



Mario Delisle: Full-Time Boccia Head Coach

The Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sport Association (CCPSA) is pleased to announce the hiring of Mario Delisle as the full time Head Coach of Boccia National Team Program. This position will take effect on February 20th 2006.

Mr. Delisle has been the part time Head Coach of the Canadian Team since March 2005. In his first international competition, he led the team to a total of 8 medals, including 2 gold medals at the America's Championships in Mar del Plata, Argentina. Prior to that, he was the assistant coach for two years and was a member of the coaching staff for the 2004 Athens Paralympic Games. Mr. Delisle has been involved in boccia for 12 years, from the initiation level to high performance.

"I am very excited to be a part of this historic decision", said CCPSA presi-

dent, Sandy Herminston. "By hiring a full time coach we are letting the world know that we are serious about our sport and our athletes. We are especially pleased that we were able to attract Mr. Delisle with his outstanding background and experience in the sport of boccia".

"I am very happy to join a professional organization like CCPSA; the athletes are the center of its priorities", said Mr. Delisle. "Many of the positive things revolve around our national boccia program and the challenge to raise a head coach is both interesting and justifiable. The foundation built in 2005 with this program will be consolidated: we will be able to go ahead with many projects with a goal of always better preparing and guiding our athletes."

His main responsibilities will be overseeing the

training and performance of the National Team athletes as well as the Espoir boccia National Team Athletes. The rest of his coaching staff will be named shortly. The team will consist of an Assistant Coach and 2 Espoir Coaches that will have part-time contracts.

The 2006 National Team will be named shortly after the National Boccia Championships that will be held in Vancouver, British-Columbia, from March 10 to 13. Their first competition will be at the Defi Sportif in Montreal at the end of April. The main focus the season will be the Boccia World Championships in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, which will take place from October 3rd to 15th.

This hiring is made possible with the financial contribution of Sport Canada.

CCPSA in brief

New Website

National Team member, Josh Vander Vies has built his own website. Please go take a look at www.joshvandervies.com.

Delisle and Poulin Talk about Boccia on Radio

National Team Coach, Mario Delisle and National Team player, Jonathan Poulin, were guests on a Quebec radio show: "Les amateurs de sports". They were given the opportunity to talk about boccia and the different services offered by the AQSPC.

CPC Searches for a Chef de Mission

The Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC) invites applications for the position of Chef de Mission and Assistant Chef de Mission for the 2008 Paralympic Summer Games in Beijing (China), September 6th-17th, 2008. These are both volunteer positions with responsibilities commencing in May 2006, and continuing through November 2008. Deadline for application: March 31st 2006. For more information please visit www.paralympic.ca.

Boccia National Team Program Coaching Staff

Mario Delisle – Head Coach
Monique Camirand – Assistant Coach
Cherie Cunnigham – Espoir coach
Rob Janoska – Espoir coach

Vancouver will host the 2007 World Cup of Boccia



Alan Dickson, President of the Cerebral Palsy International Sports and Recreation Association, announced that the CPISRA 2007 Boccia World Cup has been awarded to Canada. The Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association and their provincial affiliate SportAbility/Cerebral Palsy Sports Association of British Columbia will partner to host the competition in Vancouver British Columbia, through a local organizing committee "2007 Boccia World Cup Society" May 8th to 29th, 2007..

This will be the last opportunity for Boccia Athletes to qualify for the 2008 Summer Paralympics in Beijing. The organising committee is expecting 300 athletes from 35 countries. Paralympic Champion, Paul Gauthier is eager to compete in front of his home crowd. "I'm excited about the opportunity to show my hometown the sport that I love to compete in, as well as showing fellow athletes this beautiful city. Holding the competition at BC Place, the year before the Paralympics, and three years before 2010 makes it the perfect time for elite athletes to compete at their best, and for Vancouver to show off all it has to offer."

This unique competition is currently the only International Competition of a Paralympic sport to be held in Van-

cover before 2010. Jim Laurence Chair of 2007 Boccia World Cup said "this will be the opportunity for BC and Canada to show the world what a beautiful province we have and how accessible the City of Vancouver is for athletes with a physical disability"

Sportability and CCPSA would like to recognize 2010 Hosting Now and Tourism Vancouver for their support in putting together a solid bid for the event.

Athlete Assistant Program



CCPSA Staff is presently working on the final document of the Athlete Assistant Program

Please visit
www.ccpsa.ca
very shortly for more information

CCPSA Moving Toward a New Governance Model

The board of the CCPSA has been developing a new governance model for the last two years and is now moving toward its implementation. This model will consist of a National Council which will replace the current board role. It will be supported by a Provincial Council, an Athletes Council, a Technical Advisory Group, a Resource Committee as well as a Governance Committee.

The board has been working with Rachel Corbet of the Centre for Sport and Law and plans to implement much of the Plan at the AGM in June. Details of the Governance Model will be outlined in subsequent issues of the newsletter.

**Winter Paralympic Games
Torino, March 10-19 2006
Webcast Available at
[www. Paralympicsports.tv](http://www.Paralympicsports.tv)**

