



LIFESAVING SOCIETY

*The Lifeguarding Experts*

## Lifesaving Sport Report

May 2006 – May 2007

*Prepared by Doug Ferguson, Sport Commissioner*

---

### Introduction

The International Olympic Committee and the Commonwealth Games Federation both recognize the International Life Saving Federation (ILS) as the world governing body for lifesaving sport. The Lifesaving Society represents Canada in ILS and is the governing body for lifesaving sport in Canada. Our lifesaving sport objectives are:

1. To support the humanitarian mission and drowning prevention work of the Lifesaving Society.
2. To provide athletes, coaches and officials with opportunities for participation in lifesaving sport at all levels from developmental to high performance.
3. To position Canada internationally as a leader in lifesaving sport.

### Organizational development

- As the designated governing body for lifesaving sport in Canada, the Lifesaving Society needed to establish a formal organizational structure for the management of the sport.

The national board of directors approved the incorporation of Lifesaving/Sauvetage Canada as the national sport organization (NSO) to manage lifesaving sport for the Society. The national board of directors appointed the first three directors (Victoria Hemming, President; Karen Genge, Treasurer; Karen O'Neill, Secretary), and approved the content of a formal service agreement that will define the relationship between *Lifesaving/Sauvetage Canada* and the Royal Life Saving Society Canada.

On January 15–16, 2007, an important national meeting was held to establish the National Sport Commission that will manage lifesaving sport under the direction of Lifesaving/Sauvetage Canada Board of Directors. The results of this meeting are presented in the *Lifesaving Sport in Canada* report.

This meeting brought together 25 experienced representatives of the existing national Lifesaving Sport system, the national office and eight provinces. Their report documents guidelines and recommendations on the following:

- National Sport Commission's Terms of Reference
- Athlete representation
- Sport Commission activity centers and administrative support
- Nominees for the position of Sport Commissioner, managers and portfolio chairs
- National Lifesaving Team selection process
- Canadian Championship evolution

At the inaugural Lifesaving/Sauvetage Canada Board of Directors meeting on April 30, 2006, the directors approved:

- The service agreement between the RLSSC and LSC.
- The *Lifesaving Sport in Canada* report establishing the National Sport Commission and its Terms of Reference.
- The slate of officers for Sport Commissioner – Patricia Kitchen – and activity centre Managers:
  - Jeff Arthurs – Athletes Council
  - Brian Connors – Leadership
  - Paul D'Eon – Technical Services
  - Kathleen Finn – Event Management
  - Yannick Graveline – High Performance
  - Sheri Krauss – Support Services
  - Judith Shim – Funds Development
  - Heather Straight – Athlete Services

### TYR Canadian Junior Lifeguard Games

- The **6<sup>th</sup> annual TYR Canadian Junior Lifeguard Games (Pool)** were hosted by Dalhousie University and the Nova Scotia Branch at Dalplex Aquatic Centre, May 21, 2006. There were 3 teams (9 competitors: 7 female, 2 male). The 2006 champions are Team Alberta.
- The **5<sup>th</sup> annual TYR Canadian Junior Lifeguard Games (Surf)** were hosted by the Manitoba Branch and ERRS Inc. at Grand Beach on August 25, 2006. There was 1 team (1 male competitor). The 2006 champions are Mississauga Lifesaving Club.

## Canadian Masters Lifesaving Championships

- The 5<sup>th</sup> Canadian Masters Lifesaving Championship (Pool) was hosted by Dalhousie University and the Nova Scotia Branch at Dalplex Aquatic Centre May 19–21, 2006. There were 3 competitors – 2 female and 1 male.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> Canadian Masters Surf Lifesaving Championship was hosted by the Manitoba Branch and ERRS Inc. at Grand Beach on August 26–27, 2006. There were 4 male competitors.

## Canadian Lifeguard Championships

- The **30<sup>th</sup> annual Canadian Lifeguard Championship** (CLC) was hosted by Dalhousie University and Nova Scotia Branch at the Dalplex Aquatic Centre in Halifax, Nova Scotia, May 19–21, 2006. There were 15 teams (90 competitors: 43 female, 47 male). The 2006 champions are Équipe du Québec Qui-vive Aquam. Pentathlon winners were: Christie Smith, Upper Canada Lifesaving Club, and Nelson Giraldo, Équipe du Québec Qui-vive Aquam.

CLC officials were: Meet Manager, Paul D'Eon; Host Representatives, Pat McGrath and John Strickey; Head Referee, Bruce Cox; Deputy Referee, Kathy Town; Sectional Referees, Troy Awid, Marc Lambert, Mike Melenchuk, Alanna Robinson, Shanna Reid, and Lorraine Wilson Saliba; Athlete Liaison, Nathalie Vallières Loy; Head Scorer, Wendy Mahony; Appeals Committee, Perry Smith, Paul D'Eon, and Doug Ferguson.

