

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1, 2005

- SLEDGE HOCKEY STARTS SEPTEMBER 24th
- HOCKEY STICKS
- MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
- ATHLETE PROFILE - JAMIE EVANS
- TRACK & FIELD ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- FUNDRAISING, OUR PRESENT AND FUTURE DEPEND ON IT
- THANK YOU TO THE KUJAWA AND SMEENK FAMILIES

Cruisers *chronicle*

OUR MISSION

TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES THROUGH SPORT AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

As we discussed at the Annual General Meeting we wanted to publish a newsletter to help keep our members informed. We hope you enjoy the first issue of 2005. Please feel free to provide your feedback.

Sledge Hockey starts September 24th

The 2005 Sledge Hockey season starts September 24th at Iceland! We hope everyone enjoyed their summer and are looking forward to another great year. We have secured three hours of ice time on Saturdays once again and invite all Cruisers to join us for our registration on Saturday September 24th. We would like all the Junior team members to register at 10am. Please bring your Health Card and Birth Certificate, and of course your equipment as the Juniors will be on the ice at 11:15am. The intermediate registration will begin at 10:45am and ice time starts at 12:30pm. Please note

the registration fee will remain the same as last year at \$200.00. We are still working on our schedule for the year but you can look forward to another fun and competitive tournament in London over the January 27-29, 2006 weekend.

Paralympics Ontario will be introducing a Winter program. The Cruisers will be putting in an intermediate team (must be 16 yrs or older) in the qualifier tournament for the January games in Huntsville.

Look forward to seeing everyone!

[Ken Hall](#)
[Director, Sledge Hockey](#)



Equipment Needed

If you have equipment you no longer need and would like to donate it to the Cruisers we would like to have them! We always have new athletes who would like to try out sledge hockey but need to borrow some equipment. We're especially looking for helmets and gloves.



HOCKEY STICKS

We continue to look for the most beneficial way to spend our funds. In the past we have supplied all our players with hockey sticks. This is a continuous and growing expense and therefore we will no longer supply sledge hockey sticks to our players. We will keep a supply on hand that you can purchase from the club at the same cost of what we purchased them for. We strongly suggest that each player keep a spare set in case a stick is broken during a game. You should also put your names on your sticks.

Letter from the President

I hope everyone had a great summer. I would like to thank all the coaches, volunteers and athletes for their hard work, and dedication to make the outdoor Track & Field and Boccia season a success. The Cruisers are building a strong reputation for the number and quality of our athletes that are involved. I would like to welcome the new athletes and their families to our organization, and look forward to meeting each and every one of you during the upcoming months.

Cruisers Sports is a volunteer non-profit organization, which derives its operating funds from donations and our fundraising events. It is everyone's responsibility to get involved. One of the fundraising initiatives that everyone can be involved with is our "Ice Time Sponsorship". The Ice Sponsorship letters and forms for \$ 300.00 per session are available for prospective sponsors. These Sponsors and other donations will be highlighted on our new website under a section entitled "Sponsor".

We are continuing to work on developing a new website with the help of Graham Borsk, and have registered our own domain name. Any suggestions and comments you may have are greatly appreciated. All athletes have the opportunity to have their personal profiles highlighted in the new "Athletes" section. In addition, we will highlight photos, upcoming events, fundraising activities, sponsors recognition and social activities. Let us know what you are doing outside the Cruisers, any announcements, awards, special functions that we can share with everyone.

If you have digital or printed photos of our athletes in action, these may be added in our new section on the web. Please loan us your pictures, that we will scan and give you back the originals or provide us with a copy of your digital images.

We will keep you informed of the progress so that you can check out the site over the next few months as it develops.

Yours in sports,

Ken Thom
President

Athlete Profile Jamie Evans

Jamie Evans, a high school graduate, has been playing hockey for 15 years ever since he knew he was unable to skate and play stand up hockey. Jamie started as an intermediate back when he says there wasn't a junior team. He heard about the Cruisers through Erinoak a rehabilitation and treatment center serving young people with physical disabilities in the Peel and Halton regions.

