions away from the game in time and dollars and thus expect equal access to game situations.

Improves team chemistry

When players feel everyone is treated fairly, they are more likely to focus on working together. When players feel they can succeed by making someone else look bad or themselves look better, they are learning the wrong lessons about team play.

Wins mean more to everyone

When everyone contributes to a win, there are no lingering resentments that will interfere with the celebration.

Better reflects coaching abilities

Winning games with kids who are physically more mature is more a success of drafting than coaching. Winning games by developing all the kids on a team is a better test of a coach's abilities.

In professional sports, players do not get equal playing time. So, when is it appropriate for youth sports to mimic this behaviour? One test is when a team is not committed to individual players and rosters may be changed at anytime during a season. When teams exist for the team's sake and not the players', as is the case in professional and collegiate sports, then coaches are left with no other choice than to give more time to their best players. When a child reaches the advanced levels of athletic play, parents will stop being able to demand equal playing time. However, isn't reaching these levels one of the goals and a key reason why parents should demand it while they can?