- The **7<sup>th</sup> annual Canadian Surf Lifesaving Championship** was hosted by the Manitoba Branch and ERRS Inc. at Grand Breach on August 26-27, 2006. There were 12 teams (91x competitors: 41 female, 50 male). The 2006 champions are Équipe du Québec-Aquam. Pentathlon winners were: Christie Smith, Upper Canada Lifesaving Club, and Jason Cross, Team Telus.

Championship officials were: Meet Managers, Kevin Tordiffe and Paul D'Eon; Head Referee, Perry Smith; Deputy Referee, Mike Melenchuk; Sectional Referees, Anne Thibault, Derek Krauss, Marc Lambert, Sheri Krauss, and Eric Girard; Head Scorer, Wendy Mahony; Appeals Committee, Doug Ferguson.

## Commonwealth Lifesaving Championships

- The 2006 Commonwealth Lifesaving Championships were held September 24–30, 2006 in Bath, England. Canada's National Lifesaving Team took the overall bronze medal and Canada's Development Team took silver.

- Over 250 athletes from around the world participated in Bath. Commonwealth Lifesaving Championships are open to one National Team and one Development Team per nation. Development Team members must never have been on a National Team and must never have represented any nation in international lifesaving competition.
- National Lifesaving Team athletes representing Canada were: (men) Jeff Arthurs (AB), Ryan Ferguson (ON), Nelson Giraldo (PQ), Marc Prud'homme (ON), William Walters (BC); (women) Jennifer Ellison (ON), Gail Findlay-Shirras (BC), Teri Share (ON), Christie Smith (ON).
- Development Team athletes representing Canada were: (men) Jean-Michel Fortin (PQ), Alex Griffith (ON), Trent Mckee (AB), Brent Mcleod (ON), Dan Minster (BC); (women) Zuzana Benkova (BC), Renata Jaciw-Zurakowsky (ON), Melissa Rydahl (ON), Allyson Tayler (ON), Jennifer Winfield (AB).

#### National Teams Results

- Over the 10 championship events – 9 race events plus the Simulated Emergency Response Competition (SERC) – Australia scored 456 points to take overall gold. South Africa (439 points) took silver ahead of Canada (415 points).
- Canada (Jeff Arthurs, Ryan Ferguson, Nelson Giraldo, Christie Smith) took the silver medal in the SERC event. In race events, Canada's National Team earned 4 gold, 2 silver and 7 bronze medals:

##### *200m Obstacle Swim*

**Silver** – Gail Findlay-Shirras; **Bronze** – Will Walters

##### *100m Manikin Carry with Fins*

**Gold** – Marc Prud'homme

##### *100m Manikin Tow with Fins*

**Gold** – Gail Findlay-Shirras; **Bronze** – Jennifer Ellison;

**Gold** – Marc Prud'homme

##### *200m Super Lifesaver*

**Gold** – Will Walters

##### *Line Throw*

**Bronze** – Ryan Ferguson and Will Walters

##### *4 x 25 Manikin Relay*

**Bronze** – Jennifer Ellison, Gail Findlay-Shirras, Teri Share, Christie Smith

*4 x 50 Obstacle Relay*

**Silver** – Jennifer Ellison, Gail Findlay-Shirras, Teri Share, Christie Smith

**Bronze** – Jeff Arthurs, Nelson Giraldo, Marc Prud'homme, Will Walters

*4 x 50 Medley Relay*

**Bronze** – Jennifer Ellison, Gail Findlay-Shirras, Teri Share, Christie Smith;

**Bronze** – Jeff Arthurs, Nelson Giraldo, Marc Prud'homme, Will Walters

### Development Teams Results

- In the Development Teams Division, South Africa took gold with 497 points ahead of Canada (455 points) and Australia (435 points).
- Canada (Jean-Michel Fortin, Brent Mcleod, Dan Minster, Melissa Rydahl) took the bronze medal in SERC. In race events, Canada's Development Team earned 2 gold, 3 silver and 8 bronze medals:

