



BIG COUNTRY SENIOR SPORTS SOCIETY

CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2022

Hope you are all staying warm and active this winter season. It is a very busy but fun time of year and we all need to take time to relax and enjoy good times with family and friends. With the **Summer Games** happening in Brooks on August 17-20, 2023, we have been busy setting up qualifiers from March to May. Following is a list of what has been proposed and most of these dates have been confirmed. Top performers from these qualifiers will be eligible to go to the Canada 55 Plus Games in Quebec City in August of 2024. These games were originally planned for Trois Rivieres but have been changed to Quebec City and will take place towards the end of August, 2024.

March 4, Saturday	Pool 8 Ball	Drumheller
March 11, Saturday	Contract Bridge	Strathmore
March 16, Thursday	Cribbage	Irricana
March 25, Saturday	Floor Shuffleboard	Cochrane
April 4, Tuesday	Swimming	Calgary
April 8, Saturday	Cornhole	Strathmore
April 12, Wednesday	Military Whist	Strathmore
April - tbd	Horseshoes	Calgary
April 29, Saturday	Pickleball 3.5 and up	Cochrane
May - tbd	Track & Field	Calgary
May 13, Saturday	Bocce	Cochrane
May - tbd	Cycling	Calgary
May 25, Thursday	Golf	Turner Valley

The other qualifiers for the Quebec City games will be from the **Winter Activities**, which will take place in late 2023 and early 2024. As no town or area has stepped up to host these games, we will be having open events in each sport or activity in various parts of the province to determine provincial winners. So far our zone 2 is going to host Curling, Sturling and Badminton in early 2024. Hockey will be hosted by Zone 3, Calgary, in April 2023, along with Alpine Skiing at Nakiska and Cross Country Skiing in February 2024. Zone 4, Red Deer and Camrose area, will host Duplicate Bridge, Euchre, Floor Curling, Snooker and Culture. Zone 5 will host 5-Pin Bowling and Darts in St. Albert and Zone 6, Edmonton, will host Scrabble. Pickleball 3.49 and under will take place in Lloydminster in Zone 7.

For the hockey qualifiers in April, 2023, Zone 2's Lynn MacDonald is working feverishly to send up to five teams to compete in this provincial open event – Men's 60+, 65+ and 70+ and Women's 55+ and 60+. He has scheduled an evaluation skate for the 60+ and 65+ men's teams at the Crowchild twin arenas on Monday, January 9, 2023 at 1:30 pm. All those interested are invited to attend.

Even though we have not had many AB55+ events over the past few months, there has been a lot of activity in our senior centres, rec centres and legions. Irricana hosted a fun cribbage tournament in November and Cochrane hosted a Curling Bonspiel which attracted 140 curlers – ages 55 – 89, from Calgary west to Canmore. The Olds Legion was the location of a table shuffleboard event which drew 48 players in a lively round robin event.



These four curlers from Cochrane have an average age of 85.5. From left to right – Karl Gibbie, Henry Wilson, Bob Head and May Olson

It has recently been announced that the 2025 Alberta 55 Plus Summer Provincial Games has been awarded to Leduc, Alberta.

It is that time of year to purchase your 2023 membership, which has increased to \$40, our first increase in over thirteen years. You can do this online by going to the Alberta 55 Plus website at <https://members.alberta55plus.ca> and going to membership, Zone 2. You can renew your membership online or you can download the membership form and mail it in with a cheque. Be sure to follow Alberta 55 Plus on Facebook.

***THE BCSSS BOARD WISHES YOU ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND ALL THE BEST FOR A HEALTHY AND HAPPY NEW YEAR***

In memorium:



Barrie Hutchinson from Irricana passed away on September 3, 2022 at the age of 77 years, after a short battle with cancer.

Barrie and his wife Audrey have been BCSSS members for two years and they played cribbage in the Peace River games in June of 2022.