



Canadian Baton Twirling Federation

La Fédération Canadienne de Baton Sportif

President's Report – AGM July 2012

We sent a contingent of 60 athletes, 16 coaches and 3 judges to the 2011 International Cup in Jacksonville, Florida – our largest contingent to an International Cup. Travelling with the athletes and coaches was a very vocal group of over 80 friends and family – they made themselves heard anytime a Canadian was on the floor. It was wonderful having such a loud and supportive group along. Complete results are available on the www.cbtf.ca website (<http://www.cbtf.ca/ic2011/results>).

On March 11, 2011, Japan was struck by a devastating earthquake and tsunami. As a result, the Japan SportBaton Association cancelled its own National Championships and IC Selection competitions. As well, many WBTF member countries undertook fundraising efforts to help the baton twirling community in Japan with their recovery. The CBTF/USTA 'Wristbands for Japan' campaign and the CBTF 'Twirling for Japan' relief shirt campaign were two examples. At the International Cup in Jacksonville, Aiko Takayama of the JSBA was presented with the results of those fundraising efforts. I have included the December 2011 update from the JSBA on their recovery efforts (Recovering from the Disaster.pdf).

This year's Canadian Team Trials were held in Barrie, Ontario and were hosted by the Ontario Baton Twirling Association. The OBTA created a new Open competition, the Trillium Invitational, that was held in conjunction with our Team Trials. In addition to the obvious financial benefits for our Team Trials, the Trillium Invitation was a well-attended Open and it provided a wonderful opportunity for the athletes to meet and compete against others from across the country.

Planning for the upcoming World Championships in Villebon sur Yvette, France is virtually complete. We will be sending a strong contingent of 18 athletes, 2 judges and 7 coaches, along with over 25 family and other supporters. Steven Kopas was appointed Team Manager. The Contingent athletes will attend the "Pride of Canada" Open Clinic as class assistants and will then attend a Training Clinic in the afternoon. This year, our new World Championship tracksuit will make its debut.

At our 2011 Fall Technical and Board meetings, a number of changes were approved that will affect our sport for years to come. Please take the time to become familiar with these changes and how they will affect the programs in your province and in your club:

1. The CBTF Skills Development Program has been updated – with some changes to existing badges, a brand new SDP video and new Specialty Badges in Rolls and 2-Baton.
2. Drop penalties were introduced for WBTF events at the 2012 Trials and will also be in effect for all CBTF Individual/Duet events beginning September 2012.
3. The new CBTF Grading System was piloted in Alberta and Saskatchewan, with great success. The program will now be rolled out to all provinces, beginning September 2012.
4. In support of the CBTF Progressional Model, the BN 7 age division was eliminated from the Canadian Winner/Championship competition for the 2012 Canadians and the BN 8 & BN 14-16 Duet divisions will be eliminated from the 2013 Canadians. Both age divisions will remain in the Canadian Open.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Johnson