



President's Welcome for 2009-2010 Season

As many of you know, the Titans' Club had a very successful year in 2009-2010, finishing 3rd overall in National rankings, and we look forward to another exciting year. The Club has continued its growth in most programs, and has done exceedingly well with its recruiting efforts for enrolment in the ILWP and Recreational Programs. Please find attached a summary of the Club accomplishments during the past year.

A few improvements are planned for each of our programs, and coaches will be on hand during the Open House/ Registration Day on September 13 to provide more details. Highlights include the merging of the AA and AAA Competitive programs to offer more opportunities to competitive athletes, the enhancement of our Recreational Programs and the first International Titans Invitational Event to be held on the last weekend of January and the first weekend of February 2010. More details will be available on our website and through Titans E-News in the upcoming months.

At the June 2009 AGM, we agreed to proceed with a small increase in our program fees. With the proposed budget approved for the 2009/2010 Financial Year, the program registration fees have been set as follow:

| Programme | Registration Fee per athlete |
|---|------------------------------|
| ILWP and Recreational House League Programs | \$ 600 |
| Adult Programmes | \$250 & \$350 |
| Academy | \$1400 |
| Competitive 16/18U Programs | \$1900 |

We are now consolidating our Club operations, and formalizing our coaching succession plan with the appointment of Celso Rojas as the new Head Coach of the Club. Jerry Tesanovic will continue in his capacity as the Boys 16U/ 18U Competitive Head Coach, and Blake Christie will lead the Academy and ILWP programs. Our Past President, Pierre Tremblay will continue to lead the Adult and Recreational House League Programs. David Hart will take on new advisory roles, both with the Board of Directors and the coaching staff (at the ILWP and Academy levels).

Our Registrar and Program Managers have issued the necessary information and forms, along with specific details concerning the registration process. You are invited to complete these forms and bring them, with your payment, to our **Open House/ Registration Day scheduled for September 13 at the Hilton Garden Inn Airport Hotel (2400 Alert Road), from 1:00 to 3:00 pm**. You will have the opportunity to meet with our new Head Coach and his team of coaches, chat with the new Board of Directors, find out more about our 2009/2010 exciting programs (see also our new Google calendar of activities on the website), and purchase Club merchandise.

The Board of Directors is very proud of its proposed Program offerings for the 2009-2010 season, and hopes it will meet your expectations. Many sacrifices have been made by many people in recent years to bring this Club to where it is today. Much more has to be achieved to ensure its sustainability and viability. We will therefore continue to canvass your support through the year, and we sincerely hope you will continue to respond to the call.

See you all on September 13 for Club Registration. Go Titans!

Jean Philippe Caron
President
Titans Club

Summary of Club Achievements for the 2008-2009 Season

General Information

- ❑ 2008-2009 Ottawa Titans Board of Directors:
 - President- Jean Philippe Caron
 - Vice President- Carmelita Olivotto
 - Treasurer- Damian Laflamme
 - Registrar- Alka Steenkamer
 - Secretary- Sanja Boskovic
 - Director, Core Competitive Programs- Paul Massel
 - Director, ILWP and Academy Programs- Kevin Mills
 - Director, Long-Term Planning and Club Development- John Pedari
 - Director, Enhanced Training Programs- Hurd Stein
 - Director, Adult and Recreational Programs- Marinka Ménard
 - Director, Communications- Rennie Marcoux

- ❑ Other Volunteers:
 - Besides the Board, an army of volunteers ensured that the many tasks required each year were completed. They included team managers, out-of-town tournament chaperones, tournament chairs, Loblaw's Coordinator, Merchandise Coordinator, Communications and Marketing Committee, minor officials, referees, tournament volunteers, and ad hoc committee volunteers.
 - Fifty older athletes and parents completed a referee clinic in the fall that provided them with skills that would allow them to referee internal league games. As a result, we were able to provide referees to all recreational house league and ILWP league games.

- ❑ Coaching Staff:
 - 1 full time Head Coach (David Hart), who oversaw all competitive programs, as well as working directly with 'I Love Water Polo' and Academy programs.
 - Three coaching supervisors for the competitive men's (Jerry Tesanovic), women's (Celso Rojas) and Academy (Blake Christie) Programs
 - A program coordinator/ head coach overseeing recreational house league and adult programs (Pierre Tremblay)
 - 15 additional coaches assigned to regular practices each week.
 - We continued with the concept of a 'community of coaches' in order to better serve the needs of all athletes, to ensure that all athletes had access to the higher level coaches, to be able to mentor our coaches, and so that coaching staff were not overtaxed with coaching demands.

