



THE DAILY NEWS

2008 Canada Cup Newsletter

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IWRF Sport Assembly

This historic meeting saw the member countries vote their support of **the IWRF becoming an independent international sport federation.**

A number of rule changes were also considered with highlights that include the following:

- maximum 12 seconds to cross half once the offensive team gains possession;
- maximum 40 seconds to score once the ball is touched on court;
- each team is allowed 4 x 30 second time outs + 2 x 60 second time outs on dead balls that can only be called by the coach;
- 2 minute pause between 1st and 2nd period and the 3rd and 4th periods;
- the formation of a new commission to review the classification system;
- teams will be allowed an additional 0.5 points on court for every female athlete on court;
- harsher penalties for flagrant fouls.

These rules changes, and others, will go in to effect **after** the Beijing Paralympics Games, and are mandatory for sanctioned events only.

Countries still have the option of establishing rules that are appropriate at each level of competition. We'll highlight more changes from the Sport Assembly in the next issue.

Americas Zone Meeting

For the very first time, sport representatives from Canada and the United States met with their counterparts from Argentina, Brazil and Columbia, along with members of the IWRF Americas Zone executive and members from the IWRF Executive Committee to chart the course of development in the zone.

Agreement was reached on the need for a 2009 Zonal Championship. This event will likely be held in Argentina. However, a group of volunteers, led by John Bishop, is prepared to support a contingency option in South Florida. Expressions of interest are due by July 15th. The sport representatives from the developing countries expressed a great deal of enthusiasm and desire to support one another to overcome the common obstacles they share. All three were very pleased to learn that both Canada and the United States are willing to help spur their growth through participation in various clinics, demos, and events run in South America. Columbia is preparing to host a "South American" event that will include Mexico and participants/leaders from Canada and the US.

SOUVENIRS, ANYONE?

Looking for a souvenir from Canada Cup? Beginning Friday, a Canada Cup Boutique will be on site.