



Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association

JUNE 2007

Hometown Gold Shining Moment of the 2007 Boccia World Cup



Adam Dukovich, Photo: bogetti-smith

A third Canadian went as far as the quarterfinals in the singles domain. Alison Kabush won 4 out of 5 games before losing in the BC3 quarterfinals.

Good news came in the teams competitions as well. Two of Canada's three teams advanced to the quarterfinals. Tammy McLeod, Adam Dukovich, Francine Desrochers, and Hanif Mawji were a perfect 3-0 in the round robin before losing 6-4 in the quarterfinals and placing sixth in the combined BC1/BC2 category. In the BC3 category, Paul Gauthier, Alison Kabush, and Monica Martino battled to the end in a 7-5 quarterfinal loss.

Despite the heartbreaking quarterfinal losses, both teams were successful in qualifying for the 2008 Paralympic Games in Beijing.

Team Canada head coach, Mario Delisle, spoke of his team's performance. "The performance was overall very positive and I'm proud of our team."

Ross Ste. Croix

Canada completed the CP-ISRA 2007 Boccia World Cup in May with one gold medal and a 4th place finish in the standings for the World Cup behind powerhouses Portugal, Spain and Great Britain.

26 countries competed at the World Cup on our home turf at BC Place in Vancouver, B.C., which was a qualifying tournament for the 2008 Paralympic Games in Beijing, China.

The highlight of the event for Canadians was, without a doubt, Paul Gauthier's gold medal performance in the BC3 singles category. Gauthier, a native of Vancouver, was ecstatic following his victory on home soil. "Getting a gold at home is awesome. I wanted it badly. My friends, family and colleagues have been e-mailing me everyday and giving me great support."

Gauthier was certainly not the only Canadian who had an impressive showing at the competition. Adam Dukovich finished in 4th place after upsetting the world's number one player in the BC2 category.



Paul Gauthier and Sarah Douglas, Photo: bogetti-smith

Boccia at the Défi Sportif



Gold medal winners in the singles events included Éric Lefebvre (BC1), Francine Desrochers (BC2),

Martin Dubois (BC3), Dale Stevenson (BC4) and Mélanie Poulin (open).

In the team and pairs competitions, Canada Espoir won the gold in the pairs BC3 event and CIVA took home top honours in the team event.

The hot topic concerning boccia at the Défi Sportif right now is the interest to draw competitors from all over the world to future competitions, while maintaining a strong domestic event for new and developing players. This is an exciting possibility that would certainly increase the level of competition and excitement at future events.



Photo: Defi Sportif

Soccer Team Ready for the Para-Panamerican Games

The Canadian 7 a side soccer team had a camp in Vancouver May 4-7 to select the team that will represent Canada at the first Para-Panamerican Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, August 12-19.

The team will be composed of: Matthew Brown, Fraserville, ON; Jeffrey Buckland, Vancouver, BC; Adam Burnell, Duncan, BC; Christopher Duehrsen, North Delta, BC; Dustin Hodgson, Vancouver, BC; Daniel Kaemingk, Thunder Bay, ON; Ross MacDonald, Burnaby, BC; John Phillips, Collingwood, ON; Todd Phillips, Powell River, BC; Sefik Smajlovic, Vancouver, BC; Scott Vandenberg, Langley, BC; Derek Whitson, Chatham, ON

"I believe we could be a pleasant surprise at this competition", said head coach Drew Ferguson. "We have now a few new players that make us a better team and we understand that the other countries will have also spent time strengthening their teams so it will be fun to see how we match up, especially with three of the teams competing in this competition being ranked in the top eight in the world."

Canada will face United States, Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela and Colombia.



Dustin Hodgson

This will be a busy summer for the soccer players. After the Para-Panam, they will return to Brazil in November to take part in the CP-ISRA 2007 seven a side Football World Championships. This will be the last opportunity to qualify for the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games.

This is the only second ever competition for Canada. In 2005, the national team finished 11th out of 13 teams.



Ross Macdonald

In Other News...

Athletics

The CCPSA would like to congratulate the following Canadian athletes who attended the British Open in Manchester, England the second week-end of June. Megan Muscat, Andy Shaw, Rob Hughes, Barry Phelan, Kyle Pettey and Kris Vriend, all came back with medals.

Cycling

This past March, Stephen Burke's position with the Canadian Cycling Association was eliminated due to restructuring. Stephen is now coaching at the Olympic Oval, and while he will not be directly involved in the national program, he is still working with athletes with disabilities in Calgary. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Stephen for his

heartfelt commitment to CP athletes over the past several years.

Our Summer Intern

For the duration of the summer, we have an intern working for the CCPSA. His name is Ross Ste. Croix and he is a student at the University of Ottawa, currently pursuing his Master's degree in Sports Administration. Ross will be working on a number of projects for CCPSA. Ross can be reached at ross@ccpsa.ca.

Dr. Earl Church

Athletics Canada has contracted Dr. Earl Church to become Head Coach of Para-Athletics on June 1st. Dr. Church will be continuing in his current role as Executive Director of the CCPSA.