

President's Report

October 28, 2011

I am pleased to report to the membership on this past year as I am excited about the direction we are going with the sport in the province.

Saskatchewan sent 2 females and 9 males to Charlottetown, PEI for the 2011 National Powerlifting Championship. Also, 1 female and 1 male represented Saskatchewan in the Bench Press National Championship in PEI. Following Nationals, Sub-Junior and Junior Worlds was hosted in Moose Jaw. I want to thank the entire organizing committee as well as all SPA members that helped or came out to watch. The world saw what powerlifting in Saskatchewan is about, and I am proud to say the event that was held was one of the best the IPF has ever seen. Rhaea Fowler, while helping organize and run the meet, also lifted in the 84+ kg class, and in one of my proudest days in my career as a lifter, I watched her sing O'Canada as a World Champion in her home town. What a way to go out as a Junior! Al Block also represented Canada at the 2011 Master Worlds in St. Catharines, where he finished 2nd. Congratulations to both lifters!

This year saw the SPA apply for, and receive, another grant through Service Canada to hire a university student for 12 weeks as the Executive Assistant. Robyn Pearce from Moose Jaw was hired for this position. Her role was to continue to work on gaining exposure for our sport, as well as work in conjunction with the Jr. World organizing committee to run the World Championship in Moose Jaw. I believe the exposure our sport received from running a championship of this calibre was some of the best exposure we have ever received. I want to personally thank Robyn for her hard work and dedication to the organization and our sport!

My goals for the SPA over the next year are as follows:

- continue to work towards Sask Sport recognition
- grow our membership to at least 60 active members
- write a meet directors guide to help future meet directors run contests in our province
- get more interest out of the high schools in the province, with the possibility of running a high school contest
- apply for another grant for a summer student to work for the SPA

In closing, I want to thank the membership for allowing me to serve in this capacity. I feel we are continuing to promote and grow the sport within the province and I am excited about the direction we are going. I also want to thank Chris Arnold, Steve Wiseman and Marc Morris, along with all their volunteers for running this Provincial Championship and I wish everyone the best in the next year.

Yours in Lifting,

Ryan Fowler
Saskatchewan Powerlifting Association President