



— JEUX DU —
CANADA
— GAMES —

**MEDIA INFORMATION PACKAGE
WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL**



MEDIA INFORMATION PACKAGE WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL



- A. HISTORY OF SPORT**
- B. CANADA GAMES SPORT HISTORY AND PAST RESULTS**
- C. NUMBER OF ATHLETES PER TEAM**
- D. EVENT FORMAT AND RULES OF PLAY**
- E. EQUIPMENT & TERMINOLOGY**
- F. ELIGIBILITY**
- G. JUDGING/SCORING SYSTEM**
- H. PLAYOFF AND TIE-BREAKING FORMAT**
- I. TECHNOLOGY OF SPORT**
- J. ROLE OF OFFICIALS IN SPORT**
- K. FACILITY DESCRIPTION**
- L. SPORT MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS AND STRUCTURE**
- M. ATHLETES TO WATCH FOR**
- N. NOTABLE PAST ATHLETES/ALUMNI**
- O. NOTABLE CANADIAN RECORDS**
- P. ATHLETE/TEAM MATCH-UPS (RIVALRIES)**

A. HISTORY OF SPORT

A historical perspective on wheelchair basketball would not be complete without mention of the second World War (1939-1945). One end result of this global crisis was that society was confronted with an unusual number of people with physical disabilities. These people let the world know that they had needs that had to be met beyond food, clothing and shelter; they had an ego, they were worthwhile, and they belonged!

The philosophy of the day was adaptation of particular sports as viewed through the eyes of rehabilitation staff. Basketball was perceived to be one of the most adaptable team sports, and was played in various parts of the world in the early 1940's.

On the world scene, Sir Ludwig Guttmann was given the task of starting a spinal cord injuries centre at Stoke Mandeville Hospital in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, England. The British Government funded the operation in 1944 with the view of having the second front assist individuals to cope with their disability, regain dignity and independence that may have been lost, and become happy, healthy and respected members of the community. The Stoke Mandeville World Wheelchair Games in 1948 marked the beginning of organized wheelchair sports, and earned Sir Ludwig Guttmann the distinction of becoming recognized as the founder.

In June of 1947, the Deer Lodge Hospital in Manitoba organized an event on the front lawn of their facility. The basketball throw accompanied events like the ring toss, milk bottle pitching, archery, croquet and golf putting. Luci Delucca was one of the organizers of that event and noted that participants included George Dyck, Joe Smithson, and Tony Mann. The events had a rehabilitative flair and were very recreational.

There were a number of municipal or provincial groups involved in wheelchair basketball in Canada from the early 1940's through 1967. Bill Hepburn of the Montreal Wheelchair Wonders and Stan Stronge of the Vancouver Dueck Power Glides were among the most notable. The Montreal team represented Canada in the Stoke Games in 1953, marking our nations' start in world competition, and also represented Canada at the sixth National Wheelchair Basketball Tournament in 1954 in New York, N.Y.

In 1963, Al Simpson of Winnipeg, Manitoba, recalled an event organized in Saskatoon which he claims may have been the first inter-provincial wheelchair basketball competition. A team from Winnipeg and Edmonton met in Saskatoon to play in a weekend of wheelchair basketball.

Smithson, Knightingale, Coates, Bagnatto, Wendel, Fertile, Warrior and Marshall were familiar names of the time. Al became the managing director of the Pan American Games held in Winnipeg in August of 1967. He recalled that the operating budget for that event was \$17,148.10 and that there were a total of 128 athletes from 5 nations. The national team was selected using ham radio, and direct results of the number of members and employees of that association participating in various activities. Organizational discussions took place during this event, and finally on September 09, 1967, the CWSA was born and Dr. Robert W. Jackson was elected the Chairman.

The national championships were held in conjunction with all other wheelchair sport championship events from 1968 through 1978. In 1979, wheelchair basketball was organized as an event separate from the rest of wheelchair sports, and the provincial teams competed for the Maxine that participants included George Dyck, Joe Smithson, and Tony Mann. The events had a rehabilitative flair and were very recreational.

