

# Challenges and Synergies Wheelchair Athletics



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# BC Wheelchair Sports Association

- \* BCWSA is the PSO for wheelchair athletics, wheelchair rugby, and wheelchair tennis in BC
- \* Programs/services include:
  - \* Awareness/First Involvement Opportunities
  - \* Wheelchair Loan Program
  - \* Weekly Training Opportunities
  - \* HP Clinics
  - \* Provincial Team Support
  - \* Provincial Coach Support



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# Developing Athletes

- \* While BCWSA is the PSO for wheelchair athletics, it is an integrated sport at a National level and developing athletes is impacted by the able-bodied system in multiple areas:
  - \* Coaching
  - \* Daily Training Environment (particularly for regions)
  - \* Local competition pathway & officiating



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# Coaching Development

- \* One of the biggest areas of synergy between BCA & BCWSA that would impact para athletes
- \* Improving coach education was beneficial to both organizations and both recognized numerous gaps in the current pathway
  - \* Lack of resource materials for coaches
  - \* Lack of training that focused on para
  - \* Lack of knowledge in LF's to teach about para
  - \* Lack of knowledge & comfort level for coaches working with para athletes
  - \* Lack of equipment to facilitate training sessions



# Collaborative Approach – BCWSA/BCA/BCWBS



- \* Assessed current resources in the programs
- \* Attended training events held by each organization for great understanding of current delivery model
- \* Identified ways to increase knowledge and comfort level of LF's and coaches
- \* Accessed existing partnerships/equipment to facilitate training opportunities



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# Outcomes

- \* Course Manuals Developed (Para Throws Manual and Wheel Workshop Manual)
- \* BCWSA Coach Staff & Regional Coaches working towards LF status for NCCP Course
- \* Delivery model created for both courses
- \* Majority of RJTW LF's Trained in Wheel Module Workshop and are now starting to deliver training in courses
- \* 5 Clubs with seated throws equipment through BCA Bursary
- \* NCCP Technical Course for Wheelchair Athletics delivered in Victoria
- \* 6 Clubs engaged in providing adaptive programming



# Challenges & Synergies – Club Level

- \* Daily Training Environment for Regional Athletes



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Questions/Comments?



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