*200m Obstacle Swim*

**Silver** – Renata Jaciw-Zurakowsky

*50m Manikin Carry*

**Bronze** – Jean Michel Fortin

*100m Manikin Carry with Fins*

**Bronze** – Allyson Tayler; **Bronze** – Brent Mcleod

*100m Manikin Tow with Fins*

**Silver** – Brent Mcleod

*200m Super Lifesaver*

**Bronze** – Renata Jaciw-Zurakowsky; **Silver** – Brent Mcleod

*Line Throw*

**Bronze** – Melissa Rydahl and Renata Jaciw-Zurakowsky

*4 x 25 Manikin Relay*

**Bronze** – Jean-Michel Fortin, Alex Griffith, Brent Mcleod, Dan Minster

*4 x 50 Obstacle Relay*

**Gold** – Zuzana Benkova, Renata Jaciw-Zurakowsky, Melissa Rydahl, Jennifer Winfield; **Bronze** – Jean-Michel Fortin, Alex Griffith, Trent Mckee, Dan Minster

*4 x 50m Medley Relay*

**Gold** – Zuzana Benkova, Renata Jaciw-Zurakowsky, Melissa Rydahl, Jennifer Winfield; **Bronze** – Jean-Michel Fortin, Alex Griffith, Brent Mcleod, Dan Minster

- Mission staff for the Canadian delegation included: Barbara Kusyanto (chef de mission); Shanna Reid and Chris Lindsay (co-team managers); Raynald Hawkins (national team director); Lorraine Wilson-Saliba (officials).
- The next international outing for Canadian lifesaving competitors is the 2008 World Lifesaving Championships in Berlin. The Lifesaving Society hosts the next Commonwealth Lifesaving Championships in 2009 in Edmonton, Alberta.

## Leadership development

### *Officials*

- Canadian officials at the 2006 Commonwealth Lifesaving Championships were: Perry Smith (championship referee), Lorraine Wilson-Saliba, Cynthia Cakebread, Michelle Lipkus and Charlene Pugh. Doug Ferguson participated as a member of the Appeals Committee.
- The Lifesaving Society's 3-level Officials Certification Program continues to roll out in British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia.

### *Coaching*

- The Society's 3-level Coaching Certification Program continues in development. Reference materials include: Level 1 Coach Workbook; draft Level 2 Coach Workbook; draft *Coaching Lifesaving* – the technical reference for levels 1, 2, and 3; draft Level 1 and Level 2 Coach Trainer Notes; Level 1 Coach Skills DVD.  
  
The National Coaching Committee reviewed Coach Level 1 content and ran the first Coach Level 2 course on November 3–4, 2006 in Richmond Hill, Ontario.  
  
The National Coaching Committee consists of: Jason Cross (NS); Chris Read, Jeff Arthurs (AB); Ron Straight, Ron Thompson, Anne Benn, Joy Hollingdale (BC); Jennifer Knights, Charlene Pugh, Shanna Reid, Perry Smith, Brian Connors, Brian Miess (ON); Rebecca Girard, Marc Lambert (PQ); and Judy Kent (chair).
- The Society registered as a member of True Sport and will incorporate its principles into the National Coach and Officials Training Programs.

## Technical services

- Canada produced the 2006 edition of the RLSS *Commonwealth Competition Manual*.
- Canada is coordinating the publication of the 4<sup>th</sup> edition (July 2007) of the *ILS Competition Manual*.
- The first draft of the *Canadian Meet Manager Manual* is complete.

## Athlete services

- Jason Cross represented the Society at the AthletesCAN Forum held in New Brunswick, September 28–October 1, 2006. He prepared a thorough report and recommendations for consideration by the Sport Commission.
- Paula Stevens and Brian Miess attended the Petro-Canada Sport Leadership conference in Vancouver (November 2006) that focused on long-term athlete development. Lifesaving Sport's LTAD model was drafted by Jason Cross.

## Event management

- In 2006, Troy MacArthur completed the first draft of the *Meet Mangers Manual – a* guide to organizing and operating lifesaving sport competitions in Canada.
- Barbara Kusyanto, in the role of Chef de mission for the Commonwealth Lifesaving Championship and Conference, developed a model for the coordination of Canadian delegates and competitors attending international championships.

## Strategic relationships

- Canada is a voting member of ILS Sport Commission's Technical & Rules Committee. Perry Smith represents Canada on this committee.
- In 2006, Jeff Arthurs was appointed chair of the newly formed ILS Athletes Committee.
- Canada is a voting member of the RLSS Commonwealth Sport Committee. Barbara Kusyanto represents Canada on this committee.
- Since 2004, TYR Sport has sponsored the Society's Officials Certification Program.

## Next steps

- Host the first meeting of the National Sport Commission to appoint portfolio chairs and establish work plans.
- Complete the long-term athlete development model and standardize across Canada with all provinces.
- Complete the 2007 editions of the *ILS Competition manual*, *Commonwealth Competition Manual* and *Canadian Competition Manual*.
- Finalize the content of the National Coaching Certification Program Level 2 and 3.