Hockey has always been a passion and of course he is a die-hard Toronto Maple Leaf fan. When asked what he likes best about playing with the Cruisers, he responded that being able to play hockey was number one and then making new friends. Jamie enjoys all sports. He even had the opportunity many years ago to play baseball for 2 years until he had to give it up. When not playing hockey he enjoys adventure movies and hanging out with friends.

Jamie spoke very highly of the coaching staff and attributes his improvements in playing hockey to his coaches as well his own passion and drive for the game. Jamie has made the travel team for the past two years. His biggest accomplishment has been his improvements in his speed and in overall knowledge and understanding of the game.

Good luck to Jamie in another successful season!

2005/2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Ken Thom
416-524-8693
kenthom@rogers.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Tony Gale
416-452-0831
tgale5619@rogers.com

SECRETARY

Don Borsk
416-
donborsk@rogers.com

TREASURER

John Clark
905-824-5358
jclark@trebnet.com

DIRECTOR OF SLEDGE

HOCKEY

Ken Hall
905-874-1860
hall1313@rogers.com

DIRECTOR OF TRACK &

FIELD

Brenda Hall
905-454-3187
Brenda_hall@rogers.com

ATHLETE'S REPRESENTATIVE

Navid Razvi
905-816-1750
nawid14@hotmail.com

DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Cameron Jenkins
905-450-0057
camjenkins@sympatico.ca

DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Mary Bennett
905-840-1131
mbennett@purolator.com

DIECTOR AT LARGE

Vacant

DIRECTOR AT LARGE –

EXTERNAL

Cindy Pettibone
416-
cpettibone@hotmail.com

Junior Cruisers ready to race



new comer to the International scene, finish 4th in the Javelin, with a personal best performance.

Next on the schedule were the Canadian Paralympian National Championships in Regina, Sask. Chelsea Clark, Rob Hughes, Kyle Pettey, Carrie Wallace, Katie Wallace, Curtis Thom and Mark Ledo were the 7 athletes that qualified for these Championships and between them they came home with 13 medals. 12 GOLD and 1 BRONZE.

The Canada Summer Games in Regina, Sask, was the next stop for 11yr old Isaiah Christophe, and 15 yr old Michael Kahn. These 2 athletes were chosen to represent Ontario at this competition! Michael won 1 SILVER in the 400m and 1 BRONZE in the 1500m. Isaiah, the youngest of the competitors finished 5th in the 5000m and 6th in the 400m.

Last but not least, Chelsea Clark, Curtis Thom, Kyle Pettey and Mark Ledo were over in Helsinki Finland competing at the European Championships. These 4 athletes work very hard all season and in doing so made the qualification to represent Canada. Further news on how they performed will come out at a future date.

I'd like to thank Ken Hall (Throwing Coach) and Ken Thom (Wheelchair

Racing Coach) for all their hard work and dedication to the athletes. By the looks of it, all the hard work paid off.

This years Boccia Team is Brock Richardson, Charlie Szyerni, and new comer Marlowe Horne. All three athletes competed in the Regional Games, and were successful in qualifying to the Ontario Paralympic Championships that were held in Essex.

Brock finished 3rd overall in the BC2 category, and Charlie finished 5th. Marlowe Horne competing is her first Championship finished 6th in the BC1 category.

Brock also represented the Cruisers at the Defi-Sportif in Montreal. This was an International meet with some of the best Boccia players in the country competing.

Congratulations to all the Boccia athletes on a great season.

Brenda Hall
Director, Track and Field



Brock Richardson

TRACK & FIELD , BOCCIA ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Cruisers had 21 athletes compete in the 2 Regional Meets, and 20 of the athletes were successful in qualifying for the Ontario Paralympic Championships that were held in Essex. The Cruisers came home with a total of 49 medals. 31 GOLDS, 11 SILVER and 7 BRONZE.

