



CANADIAN DEAF SPORTS  
ASSOCIATION

# 2023-2024 ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

**April 1, 2023, to  
March 31, 2024**

Report presented at the  
Members' Annual General  
Meeting

on September 14, 2024, in  
Kananaskis, Alberta



# CONTENTS



**About the Association 3**

**Message from the President  
of the Board and Executive  
Director 4**

**Governance 5**

**2023-2024 Year in Review  
Indelible moments,  
indelible images 6**

**The Year in Sports at a Glance 8**

**Safe Sport 9**

**CDSA Sport Awards 9**

**Long-Term Athlete  
Development Program 10**

**Sports Events in  
2024-2025 11**



# ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION

## MISSION

The Canadian Deaf Sports Association (CDSA) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the development of high-performance Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing athletes. The CDSA supports its athletes' participation in international sport events sanctioned by the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf and the Pan American Sports Committee for the Deaf.

## VISION

The Canadian Deaf Sports Association (CDSA) is an organization that provides leadership to Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing athletes by investing in the development of their athletic skills and enhancing their ability to attain the podium at international sport events.

## CHARITY ORGANIZATION

The Canadian Deaf Sports Association is a Canadian amateur athletic association registered with the Canada Revenue Agency.

Registration Number (RN): 127556306  
Charity Number: 127556306RR0001

Searchable legal name registered with the Canada Revenue Agency: CANADIAN DEAF SPORTS ASSOCIATION, INC./L'ASSOCIATION DES SPORTS DES SOURDS DU CANADA, INC.

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Members and Partners,

We are now able to assert that the pandemic is over, with the CDSA returning to a completely normal pace of operations with its national teams in 2023-2024.

As this annual report shows, the CDSA has financed its national teams in no fewer than fifteen sporting events. It also highlights the contribution of sports award-winners and those who have helped to raise the profile of Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing sport in Canada.

Fiscal 2024-2025 will be the year of our new 5-year strategic plan. Hence, a great deal of work will be accomplished regarding our strategic orientations. Nonetheless, we are confident that support from affiliated members, provincial Deaf sports associations, and some thirty volunteers from the CDSA sports mission staff will ensure a bright future for developing a new generation of Canadian Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing athletes.

Of course, it is worth noting that the year ahead will feature two momentous celebrations: the 60th anniversary of the Association and the 100th anniversary of the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf, the international body that has enabled more than 600 Canadian Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing athletes to fulfil their dreams by participating in high-level competitions.

Sporting regards,



**Donald Prong**

President, Board of  
Directors



**Alain Turpin**

Executive Director



# GOVERNANCE

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Donald Prong, Chairman, Pickering, ON  
Grant Unterschultz, Treasurer, Edmonton, AB  
Nyla Kurylowich, Director, St-Albert, AB  
Shawna Joynt, Director, Winnipeg, MB  
John Gessner, Director, Winnipeg, MB

Term ending in

2023-2024  
2024-2025  
2023-2024  
2024-2025  
2024-2025

## ATHLETES' REPRESENTATIVES

Jamie Routledge, Winnipeg, MB  
Eric Nielson, Vancouver, BC

2025-2026  
2024-2025

## TEAM COACHES' AND MANAGERS' REPRESENTATIVE

Lois McIntyre, Ottawa, ON

2023-2024

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

The majority of the meetings were held via videoconferencing.

- May 24, 2023
- August 2, 2023
- September 23, 2023
- October 21, 2023
- November 2, 2023
- January 27, 2024 (in person in Brossard, Québec)



Board of Directors

5



Representatives

3



Meetings

6





# 2023-2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

INDELIBLE MOMENTS, INDELIBLE IMAGES









## THE YEAR IN SPORTS AT A GLANCE

The CDSA organized sporting events and sent national delegations to local, provincial, national, and international competitions.

<b>2</b> World Championships	<b>6</b> National Training Camps	<b>112</b> Canadian Athletes
<b>3</b> Canadian Championships	<b>3</b> Evaluation Camps	<b>8</b> Sports
<b>1</b> National Tournament		

