

2008 BC Athletics AGM  
Pacific Sport Interior Centre – Kamloops

2007 was again a busy year for the Pacific Sport Interior Centre and KTFC. Interior Centre coach Jarett McLean did nine elementary school clinics in Kamloops and surrounding areas in April and one clinic in February for High Schools as well as one clinic for the Kamloops/Thompson Teachers' Association on a pro d day. Pacific Sport hosted Explore Sport Camps which Jarett coached.

Registration was somewhat of a challenge as we continued to train in the bunker and Memorial Arena for the last winter after seven consecutive winters. Registration continues to climb with the midget age group as the majority of athletes training. Jarett went to Merritt and ran a 10 week introductory program in track and field from January to March from grades 4-7 with 50 elementary school aged students participating. Jarett continued to support Kamloops and outlying areas with on going clinics, and coaching on professional development days within the school district.

February we hosted our Officials Annual Spaghetti Dinner with over 20 in attendance including BC Athletics Chair John and Carol Cull who had put on a level 2 clinic during the day.

March /April again were busy months with the 9<sup>th</sup> annual manure sale being a success and again we were able to support coach's wages due to the success of this sale. April we hosted the throws meet with it better than the year before and we are hopeful that 2008 will have more participation as it has the potential to be a great meet. May was the Centennial Meet after an absence of almost three years and we held it on the long weekend but for 2008 it will be again back to the mothers day weekend due to the lack of accommodation for athletes. We promoted the new residence at TRU and the accommodation there is excellent and very inexpensive and a short walking distance to the track. We are hopeful this meet will be more successful in 2008.

We were able to apply for government funding and receive two students to coach and help with the administration duties this year which was very helpful as we tried to increase membership by being at all local elementary school and high school meets as well as the Cross Country events. We moved all of our equipment from the bunker to the stadium during the summer.

In June we held the BC Senior Junior Juvenile Championship meet and July saw us host the BCJD Championships which was a huge success and the accolades were many through email. Our club hosted socials for our officials for both championships and the Centennial Meet and we will continue to do so for the coming years as they were very appreciative and it is a get together promoting the team effort and the hard work and time volunteered to the club and the athletes. Officials continue to grow in the Kamloops area and thanks to Alwilda and Bob Cowden promoting these competitions locally and we are trying to get more as the Summer Games in Kelowna approaches this summer.

Dylan Armstrong was able to achieve a gold medal at the Pan American Games in Rio de Janeiro in July, and then go on to Osaka at the World Championships with Dr Bondarchuk (thanks to Athletics Canada for the support for Dr Bondarchuk) and place 9<sup>th</sup>

in the final in late August. Dylan also helped recruit high performance throws athletes and we are working towards a throwing centre supported by the City of Kamloops and Mayor Terry Lake as well as Pacific Sport and Athletics Canada. Kamloops will be well represented nationally and internationally this coming year with athletics coached by Dr. Bondarchuk. He was able to give 2 throws clinics this year one at the Athletics Canada Technical Congress and one in Grand Rapids Michigan where he recruited a discus thrower from Ontario who has now moved to Kamloops centre to train with other throwers under his direction. Dr Bondarchuk is now an IPS coach, though a bit of funding received from Pacific Sport for his salary.

September Bruno Mazzotta started to run the cross country practices trying to generate more membership.

October saw us in the new indoor facility and we overcame most challenges that came our way regarding working together to gain reasonable access to the new indoor facility. Education was a big piece as we strive to put the athlete first and give them more opportunities not only to be coached at the highest level but to have competitions as well. We moved all of our gym equipment into a room that allowed throwers access and started to use the new indoor throws room. Thanks to Dylan Armstrong and Martin Bissinger (University of Washington) for recruiting more high performance athletes for Dr. Bondarchuk to coach here in our centre and we currently have 14 throwers in Kamloops at the higher level with more committed to come in the future.

In November we hosted “An Evening with Gary Reed” in which we raised almost five thousand dollars. The track and field and business community came out to support this event and the venue was packed to hear Gary speak. We introduced all the throwers to the community and thanks go to the many businesses in Kamloops who helped make this event a success, namely Doug Wittal from DW Builders and Rick Kurzak from Home Hardware. Mayor Terry Lake presented Gary Reed with a “Sprit of Kamloops” scarf and we thank the many people who attended and supported this event and we are looking forward to doing this again in the future.

In October a presentation was made to the Valley view Overlander Lions Club to secure funding for the first Kamloops Indoor Relay Fest, promoting fun and fitness for all elementary school grades 4-7 scheduled to run on March 11, 2008. The Lions Club will supply new pinnies and medals plus volunteer at this event. We are hoping this will be a success to promote participation in the schools.

Pacific Sport continues to support their mandate, “keeping heroes at home” by providing athletes with financial support from the Kamloops Blazer Foundation, thanks in part toCarolynn Boomer, Manager of Pacific Sport and the board supporting athletes. Thanks also go to the City Of Kamloops for working with us maintaining consistent support throughout our struggles to have throwing circles built, generous access to the multi-use facility, indoors and out and support during our manure sale. Special thanks to Parks and Rec Director Byron McCorkell , Scott Hartman, Rec Facilities Manager and Sean Smith, Tournament Capital Coordinator for their patience and support during this time.

Kamloops will host its first indoor championships this Feb 15-17 and as we move forward we are currently working with the City of Kamloops and have put in a bid to host the World Indoor Masters in March 2010.

Our future looks exciting and our membership will increase due to the facilities and the community supports our events as we strive to take our club to a higher level.

Respectfully submitted by

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LSO Pacific Sport  
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