



## **New Brunswick Wheelchair Sports Association**

### **Report for the WBC 2012 AGM**

I am pleased to provide you with this report on wheelchair basketball in New Brunswick over the past year.

- Our primary focus over the past year was on the Canada Games. Sab and Dave have held a number of training camps and exhibition events over the past year. Our New Brunswick team was also able to attend Junior East this year. The experience was invaluable in providing the game experience and bonding for the team. It also provided an opportunity to confirm the classifications provided at the camps and to highlight the strengths and weaknesses of the team. The Canada Games team is playing in the Maritime League this year, in the B division. They plan to play in the A division next year. All teams in New Brunswick have made sacrifices by allowing their athletes to play for the Canada Games team in an effort to strengthen the team with the ultimate goals being a positive experience and placement at the 2015 Canada Games.

-Another highlight for New Brunswick was sending 2 teams to the CWBL Finals this year and the Saint John Mavericks bringing home the bronze. With the changes made to the CWBL Finals, there is talk of our sending teams again this year.

-Bathurst has returned to the Maritime League after leaving a few years ago. Recruitment is still an ongoing issue for all of our clubs but every club has added several new members over the past year, including several new classifiable athletes.

-NBWSA was proud to have Dave Durepos attend the Paralympics and was thrilled with the gold medal result. Dave has also been nominated for New Brunswick Male Athlete of the Year.

-In an update from last year, New Brunswick has successfully developed a ParaSport organization. Sab is our rep and is working closely with ParaSport NB. ParaSport NB has provided many opportunities for New Brunwickers to experience a variety of sports and it has

resulted in an increase in our recruitment numbers. Parasport NB will be hosting a Parasport Festival on December 1<sup>st</sup> in Moncton where we will be represented.

-Our Saint John Mavericks club has received a donation of 7 Quickie wheelchair basketball wheelchairs from Sunrise Medical. An exhibition game was held in Saint John in September between Team Sunrise and Team Medichair. The teams were made up of Occupational Therapists and Rehab providers/dealers from Medichair and Sunrise Medical as well as a few of the Maverick players. Michel Papillon, President of Sunrise Medical Canada and Mike Longo, National Director of Sales for Sunrise Medical Canada (and former wheelchair basketball athlete) played and Dave Durepos and Brian Lawrence coached the teams. The event was a great opportunity for publicity and for the therapists and dealers to experience a little of what their clients/customers go through in the wheelchairs. The Saint John Mavericks ensured that their 5 Canada Games eligible athletes received new chairs. This has also helped with the recruitment of new athletes.

NBWSA would like to take this opportunity to thank WBC for all of its support over the past year.

Respectfully Submitted By,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Ferguson".

Karen Ferguson, President

NBWSA