There were a number of municipal or provincial groups involved in wheelchair basketball in Canada from the early 1940's through 1967. Bill Hepburn of the Montreal Wheelchair Wonders and Stan Stronge of the Vancouver Dueck Power Glides were among the most notable. The Montreal team represented Canada in the Stoke Games in 1953, marking our nations' start in world competition, and also represented Canada at the sixth National Wheelchair Basketball Tournament in 1954 in New York, N.Y.

In 1963, Al Simpson of Winnipeg, Manitoba, recalled an event organized in Saskatoon which he claims may have been the first inter-provincial wheelchair basketball competition. A team from Winnipeg and Edmonton met in Saskatoon to play in a weekend of wheelchair basketball.

Smithson, Knightingale, Coates, Bagnatto, Wendel, Fertile, Warrior and Marshall were familiar names of the time. Al became the managing director of the Pan American Games held in Winnipeg in August of 1967. He recalled that the operating budget for that event was \$17,148.10 and that there were a total of 128 athletes from 5 nations. The national team was selected using ham radio, and direct results of the number of members and employees of that association participating in various activities. Organizational discussions took place during this event, and finally on September 09, 1967, the CWSA was born and Dr. Robert W. Jackson was elected the Chairman.

The national championships were held in conjunction with all other wheelchair sport championship events from 1968 through 1978. In 1979, wheelchair basketball was organized as an event separate from the rest of wheelchair sports, and the provincial teams competed for the Maxine K. Cooper memorial trophy. That award was retired in 1986, and the teams now compete for the Robert W. Jackson trophy.

B. CANADA GAMES SPORT HISTORY AND PAST RESULTS

Wheelchair basketball was first contested at the Canada Games in 1995 in Grande Prairie, Alberta. Below are the ranking of the Provinces/Territories since the inaugural games:

	1995	1999	2003
	<i>C</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>C</i>
AB	1	4	4
BC	2	3	2
MB	5	6	5
NB	7	5	7
NL	-	8	8
NWT	-	-	-
NS	8	-	-
ON	3	1	3
PEI	-	-	-
QC	4	2	1
SK	6	7	6

YK	-	-	-
----	---	---	---

C. NUMBER OF ATHLETES PER TEAM

Competitors: 12 athletes (male or female)

D. EVENT FORMAT AND RULES OF PLAY

IWBF rules shall be followed. The tournament shall be a two pool, round robin competition.

Seeding are based on the results of the 2006 Junior Canadian Wheelchair Basketball League Finals and a review by the CWBA Competition Committee, unless the 2006 Junior Finals are clearly unrepresentative of the teams that will compete at the 2007 Games (as decided by the CWBA Competition Committee).

Should more than 8 teams register for the Games, a reasonable alternate schedule will be developed by the CWBA Competition Committee and circulated as soon as possible prior to the Games.

A Pool: 1, 4, 5, 8

B Pool: 2, 3, 6, 7

Each team shall play each of the other teams in their pool. Teams shall play-off for final positions as follows:

Semi-Final

Game #1 - 1A vs 2B

Game #2 – 1B vs 2A

Consolation Round

Game #3 – 3A vs 4B

Game #4 – 3B vs 4A

Finals

Winner Games #1 vs Winner Game #2

WINNER - GOLD MEDAL

RUNNER UP - SILVER

Loser Game #1 vs Loser Game #2

WINNER - BRONZE MEDAL

LOSER - 4TH PLACE

Winner Games #3 vs Winner Game #4

WINNER – 5th PLACE

LOSER – 6th PLACE

Loser Game #3 vs Loser Game #4

Winner – 7th PLACE

Loser – 8th PLACE

E. EQUIPMENT & TERMINOLOGY

One of the attractions to wheelchair basketball is that it is relatively inexpensive because of the lack of required equipment. All players need for this fun team game is a sporty chair and a basketball.

