

*British Columbia Table Tennis Association newsletter Vol. 2, No. 3
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Stephen Li, shown here with his trophy for winning the Richmond Open last year, took a big step up recently with a victory in the men's singles at the Canada Cup event September 20-21, in Laval, Quebec. He defeated Olympian Peter-Paul Pradeeban in the final. Andre Ho finished fifth.

15 year old Pierre-Luc Theriault of St. Fabien, Quebec continued his winning ways with his second Cadet Singles title at El Salvador on the ITTF World Junior circuit.

The Beijing Olympics

There were four events—Men's and Women's Singles, Men's and Women's teams. Teams were played first and the gym was buzzing with excitement, charts and music from the first day onward. Mascots were present to entertain the spectators between sessions.

The team competition, held in the Olympics for the first time, was held in two stages. The first stage was Round Robin with four groups of four. In the second stage the four winning teams played knockout toward the Gold and Silver medals. The losers played in a knockout with the second place teams to compete for the bronze medal. A team match was called a contest, with each contest consisting of four singles and one doubles match. All matches in the teams were best of five.

The Canadian men's team representing the North American zone finished eleventh, while the USA women's team finished 5th-6th. China not surprisingly won gold in both the men's and women's. Silver medals in the team event went to Singapore (women) and Germany (men). Korea won bronze in both the team events.

China swept all medals in the singles. Lin Ma, Hao Wang and Liqin Wang took gold, silver and bronze in the men's event, while Yining Zhang, Nan Wang and Yue Guo did the same in the women's.

The individual matches started with lower rated players being placed in stages of preliminary events and seeded players did not have to play for the first

two days. Matches were hotly contested from the very first day. It was a pleasure to meet several Canadian supporters including Lan Wang, Fiona Yu and Alice Chiu—former Team BC players—and Andrew Gibbon. Several dignitaries attended the matches from time to time including Bill Gates, Mr. Hu, and Mr. Rogge.

In the singles Judy Long lost to Fabiola Ramos of Venezuela. Mo Zhang defeated Paula Medina of Colombia before losing to Tatyana Kostromina of Belarus. Peter- Paul Pradeeban lost in seven games to Gustavo Tsuboi of Brazil and Wilson Zhang defeated Dexter St. Louis of Trinidad before losing to Seiya Kishikawa of Japan in six games.

The event was held in the Peking University Gym where the 6,000 seats were sold out weeks in advance. Thanks to the Chinese Table Tennis Association, BOCOG, the ITTF and the sponsors for a fine event. Special thanks to ITTF President Adham Sharara who was always alert and available to participate in solving my perceivable problems.

--Chandra Madhosingh

In the recent Olympics, perhaps in an attempt to boost international interest, the table tennis federation asked female ping pong players to wear shirts and skirts to show off their curves.

Table Tennis on Film

Oscar winning director Jessica Yu has completed a feature length comedy, “Ping Pong Playa” in which Christopher ‘C-Dub’ Wang, played by Jimmy Tsai, takes over his mother’s ping pong classes when his parents are injured in an accident. Reviews have been highly favourable, “The film finds a way to tell its story and embellish its characters while poking gentle fun at Asian overachievers and white people’s obliviousness about Asian culture.”

Christopher’s father tells him “China produced four great inventions: paper, the compass, gunpowder and the printing press. But people forget about the fifth great invention: pingpong!” Sounds like a great movie for the whole family—charming and well written—hopefully available somewhere on DVD.

Upcoming Tournaments

Edmonton Open, November 1, 2008
E-mail jgunraj@shaw.ca

Canada Cup Finals —Greater Vancouver Open, November 8-9 TBC

Regard a Ping-Pong ball as the head of your capitalist enemy. Hit it with your socialist bat, and you have won the point for the fatherland.

--Mao Zedong

Player Profile



Marta Nykl, gold medal winner at the B.C. Seniors Games in the women's 70-74.

Marta grew up in Czechoslovakia where she played some table tennis, but only got into the competitive side of the sport about ten years ago. She was encouraged by winning gold at her first tournament, the 1997 BC Seniors Games in Port Alberni. Since then she has says there has been a great increase in the number and quality of players.

