

Sportsfest 2008: Provincial Powersoccer Tournament

At this year's Sportsfest 2008 Provincial Powersoccer Tournament, we saw over 40 athletes competing in a number of different power wheelchair events.

Friday afternoon the participants signed up to take part in a timed obstacle course competition, a wheelchair dodgeball event, and a 2 on 2 powersoccer tournament. It was great to see almost all athletes take part in every event. Ribbons and medals were handed out to the winners of the obstacle course and the 2 on 2 competitions.

Saturday brought the beginning of the Power Soccer tournament. This is what the athletes have been practising and waiting for! This year was the first time that B.C. Power Soccer has had enough teams to offer a division one and a division two competition. We had 8 teams participate: Vancouver Blue and White, Washington Rolling Thunder, Nanaimo Rockin Rollers Red and Black, Surrey Transformers, and Okanagan Thunderchairs Blue and Gold. The teams played a round robin tournament and then played off in the finals. The action in both divisions was intense. We had some sudden death overtimes and even some shootouts to determine the winners of the competition. The cheering fans went wild, and the excitement level was extreme!

Gold, Silver and Bronze medals were given out to the winning teams, and there were also individual trophies for Most Goals/Assists, Most Improved Player, MVP, and Sportsmanship.

It was a fun packed competition that was enjoyed by all. The volunteers from B.C. Power Soccer and Sportability are to be commended for their efforts that led to the great success of this Sportsfest Tournament. Thank you to Amy at Vancouver Dodgeball League for organizing the wheelchair dodgeball event. Also, thanks goes out to Bozzini's Pizza for donating pizza to the athletes and their families on Saturday evening.

Power soccer in B.C. has grown immensely over the past year, with an increase in teams and players. We have had three new teams form, and have welcomed new players young and old. For the next year, we are hoping to hold some training seminars for our officials, provide further tournaments for our players, and develop our sport as a National organization.

Power soccer provides athletes with great competition, and it gives them the opportunity to develop team strategies and friendships. We look forward to another great season of play, more competition, and a chance to welcome more athletes to our sport !

Submitted by:

Cathy Cunningham

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