

B.C. Provincial Powerchair Football Championship  
July 3-5<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
Surrey, B.C.

This July the first Provincial Powerchair Football Championship was held at the Guildford Recreation Complex in Surrey. Eight teams attended, with four teams in both the division one and two categories. There were two teams from the Nanaimo Rock'n Rollers, two from the Okanagan Thunderchairs, two from Vancouver Lightening, and then a team from North Shore and Surrey.

The championship started on the Friday night with a very informative official's meeting to prepare and inform the referees, linesmen, and coaches of the stricter rules for a Provincial tournament. As our officials are still fairly new to the game, a good discussion concerning the rules kept everyone busy! As a Canadian organization, we are working towards adopting many of the International policies regarding the rules and standards of the game.

The action started early on Saturday and continued with regular games being played throughout the day. The evening ended with a pizza social in the lobby where players could meet and go over game strategy for the playoffs on Sunday.

Sunday was an action packed day. Teams worked hard to earn a place in the finals. It came down to Nanaimo vs Okanagan Thunderchairs in the division two final, and Vancouver Lightening Vs Okanagan Thunderchairs in the division one final. In division two, the Okanagan Thunderchairs, playing with only three players, put up a good defence, however lost to the strong Nanaimo team. In division one, the game ended with a tie after regulation time, and went into overtime. There too, the game ended with a tie. It was shoot out time! After some tense moments, and nervous players, the Vancouver Lightening team came out victorious!

Trophies were awarded to the top team in each division. Individual trophies were also given for Golden Guard, Rookie, Sportsmanship, and MVP in each division. The Golden Guard trophy for most goals was given to Nick Kroft in division two, and Luke Galvani in division one. The Most Improved Player/ Rookie award went to Carly Plasteras in division two and Sunny Khun Khun in division one. The MVP in division two went to Alex Carey, and to Jordan Marks in division one. The Sportsmanship award went to Christine Battye in division two and Ryan Barclay in division one. Andrew Araneta was also chosen as the athlete rep to the B.C. Powers Soccer Board.

It was a very successful Provincial tournament. Players are now looking forward to our first Zone tournament in Atlanta in October, and then the annual B.C.Storm tournament in April in Penticton.

Next year, we hope to be able to add a couple more teams to our Provincial Championship.

Submitted by;  
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