Terminology used in wheelchair basketball is the same as the terms used in basketball.

F. ELIGIBILITY

All athletes must be born on or after January 1st, 1983

G. JUDGING/SCORING SYSTEM

The team at the end of regulation time with the most points will be awarded two points and the team with the least points will be awarded one point. If a team decides to forfeit a game, the team will not be awarded any points.

Points for the Games Flag will be awarded as follows:

1st place - 10 points	5th place - 6 points
2nd place - 9 points	6th place - 5 points
3rd place - 8 points	7th place - 4 points
4th place - 7 points	8th place - 3 points

H. PLAYOFF AND TIE-BREAKING FORMAT

Tie score and extra periods as per IWBF rules.

Provincial/Territorial Ranking

1. If two teams are tied at the end of pool play, the win-loss results of the game against each other will be used to determine the placings.
2. If more than two teams are tied, the win-loss results of the games between those teams will determine the placing.
3. If the situation is still not resolved, then the goal average of the games between the tied teams will determine the placing.
4. If there is still a tie, then the goal average of all games played by the tied teams will determine the placing.

NOTE: Goal average is determined by dividing the points for by points against.
The highest quotient is the winner.

I. TECHNOLOGY OF SPORT

The majority of chairs used in the sport today are constructed from Titanium or aircraft aluminum and include an additional 5th wheel for added stability and mobility. The front bumper is designed so that it will not lock with or be held by the opponent. The angle of the wheel base or "camber" is optimal for each athlete to allow for stability and quick turns. The wheels on the chair often now use cables rather than the traditional steel spokes as the cables are 3 times stronger and 50% lighter than steel.

The design of the chair takes design aspects from equipment used in many other sports to include cycling (cables and frame design) roller blade and skateboarding (fifth wheel

design) and Snowboard bindings (strap at the waist to hold the athlete in the chair). The high end basketball wheelchairs are expensive and range from \$2500 to \$5000 in price.

J. ROLE OF OFFICIALS IN SPORT

The officials play an important role in wheelchair basketball. They call fouls, monitor the score and ensure all IWBF rules and regulations are enforced.

K. FACILITY DESCRIPTION

During the 2007 Canada Games, wheelchair basketball will be played at Porter Creek Secondary School.

Porter Creek Secondary School features a gymnasium (25.8 m x 44 m) for all wheelchair basketball play and gymnasiums (25.8 m x 44m) for the shooting competitions. In preparation for the Games, a new 30-second clock will be installed as well as proposed portable seating (bleachers) in the gymnasium used for wheelchair basketball.

L. SPORT MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS AND STRUCTURE

The Canadian Wheelchair Basketball Association (CWBA) is a dynamic organization committed to promoting excellence and opportunities for Canadians to participate in wheelchair basketball. CWBA is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. Today, the CWBA has a membership with over 2,500 athletes, 100 coaches, approximately 70 referees, and 20 classifiers

CWBA prides itself on its diversity, encouraging individuals with disabilities as well as able-bodied participants, of all ages, to become active in our sport. CWBA promotes growth at the initiation, developmental, competitive, and elite levels, and offers programs across Canada for youth, men and women.

M. ATHLETES TO WATCH FOR

Neil Jackson Team NFLD
Marc Andre Chicoine NB
Martin Bourque NB
Abby Stubbart PEI
Maxime Poulin Que
Daton Sopha Ontario
Billy Langeveld Ontario
Corey Smith Ontario
BJ Harris Saskatchewan
Dallas Sirois BC
Deion Green BC
Jessica DesMazes BC

N. NOTABLE PAST ATHLETES/ALUMNI

Patrick Anderson	Team Ontario
Adam Lancia	Team Ontario
Chris Stoutenburg	Team Ontario
Katie Harnock	Team Ontario