- ❑ Other Staff:
 - General Manager, full-time contract (Deanna Barry) until March 2009, at which time the position was split into two part-time positions that include Manager of Academy and Recreational Programs (Deanna Barry) and Manager of Competitive Programs (Valerie Walker)/
 - Book Keeper, part-time contract
 - ILWP/ Academy League Coordinator (Blake Christie)

- Recreational House League Coordinator (Pierre Tremblay)

- Athletes by Program:
 - 118 registered Competitive players, ages 10-18, making up 11 competitive teams:
 - 18U Women- Piranhas, Swordfish and Marlins
 - 18U Men- Great White Sharks and Manta Rays
 - 16U Girls- Stingrays
 - 16U Boys- Tiger Sharks
 - 14U Boys/ Girls – Brewer, Walter Baker, Pinecrest, Orleans
 - 44 Recreational House League players, ages 13+ (20 female/ 24 male)
 - 55 ‘I Love Water Polo’ players, ages 7-12 (22 female/ 33 male)
 - 44 Adult players, (18 Learn To Play and 26 Semi-Competitive)

Tournaments/ Events Hosted

- Open House and Registration, September 6, 2008 at Nepean Sportsplex (Coaches and Board members were on hand to meet families. The afternoon included a Merchandise Sale, Bake Sale and Registration).
- Titans Cup (14+U), January 31-February 2 2009, with 19 teams participating in two levels of play. . True to the LTAD principles, this was a participatory, learning experience, and ‘winners’ were not awarded or announced. All participants received a token gift. There were rule modifications and the playing field was half that of regulation size. Tournament Chair was Colin Kelly. The Titans entered a record seven teams, with the invitation to participate extended to all ILWP and Academy players.
- Titans Cadet Invitational, February 6-8, 2009, with four teams in each of four divisions (Men’s AA and AAA/ women’s AA and AAA). Tournament Chair was Beverly Davis.
- 22U National Club Championships, March 19-22, 2009, at Carleton University and the University of Ottawa Pools. Ten men’s and five women’s teams were entered. Forty-one full-length games ran over the course of four days. This is the first time the Titans have hosted national championships in many years. Tournament co-chairs were Yew Lee and Carolyn McGill.
- Titans annual Awards Banquet was held June 4, 2009, with 209 individuals in attendance. Chaired by Bev Davis.

Leagues

- ‘I Love Water Polo’ (ages 7-12) played league games on Sunday evenings at Nepean Sportsplex, 5:30-7:30pm. These games were refereed by our older athletes. Coach Blake Christie was responsible for Sunday night league coordination.
- NEW- Academy (ages 9-14) played league games on Sunday evenings at Nepean Sportsplex, 6:30-8:30pm, overlapping by an hour with the ILWP players, allowing good flow between the two groups. These games were refereed by our older athletes. Coach Blake Christie was responsible for Sunday night league coordination.
- Titans Recreational House League (ages 13+) played league games on Saturday evenings 6-8pm at the University of Ottawa Pool. These games were refereed by our older athletes. Pierre Tremblay coordinated the league.
- Ottawa Water Polo League (OWPL) - Fall 2008 (with informal games continuing into the new year). One Titans Men’s team participated.
- Ottawa Women's Water Polo League (OWWPL) - Winter/ Spring 2009. Three balanced Titans teams participated.
- NEW- National Capital Water Polo League- October- April. This AA league was proposed and supervised as a new initiative to find opportunities for AA players to have local competition. The Manta Rays, Tiger Sharks and Adult Semi-Competitive teams were joined by teams from Hull and the U of O Gee Gees. A sponsor allowed trophies and medals to be provided at the end of the season. Website

management and referees were provided. League Coordinator was Joanne Paterson. The league was proposed and initiated by Jerry Tesanovic.

- Many Titans athletes participated in the NCSSAA girls high school league

Other Programs

- NDC(National Development Centre) Boys/ NCPC (National Capital Performance Centre) Girls- The Titans donated 3 hours of weekly pool time and contributed to the initial planning and organization of the program, which was supervised by the national team program.
- June Specialized Program- This program provided 3-4x weekly additional practices for athletes heading to provincial or national summer programs, or for athletes going to play in university varsity programs in the fall of 2009, so that they did not lose their level of fitness between the end of the Titans regular practices and the start of these summer elite programs.
- Swim Program- a partnership opportunity was established with ROCS swim club, whereby Titans athletes were able to sign up for swim training with this Club. Only one Titans athlete took advantage of the opportunity.

