



Media Release

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2010 BC Wheelchair teams declared for National Championship

Richmond, BC (February 2, 2010) – The 2010 BC Wheelchair Curling Championship was held this past weekend at the Juan de Fuca Curling Club. The event hosted three teams vying for two spots at the 2010 Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championship to be held at the Kelowna Curling Club, March 16-21st, 2010.

Despite the absence of the Jim Armstrong team (who could not compete due to conflicts with the 2010 Paralympic Games) the provincial championship continued to showcase the strong high performance wheelchair curling that BC has become accustomed to.

The Whitney Warren rink of Frank LaBounty, Gerry Austgarden and Alison Duddy were victorious in capturing the BC title with a convincing 7-1 win over the Gary Cormack rink. The final started out with three blanked ends followed by a single Cormack point scored in the 4th and two points scored by Warren in the 5th. Warren then continued to build his lead by stealing one in the 6th and another four points in the 7th end. The Cormack team of Rich Green, Vincent Miele and Corinne Jensen earned the second berth into the national championship with their second place finish.

BC was awarded an extra berth into the nationals this year as the host province.

The Cyril Kinakin team of Ron Vaselenak, Jim Miller and Samantha Siu finished third in the championship after losing close battles to Warren and Cormack earlier in the weekend.

Meanwhile, the Jim Armstrong Paralympic Team including Darryl Neighbour, Ina Forrest, Sonja Gaudet and Coach Joe Rea continue their training on a scaled back schedule this month. "We want to make sure we enter the week with the momentum we've already gained from this season, so we're keeping our distance from any possible distractions and just focusing on throwing lots of practice rocks." said Armstrong at the Richmond Curling Club this afternoon.

The 2010 Paralympic Games Curling Competition runs from March 13-20 at the Vancouver Olympic/Paralympic Centre.

About Curl BC

Curl BC is the provincial sport governing body responsible for the development, promotion and organization of curling in British Columbia. Curl BC is also responsible for the championship system that declares provincial representation at National events. In cooperation with its Members, Curl BC provides service to both competitive and recreational curlers, including a variety of special interest groups.