Joey Johnson	Team Manitoba
Travis Gaertner	Team Manitoba
Marc Antoine Ducharme	Team Quebec
David Eng	Team Quebec
Mickael Poulin	Team Quebec
Ross Norton	Team Alberta
Tara Scade	Team Alberta
Richard Peter	Team BC
Jaimie Borisoff	Team BC
Ross MacDonald	Team BC
Bo Hedges	Team BC
Marni Abbott	Team BC

O. NOTABLE CANADIAN RECORDS

- 1986 Canadian Men Finish 2nd at Gold Cup World Championships in Melbourne, Australia; USA Does Not Compete Because the Pan Am Games Federation Does Not Allow Amputees to Compete; CWBL Formed in Canada.
- 1988 Paralympics Held in Seoul, Korea; Phil Craven Becomes President of Basketball Sub-committee and Basis of New Constitution Formed; Inaugural Meeting of the Basketball Section in Canada and First Basketball Employee for the CWSA Comes on Board.
- 1989 Canadian Men Win First Gold at World Games in Stoke
- 1990 Canadian Men and Women Finish 3rd in Respective Gold Cup World Championships; Canada Gets First Member on the IWBF Executive Committee and Internal Regulations for the IWBF Approved; 3 Seconds in the Key Narrowly Defeated Internationally.
- 1991 Double Gold for Canada Men and Women at the Stoke World Games; Emphasis Placed on Zonal Development and the European Zone Has an Elected Executive.
- 1992 Mediterranean Zone Has Elected Executive and Meetings Are Set for the African and South American Zones with Oceania, Asian, Central American and North American Zones Contemplating Their Futures; Able Bodied Involvement in World Competition Proposed and Canadian Women Finish on Top of the World Winning Gold at the Paralympics in Barcelona, Spain.
- 1993 Basketball Section and CWSA Confirm Direction for Basketball and the Formation of the CWBA.
- 1994 CWBA Incorporated and Receives RCAA Status.
- 1994 World Champions for Men in Edmonton and Women in England with the USA, Great Britain, Canada and Canada, USA, Australia Finishing 1,2,3 Respectively.

- 1994 First World Congress for the Game in Edmonton, IWBF Acknowledges a Place in the Game for ABLE Bodied Players in Some Nations and Regional Qualification Tournaments Approved.
- 1995 First Canada Games for Wheelchair Basketball and Eight Teams Were Present with Resounding Success.
- 1995 Canadian Men Capture Gold in First America's Regional Qualification Tournament in Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 1996 Canadian Men Finish Fifth at the Paralympics in Atlanta While Australia Takes Gold, Great Britain Gets Silver, and the USA Get Bronze.
- 1996 Canadian Women Take Gold Again at the Atlanta Paralympics, While the Netherlands Get Silver and USA Bronze.
- 2000 Men and Women's National teams are Paralympic Gold Medallists at the 2000 Paralympic Games in Sydney, Australia.
- 2001 Canada defends its World Junior title by winning Gold at the 2nd World Championship for Junior Men in Brazil.
- 2002 Canadian Women win their straight World Championship title in Japan at the Gold Cup World Championships. The Men finish 3rd.
- 2004 Men's National team win Gold at the Paralympic Games in Athens, Greece. The women finish 3rd.
- 2005 Canadian Junior Men's National team finish 6th at the Junior World Championships in Birmingham, Great Britain.
- 2006 Men and Women's National Team win Gold at the World Championships in Amsterdam, The Netherlands

P. ATHLETE/TEAM MATCH-UPS (RIVALRIES)

Ontario, Quebec, Alberta and British Columbia have all finished top 4 in the previous three Canada Games. However in the 2007 games they will be contested for a top four finish by strong teams from Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Both have established themselves this past year as teams to be contended with and demonstrated as much with their strong showing at the 2006 National Championships.

Some key match-ups to watch on day one will be Ontario vs. BC and Quebec vs. PEI. The highlight of Day 2 may well be the match-up of team Ontario vs. Team Manitoba while Day 3 will see Saskatchewan take on Quebec and Manitoba face BC.