She credits the late Sonia Fynn with encouraging her to travel to tournaments. She did well at tournaments in Washington, but didn't stop there. This year will be her ninth at the Huntsman World Senior Games in Utah, where she has won a number of gold and silver medals. Last year she won gold at the U.S. Nationals Seniors Championship in Kentucky.

She competed in the European championships in Denmark in 2005 and Germany in 2007, and will be going to Porec, Croatia, next year. She finds the level of competition in Europe much higher than in North America.

At the World Veterans' Championships in Rio de Janeiro earlier

this year she finished about 7th or 8th. Out of eighty women in her age group, seventy-four were Japanese.

Marta enjoys traveling to events as it combines competition with a great way of making new friends. She plays three to four times a week, mostly at Sperling. The day after I talked she was on her way to Huntsman, where she will be joined by Karl Schwarz and Frances Visona. No doubt she is back by now with some more medals

Kwantlen League

Twenty-one teams are playing at Kwantlen College for three Saturdays ending October 25. The competition is an Olympic round robin format with three or more players on each team. The only restrictions on team composition are that the point total for all players must be under 3800. The top six teams will advance to the Canada Cup tournament in Vancouver in November where they will play a knockout event. Teams from Alberta and Ontario are also expected.



Zone 4 competitors at the BC Senior Games in Prince George

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

I have not been able to get results for the 2008 Sunrise VTTC New Address Grand Opening Tournament June 28-29 at the Vancouver Table Tennis Club. They will be in the next newsletter.

North American Championships

July 2-3, Las Vegas, Nevada

Junior Boys Andre Ho 1st Gold
Women's Singles Zhang Mo 2nd Silver
Men's Singles Wilson Zhang 2nd Silver

U.S. Open

July 3-5, 2008, Las Vegas, Nevada

U-11 Girls Leanne Lee 1st Gold

Stag Panamerican Junior Championships

July 7-10, Halifax

Junior Men Tony Liu 16th
Junior Men Andre Ho 10th
Junior Women Peggy Hsien 12th

Stiga Canadian Championships

July 11-18, Halifax

A large B.C. contingent brought home a good supply of hardware from the Canadian championships. Peggy Hsien took first in the U-15 girls' singles, first in the doubles with her

sister Paula, and first in the girls' team with Paula and Tiffany So. Andre Ho and Tony Liu took gold in the Boys' U-18 team. And Chang Poh proved that age is a state of mind, at least in table tennis, with triple gold in the over 40, 50 and 60 classes.

Results for BC are as follows:

Girls' Teams

U-18
Cynthia Tan/Carmen Lee 2nd Silver
U-15
Peggy Hsien/Paula Hsien/Tiffany So 1st Gold
U-13
Shirley Fu, Michelle Liaw, Jennifer Shi, Brittany So 2nd Silver
U-11
Leanne Lee/Natasha Carr Harris 3rd Bronze

Girls' Singles

U18 Carmen Lee 3rd Bronze
Paula Hsien 4th
Cynthia Tan 5^h
Tiffany So 5th
Peggy Hsien 5th
U-15 Peggy Hsien 1st Gold
Paula Hsien 4th
Tiffany So 5th
Shirley Fu 5th
Brittany So 6th
Michelle Liaw 6th
U-13 Shirley Fu 2nd Silver
Michelle Liaw 5th
Leanne Lee 5th
Brittany So 5th
Jennifer Shi 6th
U-11 Leanne Lee 4th

Girls' Doubles

U-18 Carmen Lee/Cynthia Tan 2nd Silver

U-15 Peggy Hsien/Paula Hsien
1st Gold
U-13 Shirley Fu/Michelle Liaw
2nd Silver
Brittany So/Jennifer Shi 4th
U-11 Leanne Lee/Natasha Carr Harris
2nd Silver

Boys' Teams

U-18 Andre Ho/Tony Liu 1st Gold
U-15 Teddy Wu/James Fan/George Ma
3rd Bronze
U-13 Adrian Lee/Kenneth Zhong
2nd Silver
U-11 Michael Luo/Mike Yue/Anthony
Shi/Jiaqi Shao 3rd Bronze