From there, 7 of our athletes went to New London Connecticut to compete in the CP ISRA World Championships. A total of 14 medals were won. 9 GOLD, 5 SILVER. Chelsea Clark led the way with 4 gold medals, and Ryan Bennett, a



Jake Delaney



We want your pictures. Please email to Tony Gale so we can use in our newsletters, sponsorship requests, and promotional items.



Fundraising, our Present and Future Depend on it

It costs approximately \$1000 per member to run our club. What can you do to contribute?

Golfing for the Cruisers in 2004, over \$10,000 raised!

Each year we review our assets (sleds, racing chairs, training equipment, etc), our expenses (ice time, tournament and meet fees), and our needs (additional equipment, repairs, etc). A budget is prepared for the operation of the club for the upcoming year. However, we have to also consider future growth. We are one of the largest clubs in Ontario that supports sports and recreation for the physically disabled and we continue to grow every year.

This year we can expect to have close to 55 athletes in our club.

We also know that the technology and advancement of our sports continues to improve and this creates additional costs if we want to have better equipment for our athletes. The operation and growth of our club has been budgeted at close to \$50,000 for 2005/2006. Simple math tells us that it costs approximately \$1000 per member to operate our club. As we try to keep our registration fees as low as we can, it requires us to raise funds from the community and businesses to create the shortfall of revenues. We

have a number of planned events to raise funds but we need every member to be actively raising funds. The easiest way to raise funds is to ask for **SPONSORSHIPS**. You just received a sponsorship request form along with a brief description of our club in the mail. We have the benefit of issuing tax receipts as the result of being a registered charity. If every member was able to obtain one sponsorship we will see a huge growth in our revenues! Consider asking your workplace, the businesses you loyally support, and professionals you deal with.

Thank You to the KUJAWA and SMEENK Families!

The Cruiser's would like to thank the tremendous efforts of two families for their terrific fundraising. Roman and Wendy Kujawa held a dance and dinner in March 2005 and raised over \$5000! A great meal, music and a silent auction were the highlights of the evening. The Polish community involvement was tremendous and we truly appreciate their support of the club. Roman made a great speech that reflected both the great opportunities our club provides but also to the memory of the Pope who happened to pass away on

The same day. Although the festivities were somewhat reduced out of respect of the Polish heritage Pontif, the generosity of Roman, Wendy and their friends was still very prevalent. Once again we thank the Kujawa family!

Another fantastic effort was fronted by Sandy and Tom Smeenk. For the past few years the Smeenks have hosted a Halloween party for friends and family. The party continued to grow to the point where they could no longer host it in their home. In October 2004, The Smeenk family hosted the party in a

Hall and charged for admission. The proceeds raised went to the Cruisers!

Sandy also worked with her cousin who is an artist who took her prints and sold them to a merchant. Sandy's cousin donated the total proceeds to the Cruisers! A total of \$3000 was donated to the Cruisers through these efforts. Thank you Smeenk family!

If you have any ideas that could generate funds for our club we would love to hear from you! Please contact [Tony Gale](#).

FUTURE CRUISER FUNDRAISING

Sep 13th 6th Annual Cruisers Golf Tournament

- Banty's Roost
- golfers always needed
- hole sponsor needed
- prizes needed
- contact KEN HALL

Nov Cruisers Calendar

- \$12 per calendar
- 5 calendars to be sold by each family
- we need pictures!
- Contact Sandy Smeenk

Nov 26th Sledge-a-thon and Silent Auction

- All members to collect pledges
- Silent auction items needed

Dec Lotto 649 Bingo

- \$10 to enter
- 50% to winner, 50% to Cruisers

Feb 10th Cruisers Dance

- Streetsville

Jun 10th Garage Sale

- Don't clean out that garage just yet; save it and sell it with proceeds going to the Cruisers
- Central location, large sale

Please share
your
fundraising
ideas!