Individual & Other Accomplishments

- A number of Titans athletes were successful in securing provincial Quest for Gold funding. Full cards were awarded to Danielle Hirsh and Lyle Brooks. Half cards were awarded to Lia Richardson, Audrey Caron, Ben Bouwer and Alec Taschereau. Alternates included Titans Ogi Gutovic, Owen Kennedy, Logan Seaman, Stéphanie Le Saux-Farmer and Annie Chinneck.
- The 2007-2008 version of the Great White Sharks Team (who won gold at 18U nationals in May 2008) was honoured for their previous year's accomplishment at the 56th Annual Ottawa Sports Awards, held in February 2009.
- Team Ontario- for the 2009 Team Ontario summer program, the province was split up into East and Central Regions. The following Titans boys were named to Team Ontario East: Owen Kennedy, Ben Paterson, Rodrigo Rojas, Ogi Gutovic, Simon Mills, Alec Tascheherau, James Bickerton, Lyle Brooks, Jeran Long, Boris Misjlencevic, Luke Spooner, and Ben Bouwer, with Andrea Kennedy acting as Team Manager for the summer trip to Montenegro. Coaches are Nick Forster, assisted by Celso Rojas. The following Titans girls were name to Team Ontario East: Tara Hristov, Sophie Laflamme, Lia Richardson, Danielle Hirsh, Veronica Rojas, Audrey Caron, Emma Jackson, Melanie Pabstel, Christine Snidal, Annie Chinneck, Emily Hodgson, Stéphanie Le Saux-Farmer, Nathalie Gallant, Rachel Stein. Coaches are Celso Rojas and Alison Poirier. The girls are travelling to Hungary for their summer trip.
- National teams- Rebekka Steenkamer and Evie Marshall were named to the national women's junior team. This team travelled to the Netherlands in March and will participate in the World Junior Championships in Russia-Siberia in August. At a training camp following 18U men's national championships, John Conway and Lyle Brooks were selected as to a team that includes the 20 top junior players in the country. They will be participating in the FINA Junior World Championship in Croatia at the end of August 2009. John Conway was selected to the men's junior national team and will centralize and attend university in Calgary in September 2009.
- Rachel Stein has accepted an athletic scholarship to play NCAA Division 1 water polo at the University of Maryland in the fall of 2009. She will be studying Materials Science and Engineering and has been invited into their University Honors program.

Team Accomplishments for 2008-2009

○ **Provincially:**

- 14U- At AAA championships, boys won GOLD and girls won SILVER. At AA Co-ed Championships, our 3 balanced Academy teams finished 5th, 6th and 10th, as well as a 2nd place finish in the Technical Foundation event.

- 16U- boys White Sharks won GOLD and Tiger Sharks finished with BRONZE (Dusan Boskovic, Ogi Gutovic, Rodrigo Rojas, Alec Taschereau and Ben Boucher were named to the All-Star team. Alec Taschereau and Ben Boucher were named MVP and MVG respectively). Girls Seals won GOLD and Stingrays placed 4th (Tara Hristov, Danielle Hirsh and Jessica Gaudreault named to the All-Star team and Jessica Gaudreault named MVG).

- 18U- men's Great White Sharks won BRONZE and Manta Rays finished 5th (John Conway and Lyle Brooks name to the All-Star team). Titan's women dominated with Swordfish and Piranhas capturing GOLD and SILVER respectively (Anne Chinneck and Veronica Rojas named to All-Star team, and Veroncia Rojas named MVP).

○ **Nationally:**

- 16U- girls Seals finished with BRONZE and Stingrays finished 8th (Danielle Hirsh was named to the All-Star team). Boys White Sharks finished GOLD and Tiger Sharks finished 12th, in a field of 22 teams (Alec Taschereau and Ogi Gutovic were successful in making the All-Star team. Ogi was MVP and Coach Jerry Tesanovic was named Most Valuable Coach.)

- 18U- men's Great White Sharks and women's Piranhas teams each placed 5th. (John Conway and Rebekka Steenkamer named to All-Star teams).

- 22U – women's Swordfish placed BRONZE and Piranhas 4th and men's Great White sharks finished 6th. (Rebecca Steenkamer and John Conway were named to All-Star Teams). A number of Titans alumni returned to play for the Titans for this tournament.

- Following the National Club Championships, the Titans are ranked 3rd in the country behind Calgary (2nd) and CAMO (1st), within the four 'core' men's and women's, 18U and 16U championships.

- Only three clubs in the country entered all six National Club Championships (the four core age group nationals plus 22U men and women), of which the Titans are ranked 3rd, behind DDO (2nd) and CAMO (1st).