



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Cheryl McKeeman

To: All BC Racquetball Members **Date:** February 8, 2011
Subject: February 2011 News

The new official racquetball is the Ektelon Classic Black. We even have some that are embossed with the Racquetball Canada logo – you'll see them at a tournament sometime soon.

You can order a [case of balls](#) directly from Racquetball Canada at a cost of \$108 (includes shipping and taxes). Click on the link above.

Don Thorsteinson of Infinity Sports is the face of Ektelon in western Canada. Don kindly donated some balls for our juniors to train with – thanks Don!

The Superbowl tournament ran well, though the numbers were a little low. [REVS](#) put on one of the best dinners we've had in a long time – thanks to Doug and REVS for the hospitality. And thanks to those who travelled far to play – Paul Myers stopped over on his way from France to Hawaii, and Wade Shadlock squeezed us in en route from San Diego back to Manitoba.

We met several new tournament players at Superbowl – hope they keep coming back!

Congratulations to Ken Slade who received his level 1 refereeing certification at Superbowl. If you want to be certified at any level, please contact [Cal Smith](#) or [Rick Mattson](#) or [Al Cuttriss](#) or [Marvin Meissner](#).

Upcoming tournaments: [Victoria Classic](#) February 18-20 (note – it's getting full so sign up SOON!!!), [Provincials](#) at Newlands March 31-April 3, and [Abbotsford Classic](#) April 15-17. Important note: the souvenir at Provincials will be shorts, so please make sure that you add a note when registering about your SHORTS size (because R2 only asks for shirt size).

For Junior players, we have the Junior provincials (contact [Sebastien](#)) and then the [Junior Nationals](#) at REVS April 25-30. Please note that all the usual age group divisions will be offered at Junior Nationals. Sebastien is working hard at building a unified team, and the BCRA Board hopes that everyone will work together to support his efforts and become part of a cohesive Team BC. Sebastien is the BCRA Junior Coordinator, and all questions should be addressed to him. The next training camp is Friday February 25 at REVS, with guest coach former national champion Lori Jane Powell.

Your BCRA Board recently passed several policies; these will be posted on our website very soon. These policies address Criminal Records Checks for coaches, Fair Play, Privacy, Gender Equity, and Appeals. The Board also re-confirmed its Code of Ethics.

2010 Legacies Now has provided the BCRA with funding to help connect with current racquetball players, as well as increase the number of people playing racquetball. To help with this process, Lori Jane Powell will be in BC from February 17-27 (including February 18-20 in Victoria). She'll want to talk with you about your ideas, and she'll be speaking with other sports and with facilities managers. We need to be able to reach current racquetball players, and to bring new people into the sport. If you want to speak with Lori, please let me know.

Lori will also be helping with our Long Term Athlete Development Plan implementation. It goes hand-in-hand with the development plan, and we hope that parents, coaches, juniors and players will take some time to meet with Lori to share their ideas.

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While Lori is in town, she has also agreed to do some instructional clinics. She'll be at South Arm, Newlands, and REVS.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday April 2 at 6 pm at Newlands.

Penny Pratt is a wonderful supporter of the sport. In recent years, Penny has used her airmiles to help junior players travel to Junior Nationals. This year, Penny will once again contribute airmiles for Junior Nationals support. Thank you Penny!

The BCRA Circuit program rewards some randomly-selected players who have played in 3 or more sanctioned events. This year, we will draw the winners AFTER the Abbotsford tournament. So if you have played in three or more of Vernon, BC Open, Campbell River, Superbowl, Victoria, Provincial, Junior Provincials, BC/WA Junior Challenge in Burnaby, or Abbotsford, then your name will go in the draw.

Once again this year, the BCRA and Racquetball Canada will assist the top Male and Female player who attend the [Nationals in Antigonish](#). We define "top" as a person who goes to nationals and was the best finisher in the open division at the Provincials; this funding is not transferable.

Does BC have a new top [ranked man](#)? When Racquetball Canada processes the results from last weekend's National Team Selection Event, will Tanner Mattson be #1 in BC? Tanner had some good wins in Montreal, though he did not qualify for the national team - but he'll have another chance to do so at the nationals in May.

RANKING SYSTEM . . . did you know that . . .

- 1) you need to win against two players ranked higher than you (or the same person twice) in order to advance in the rankings
- 2) if you have two wins against higher ranked players, you will take the position of the lower ranked of the two and that player will drop down to the next position
- 3) your 'best win' will be eliminated after 13 months or if you lose to your 'best win' in a future tournament
- 4) without losing any matches, your provincial and national ranking can drop if players in your province and elsewhere in the country are winning matches that move them ahead of you

If you have any questions about rankings, please contact Diana Hambley.

Please take a moment to print this newsletter and post it at your club

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