



Coast to Coast



CANADIAN 5 PIN BOWLERS' ASSOCIATION

33rd Edition—February 2007

C5PBA President's Message

Well, it was that time of year again for the Semi Annual meeting of the C5PBA. We decided once again to brave the elements of Ottawa and met on the third weekend in January.

Many areas were reviewed and vital information was presented from the many committees. I would like to personally thank everyone for their participation in all the topics which were on the table this time round. A number of very important items had to be decided on and I was very proud in the way the Board conducted themselves in handling each individual matter.

An update was presented on the new NCCP program from Dave Post. I am very glad to see the completion of the **Community Coach** phase and that dates are in place for the first Learning Facilitator training sessions. Dave and his committee have done an outstanding job with this program and deserve a round of applause.

All 2007 National events were reviewed; fine tuned and are all well on track. The Youth Challenge is heading west to the city of Calgary, Alberta. for March 22 – 25, the High/Low Doubles will be heading to Halifax, Nova Scotia on April 26 - 29 and the Open Nationals are scheduled for May 30 – June 2 in Sudbury, Ontario. All chair people and their committees are working vigorously preparing for the best event they can offer.

Once again this is the time of year when we all must take note of our special volunteers working for something that means so much to them. I would like to recognize and thank all of them for their time and commitment toward this National sport. You are all very **special** people and we could not complete our programs without you.

I would like to wish everyone the best of luck in qualifying for all the upcoming events and hope to see some of you at our National events.

Terry McLeod
President C5PBA

Manitoba



Things are very busy here in Manitoba as all Zones are organizing for upcoming Provincial events. Zone qualifying for the Provincial Open has been completed and everyone is gearing up for a showdown in Winnipeg at Easter. The Hi-Lo Provincial Championship was held at Thunderbird Bowl in Brandon this past weekend and congratulations go out to Winnipeg bowlers Justin Keen and Rob Storozziuk who were crowned Manitoba Champions. Manitoba Tournament Director, Marilyn McMullan will accompany our champions to Halifax, Nova Scotia with the goal of returning as Canadian Champions. Still a few months away, our host committee is working hard to ensure everyone's experience at this year's Inter-Provincial Championships is extremely pleasurable. Manitoba is a great Province for hosting both National and International events, and this one will be no different. Yours in Bowling,

Len Isleifson
President

Quebec



We are presently running the provincial round for the Hi & Low and we should be finished by March 4th. We had the Open Provincial roll offs on February 3rd & 4th. Natalie Trudel will be our Women's Single representative and Shawn Hayley will be our Men's Single representative. Our teams will consist of the following players: Women's Team - Natalie Trudel, H  l  ne Godmaire, Nathalie Parent, Lyne Villeneuve, Julie Bellefeuille, Sheila Carr and Gaetan Beauchamp (Coach); Men's Team - Shawn Hayley, Eric Villeneuve, St  phane Labelle, St  phane Martineau, Luc Duguay, Patrick Leduc and Brigitte Jean (Coach); and Mix Team - Pascale Villeneuve, Patrick Robillard, Maurice Girouard, Lynne Allard, Julie Lachance, Julie Comeau and Daniel Lamarche (Coach). Congratulations to all our Open champions.

Pr  sentement, nous terminons la ronde provinciale du tournoi « Hi & Low ». Le 3 et 4 f  vrier dernier a eu lieu le provincial du Tournoi Ouvert. Natalie Trudel sera notre repr  sentante f  minine en simple et Shawn Hayley sera notre repr  sentant masculin en simple. Nos   quipes consisteront-en :   quipe f  minine - Natalie Trudel, H  l  ne Godmaire, Nathalie Parent, Lyne Villeneuve, Julie Bellefeuille, Sheila Carr et Ga  tan Beauchamp (entra  neur);   quipe masculin - Shawn Hayley, Eric Villeneuve, St  phane Labelle, St  phane Martineau, Luc Duguay, Patrick Leduc et Brigitte Jean (entra  neur);   quipe mixte - Pascale Villeneuve, Patrick Robillard, Maurice Girouard, Lynne Allard, Julie Lachance, Julie Comeau et Daniel Lamarche (entra  neur). F  licitations    tous nos champions du Tournoi Ouvert.

