

The Blind Bowlers Association of Canada (BBAC) national championships held in Edmonton are now history. Nanaimo LBC was represented by 4 bowlers and 3 sighted helpers. There was also a bowler from Kelowna to complete the BC team. Our bowlers had to pay an overweight charge on the return flight because of the number of medals they brought home.

Dave Ruckman won 6 of his 7 games. He placed 1st in the round robin, won a silver medal in the A section playoff based on point difference and placed 3rd in the pairs event with a B1 bowler from Edmonton.

Gus Thorne, a totally blind bowler won 4 of his singles games, tied 1 and lost 2. Against partially sighted bowlers he won 2, tied 1 and lost 2. He placed 4th in the round robin section. He defeated the other B1 bowler twice by scores of 21 - 4 and 21 - 1. He was awarded the Bob Giesbrecht award as the top B1 in the competition. He won 2 games in the playoff round to win Silver. He then paired with a woman from Edmonton to win Gold in the pairs event.

Jay Gatley won 3 of his singles matches, tied won and lost 3. He won 2 games in the playoffs to win Silver in B section.

Marion Kalicum played in her first national competition. Her bowling came together in the pairs event where she contributed many scoring bowls to win Silver with a bowler from Montreal.

Lisa Binnie from Kelowna had a good round robin placing 5th winning 2 games and losing 2. She was in the tough A section of the playoffs and lost her 3 matches.

Lorrie Kobitz, Roelie Roos and Donn Sherry accompanied our bowlers to Edmonton.

Next year's competition will again be at the Commonwealth Bowling Club at the same time as the Lawn Bowls Canada singles will be held.

Our local VIP group would like to thank BC Blind Sports, Bowls BC, the North Island and Powell River district and all the members of Nanaimo LBC for their support of our program.