MONTH	EVENT	LOCATION	NUMBER OF ATHLETES		
			TOTAL	FEMALE	MALE
April 2023	Volleyball Canada Senior Nationals	Gatineau, QC	<b>10</b>	10	0
April	Canadian Curling Championship	Morris, MB	<b>20</b>	0	20
May	National Tennis Training	Ottawa, ON	<b>2</b>	0	2
June	National Badminton Training	Calgary, AB	<b>2</b>	0	2
July	Canadian Golf Championship	Acheson, AB	<b>38</b>	4	34
July	National Beach Volleyball Training	Vancouver, BC	<b>4</b>	0	4
July	World Badminton Championships	Brazil	<b>2</b>	0	2
September	World Tennis Championships	Greece	<b>2</b>	0	2
October	Canadian Mixed Curling Championship	Boucherville, QC	<b>4</b>	2	2
January 2024	Table Tennis Evaluation Camp	Montreal, QC	<b>2</b>	0	2
January	Badminton Evaluation Camp	Gatineau, QC	<b>1</b>	0	1
January	National 3x3 Basketball Training	Saint-Lambert, QC	<b>5</b>	0	5
January	Tennis Evaluation Camp	Longueuil, QC	<b>2</b>	0	2
February	National Table Tennis Training	Montreal, QC	<b>2</b>	0	2
March	National Women's Volleyball Training	Edmonton, AB	<b>12</b>	12	0
2023-2024	Canadian Women's Curling Team	s.o.	<b>4</b>	4	0
Total number of athletes			<b>112</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>80</b>



Gender equality in sport and safe sport are important issues for Sport Canada. Accordingly, new funding for Canadian sport will be devoted to promoting the following priorities in the years ahead: harassment, abuse and discrimination, concussion, and anti-doping efforts.

The CDSA received funding from Sport Canada totalling \$7,500. In the past year, the CDSA undertook three (3) activities or initiatives for its community as a whole in the following areas:

- Preparing the transition from the independent third party of the CDSA to the Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner (OSIC)
- Pursuing the project to implement data on a PRIVIT platform (management tool) for athletes and members of national team mission staff

## CDSA SPORT AWARDS

These awards are presented every two years during the Deaflympic cycle (summer or winter) to athletes and national teams that have significantly contributed to Deaf sports in Canada.

From April 1, 2021, to March 31, 2023, a total of **240 Canadian athletes** took part in various competitions. There were **15 nominations** in all, and the CDSA awarded three sports prizes in the following categories:

- Best Female Athlete (5 nominees)
- Best Male Athlete (4 nominees)
- Best National Team (6 nominees)

Congratulations to the winners:

### **Sasha LAOUN (QC) | Golf**

- 5th at the Summer Deaflympics in Brazil, May 2022
- 2nd at the World Deaf Golf Championships, Hawaii, United States, October 2022

### **Russell BOWIE (ON) | Golf**

- Silver medallist at the Summer Deaflympics in Brazil in May 2022
- 2nd at the World Deaf Golf Championships, Hawaii, United States, October 2022

### **Canada's Men's Golf Team**

- Russell Bowie (ON) | Jason Plumb (ON) | Alexandre Ouellet (QC) | Ryan Mobberley (MB) | Jack Desroches (PE) | Sheldon Dueck (MB)
- 2nd in the team category at the World Deaf Golf Championships, Hawaii, USA, October 2022



## LONG-TERM ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

In 2020, the Alberta Deaf Sports Association (ADSA) and the CDSA signed an agreement to support youths across Canada who wish to participate in sports activities. In the fourth year of a ten-year agreement, the ADSA granted the CDSA an annual sum of \$3,000 for its long-term athlete development (LTAD) projects.

The CDSA is proud to present four outstanding athletes who have the potential to represent Canada at the 2025 Deaflympics in Japan.



**FALON ELISE MCLOUGHLAN**  
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR  
**VOLLEYBALL**  
AGE: 14

“My aspirations would be to perform at the best of my ability in order to make my family, friends, coaches, teammates, province, country and sport proud. To also hopefully bring home a medal!”



**KATHRYN ROBINSON**  
ONTARIO  
**FREESTYLE WRESTLING**  
AGE: 17

“To compete against other wrestlers and represent Canada the best that I can. The competitions that I participate in now have no Deaf athletes and this would be a new and welcome experience.”



**JÉRÔME BLANCHETTE**  
QUEBEC  
**TABLE TENNIS**  
AGE: 23

“I keep focused on my ultimate goal, which is to become the best Deaf table tennis player in the world.”



**KAÏ HACHE**  
ONTARIO  
**BADMINTON**  
AGE: 19

“In addition to gaining international experience, I want to proudly represent the Franco-Ontarian community and Canada.”

**LTAD  
PROGRAM**

Annual sum  
**\$3,000**

Athletes  
**4**



# SPORTS EVENTS IN 2024-2025

The CDSA's provincial and national teams will compete at the following events:

## INTERNATIONAL ICE HOCKEY INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

Buffalo, United States  
April 10 to 14, 2024



## CANADA DEAF GAMES

Toronto, Ontario  
May 6 to 11, 2024



## WORLD DEAF GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Brisbane, Australia  
August 25 to 29, 2024



## WORLD DEAF SAILING CHAMPIONSHIP

Nida, Lithuania  
September 5 to 10, 2024



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES FOR THE DEAF

Canoa, Brazil  
November 10 to 17, 2024



## 3X3 BASKETBALL WORLD CUP

Gallaudet University, Washington, DC, United States  
December 10 to 14, 2024





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