Joanne Trudel
Quebec

New Column

It has been suggest by your Communication committee that perhaps we could generate some interest in a new column that would identify some "Human Interest" stories. We are asking all Provinces to take a look at their volunteers, coaches, etc., and send us their stories. We have started it off with one this month that we received from Red Deer, Alberta and would ask you all to take a look around and tell us about your people. This is your opportunity to give them a pat on the back and let them know just how much you think of them.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Coach first lady of the lanes.



Anthony Strall goes into his delivery while youth bowling coach Maaika van Soeren offers pointers to Ashton Myrie in the next lane. Van Soeren has been coaching kids at the Innisfail Bowling Lanes for 28 years.

INNISFAIL - Anyone who thinks you need fingers to bowl apparently needs a lesson in open-mindedness. The girl who was born with no fingers on one hand is one of bowling coach Maaika Van Soeren's favourite memories. The girl had been told by someone else that she could never learn to bowl, but she went to Van Soeren to see if there was any hope. I said, "Oh, we will, lady. And you'll be a good bowler." They worked together for three years, until the girl's family moved away. And at the end of every bowling season, the girl's mother would send in flowers for Van Soeren, for making her daughter believe she really was worth coaching, and could do the things everyone else does. "Her mom was so happy."

Van Soeren has been a coach with the Master Bowlers Association for 28 years, cruising the lanes of Innisfail Bowling Lanes for that entire time. She coaches youth bowlers at the Innisfail lanes Mondays and Tuesdays after school. The 73-year-old bowls with the 55-plus group Wednesday mornings and assists the seniors who need a hand as well. That's in addition to all the evenings she spends bowling in the masters league herself. "I coach twice a week and I bowl four times a week," she says. "My husband said I'm here all the time. My husband said, they should get a bed for You."

She hasn't forgotten what it was like to be clueless about bowling, though. About 35 years ago a neighbour twisted Van Soeren's arm into filling a vacant spot on her ladies team. I said, "I don't know nothing about bowling," and she said, "Oh, you go along and I will show you." But it didn't really work out that well. A few years later she decided to take a coaching clinic, to help improve her style. It was a difficult experience. "They told me I was the poorest bowler in the whole bunch that was taking the course." An older fellow had sympathy, though, and told her she had potential. She and her husband had a dairy farm then, so she had strong hands that would set her above other women on the lanes.

After the course was over, he took her aside and coached her. He showed her how to pace out the right place to start her run, and how to develop a routine to ensure consistent rolling. She proved his faith, joining the Master Bowlers Association of Alberta in 1979. She's been to nationals with the association twice. "At one time my average was as high as 280."

Van Soeren had some injuries since then that have affected her game, but can still break the 300 mark from time to time. As a diabetic she likes to keep bowling - and curling as well - to keep herself active and burn off calories. She says her doctor told her a single game is worth 176 calories. The association requires its members to spend time coaching kids, but Van Soeren puts in more time than the association requires. Staff at the Innisfail lanes confirm she's always got time for the kids. "We have sometimes difficult kids to work with, and I have no problem to slow them down or do anything else," she says.

After 28 years of coaching she has no intention of letting up. There's no calculating how many kids she's influenced. "There's quite a few kids here, I coached their parents." Dayton Cossey, 17, is one of them. Van Soeren recalls his mom Becky was one of her early students. Cossey started out with a different coach, so Van Soeren didn't coach him until he moved up a level. But in his first year with Van Soeren his average score improved 50 points. He rolls a 201 now. "She's a really good coach. She helped me a lot," he says. Dallas Griffin, 18, is in his final year of youth bowling, and Van Soeren was there the first time he picked up a bowling ball. He still goes back to her when his 212 average is in jeopardy. "Even if she's coaching someone else and I struggle I just talk to her." A reminder of the basic routines helps him retrieve his consistency. "And it works," he says. "She's a pretty good coach."

Even the adults have benefited -- when they're willing. Van Soeren recalls one man who sent his wife over to ask questions, because he didn't want to take directions from a woman. The coach refused, saying the man would just have to ask for himself. "About two months later, he was so bad, he finally come over," she recalls. "I said, Sure, I will teach you, so long as you will listen and try to do what I tell you. Now he's one of our better bowlers."

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