Boys' Singles

U-11 Mike Yue 3rd Bronze
Anthony Shi 4th
U-13 Adrian Lee 4th
Lester Lee 5th
Kenneth Zhong 5th
Andy Yao 6th
Jiaqi Shao 6th
Mike Yue 6th
Ari Nitikman 6th
Michael Luo 6th
Anthony Shi 6th
U-15 Teddy Wu 3rd Bronze
James Fan 4th
Kevin Tang 4th
Adrian Lee 4th
George Ma 5th
James Fan 5th
Kenneth Zhong 5th
Andy Yao 6th
Ari Nitikman 6th
U-18 Andre Ho 2nd Silver
Tony Liu 4th
James Fan 5th

Boys' Doubles

U-18 Andre Ho/Tony Liu 3rd Bronze
U-15 Teddy Wu/James Fan 2nd Silver
George Ma/Kevin Tang 4th
U-13 Andy Yao/Lester Lee 4th
Adrian Lee/Kenneth Zhong 4th
U-11 Mike Yue/Michael Luo 2nd Silver
Anthony Shi/Jiaqi Shao 3rd Bronze

Mixed Doubles

U-18 Carmen Lee/George Ma 2nd Silver
Cynthia Tan/James Fan 5th
Paula Hsien/Kevin Tang 5th
Tiffany So/Teddy Wu 6th
U-13 Shirley Fu/Adrian Lee 2nd Silver
Jennifer Shi/Lester Lee 5th
Michelle Liaw/Keneth Zhong 5th
Natasha Carr-Harris 6th
BrittanySo/Andy Yao 6th
Leanne Lee/Anthony Shi 6th

Seniors

Women's B Carmen Lee 5th
1st in division
Women's C Cynthia Tan 9th
1st in division
Men's team
Dan Poh/Tony Liu/Andre Ho/Peter Chiu
2nd Silver
Women's Team
Carmen Lee/Peggy Hsien/Paula Hsien
5th

Women's Doubles

Carmen Lee/Cynthia Tan 4th
Peggy Hsien/Paula Hsien 5th

Mixed Doubles

Peter Chiu/Carmen Lee 3rd Bronze
Tony Liu/Peggy Hsien 5th
Dan Poh/Cynthia Tan 5th

U-21 Men

Andre Ho	3 rd	Bronze
Tony Liu	4 th	

U-21 Women

Peggy Hsien	4 th
Carmen Lee	4 th

Men's Singles

Tony Liu	5 th
Dan Poh	5 th
Peter Chiu	5 th

Veteran

Over 40	Chang Poh	1 st	Gold
Over 50	Chang Poh	1 st	Gold
	Tim Chun Kan Fu	4 th	
Over 60	Chang Poh	1 st	Gold

Paralympic Event

July 11-13, 2008

Standing Disabled

Masoud Mojtahed	3 rd	Bronze
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2008 CBA Cup: Senior Day Open Table Tennis Tournament

Sponsored by CBA Alarms and Sunrise Market
August 31, 2008 Bridgeport Sports Club

An enthusiastic group of 45 over 55s, 34 men and 11 women, turned out for this event. In the Men's A group Kevin Mak won out over Poh Chang in four games. The women's A group saw Lucy Orr upset highly favoured Parello Smith, winning 11-9 in the final fifth game.

In the men's B King Lam defeated Eddie To in four games and in the women's B it was Susie Tiang over Susan Chow, also in four games.

The atmosphere of keen but friendly competition made this a highly enjoyable event. Everyone looks forward to another tournament next year.

Team Event

Bridgeport Sports Club
August 31, 2008

Twenty-seven two person events made this a highly successful and hotly contested event. Than Le and Peter le came out top in the A event, while Dai Chun Ping and Mike Ye were victors in the B event.

BC Seniors Games Prince George, September 10-13



Competition at the BC Seniors Games in the women's 60-64: Margaret McConnell and Susan Chow.

The following are the gold, silver and bronze winners in each event of the BC Seniors Games, and their home towns.

