



BC SPECIAL OLYMPICS NANAIMO



May 2012

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WHEN; June 18TH 2012 7:00 -8:00 pm

WHERE: 6009 Schooner Way

All spring sports have started and coaches are working to keep the athletes in shape and preparing those who want to attend competitions.

Here are some dates for the competitions so you can plan on attending;

Track and Field-----Port Alberni---June 3

Bocce-----Parksville-----June 23

Golf-----Campbell R----June 28

Soccer-----Duncan-----June 16

There are a few competitions that have already taken place. The two bowling programs' competitions were held in Nanaimo and were very successful for our athletes.

In 5 pin bowling five of our teams were awarded ribbons and two of our athletes received ribbons, Yves Moskaluke bowled a 260 in a single game and Crystal Lussier bowled 620 for the highest three games.

In 10 pin bowling FIRST in singles Crystal Thompson, Kenyon Shaw and Dennis Lynch; SECOND in singles Noel McLean; THIRD Dennis McLeod. FIRST in doubles Dennis McLeod and Noel McLean; and HIGH WOMEN SINGLES was Crystal Thompson. It was stiff competition between all the clubs on the Island.

The softball team was awesome! Coach Debbie reported that she was very pleased with everyone's efforts and the team played their best. Attitude and sportsmanship were tops in the athletes' behaviour. Improved skill levels showed in the games, thanks to the athletes putting their "all" into it and a big thanks to the coaches that trained them to give their best.

This is the year of the Regional qualifications for the SOBC Summer Provincial Games to be held in Langley July 11-14 2013.

RECORD ATTENDANCE for RECORD 25 YEARS

This year we have the highest number of athletes attending our sports, counting in at 140!! To think that when we started, everyone (except Sylvia) had their doubts of it lasting. We have an amazing program for the athletes and volunteers, giving both a quality of life that is rewarding far beyond any other. The opportunities to achieve in the sports fields are envied by generic sports. The athletes have gone as far as the WORLD GAMES –TWO TIMES.

We have made great strides in moving forward to meet the needs of our athletes. Starting with one program, Athletic club, we now have 18 different sports. The biggest improvement to the program is the introduction of the FUNdamentals program for the younger athletes. Tabitha has made this the “place to be” for the athletes to learn basic sport and fitness skills with FUN. This gives them a gigantic step into integration at school and generic activities. The program has given the athletes the skills and confidence to participate in swimming and track and field in Nanaimo SO.

Celebrating the whole 25 years are a few athletes and volunteers who started the Special Olympics B.C. Nanaimo. Our founding members were Rodney Cotton, Paul McKinley, Richard McLellan, Doug Rolph and the coaches/executive members are Angela Behn and Shirley Cottle. Another member who was at the first meeting was Leonard Corbett. Members who have put in more than 25 years are athlete Glen McCord and coaches JoAnne Raybeck and Sylvia Taylor. They had been associated with other clubs before Nanaimo.

Celebration of the 25 years will be in the early fall, watch for the announcement.

HELP NEEDED

Our biggest problem that has risen is MONEY. We are slowly losing the sponsorship of the community and it is a challenge to have fundraisers that the athletes can participate in. Fundraisers that you have contributed to are sponsored by the Provincial office and the money goes there, which then is spent on travel for the athletes and coaches to attend National competition, and subsidising volunteer courses.

If you can help out with ideas and manpower, that would ease the problem and the wallets of the athletes that would be greatly appreciated.