



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Cheryl McKeeman

**To:** All BC Racquetball Members

**Date:** September 15, 2010

**Subject:** September Greetings

The 2010-2011 season is underway, with the Vernon SplatFest coming up this week – that tournament is full, with a waitlist, and it looks like we'll be playing til the wee hours...but it'll be fun.

Next up is the BC Open, October 7-10. (Enter [online](#) , or contact me (I can enter you if you've forgotten your password), or use the attached entry form.) This fantastic event is being held at Newlands, with Kelly Gauthier at the helm. We plan to introduce the brand new Official ball, as selected by Racquetball Canada, so come out and play! (and no, the new ball is not pink!)

On Monday October 4<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at Newlands, you'll have an opportunity to find out about any rule changes, or any rule interpretations that you've been wondering about. Join Cal Smith for a free rules clinic – call him at 604-931-4944 to sign up. Even if you aren't planning to play in the BC Open, you are more than welcome to attend this rules clinic.

Sebastien Boissonneault is working hard at leading our Junior development team. There is a Junior Camp planned for this month, and the REVS league will get started this month as well. The annual BC-Washington Junior Challenge is scheduled to start October 2 at REVS, and we know our junior team will be ready to defend their title.

We received Gaming funds to run something called the Junior Roadshow, where our juniors travel around the province introducing the sport to other kids, and talking about their experiences competing for the province at the Nationals and Worlds. Debbie Goodhope and Sebastien have organized the Road Show for Kelowna and Vernon this week – I'm sure you too will look forward to hearing about how it goes.

The provincial government has kindly provided funding to assist our developing athletes in their training. Three Board members are working on selecting those applicants who will be funded; their decision will be made before October.

The provincial government and 2010 Legacies Now have also provided some funding to help BCRA to implement the national Long Term Athlete Development model. This sounds scary, but it's really just a matter of updating something that we might call Long Term Racquetball Development, or Racquetball For Life – to document how people of all ages get involved and stay involved with racquetball as a life-long sport, and how those youth who aspire to the National Team level should train and prepare.

Racquetball Canada is also working on a new "badge" system for new players... expect it to roll out later this season.

Gaming BC has provided funding to assist with our Junior programs, including programs for people with disabilities.

Board member Sandra Nielsen designed a tournament/events schedule poster that has been mailed out to the clubs. If it isn't posted at your club (or if you want a copy for your fridge!), please let us know and we'll send or email a copy to you.

Some of our juniors will be heading to Los Angeles in November to play in the Junior Worlds. They'll be selling chocolate bars to help fundraise so please help if you can!

Cheryl

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**Please print a copy and post at your club!**