Next year it's Richmond. That should make for an awesome competition

Competitive Singles

Men's 55-59

1. Jimmy Yang Victoria

Women's 55-59

1. Eva Zhang Victoria

2. Sharlene Chen Victoria

Men's 60-64

1. Fred Kong Victoria

2. Lo Ming Lee Vancouver

3. Alfred Wong Burnaby

Women's 60-64

1. Willy Woo Vancouver

2. Susan Chow Burnaby

3. Kitty Tong Vancouver

Men's 65-69

1. Ken Lin Vancouver

2. Chang Poh Richmond

3. Won Kim Burnaby

Women's 65-69

1. Eva Lee Burnaby

2. Anne Grist Port Alberni

3. Frances Visona Burnaby

Men's 70-74

1. Dean Toye Vancouver

2. Don Burgess Surrey

3. Joseph Chiang Vancouver

Women's 70-74

1. Marta Nykl New Westminster

2. Joan Wells Victoria

3. Jenny Ho New Westminster

Men's 75-79

1. Karl Schwarz Delta

2. Charles Bedwell New Westminster

3. Tom Pickett Vancouver

Women's 75-79

1. Kathleen Quilter Victoria

2. Mary Anne Schuster Cecil Lake

3. Connie McGuiness North Vancouver

Men's 80+

1. Gilbert Thom Duncan

Women's 80+

1. Joan Lord Nanaimo

2. Georgie Smith Courtenay

Recreational Singles

Men's 55-59

1. Harry Luk Vancouver

2. David Metcalf Prince George

Women's 55-59

1. Angela Wong Burnaby

Men's 60-64

1. Dennis Chow Anglemont

2. Uwe Prade North Vancouver

3. Richard Dunstall Victoria

Women's 60-64

1. Beverley Cattrall-Porter Victoria

Men's 65-69

1. Foon Hon Kong Vancouver

2. David Cattrall Victoria

3. Peter Wessell Salmon Arm

Women's 65-69

1. Eira Lucas Fort St. John

2. Alice Kennedy Langley

3. Alice Spotswood Kelowna

Men's 70-74

1. Keith Davenport Charlie Lake

2. Paul Howes Langley

3. Theo Wendling Vancouver

Women's 70-74

1. Dorothy Dyer Charlie Lake

2. Selma Hooge Chilliwack

3. Marilyn Bryant Salmon Arm

Men's 75-79

1. Fung Yu Ching New Westminster

2. Leslie Quilter Victoria

Women's 75-79

1. Connie Nordhoff Coquitlam

2. Patricia Toppings Langley

3. Irene Large Fort St. John

Men's 80+

1. Gunter Prodohl Mill Bay

2. Jerry Navratil Pitt Meadows

3. Bill Haviland Salmon Arm

Women's 80+

1. Margot Tedder Maple Ridge

2. Freda Mertler



Dogwood Seniors ournament

September 28, Coquitlam

This year Wingjoe organized the first ever inter-club tournament for older, mostly senior players. Six person teams (four men and two women) from Dogwood, Edmonds, Bonsor and BC Hydro competed in men's doubles, mixed doubles, and men's and women's singles at the Dogwood Seniors' Centre in Coquitlam.

BC Hydro was the class of the competition, winning three of the four events. Alex Rosemann won the singles, Tony Jiao and Lily Yu took top honours in the mixed doubles, while Roland Hui and Pun Chu did the same in the men's doubles. Nancy Tang of Bonsor Community Centre won the women's singles.

All agreed that the organization and good fellowship along with some great competition made this a totally enjoyable event. Wingjoe's goal in originating this tournament of bringing together players from the different centers for good fellowship and good table tennis was certainly achieved. We all look forward to next year's event.

This newsletter is compiled and edited for the BCTTA by Francis Mansbridge. Please send any comments or suggestions to ttennis2006@yahoo.ca

Thanks to Eva Lee for photos of Marta Nykl and the Zone 4 competitors at the BC Senior Games, Tony Xu for the photo of Stephen Li, and to Wingjoe for the photo of the Dogwood tournament.