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Charitable registration # 11921 8899 RR0001

Dear Sir / Madam,

We’re writing to tell you about a unique and rewarding opportunity to help support blind and visually impaired athletes. Blind Sports Nova Scotia (BSNS) is a non-profit charitable organization, a chapter of the Canadian Council of the Blind, division of the Canadian Blind Sports Association, and associate member of Sport Nova Scotia. Our mission is to provide blind and visually impaired people of all ages the opportunity to participate in competitive or recreational sport, while promoting active and healthy lifestyles.

BSNS is hosting the ***third annual Nova Scotia Open Goalball Tournament*** at the Citadel Community Centre, 1855 Trollop Street, Halifax, on November 17 to 19, 2017.

Goalball is a Paralympic sport that was created after WWII for blinded veterans. It is a team sport played by athletes who are blind or visually impaired. Played on a volleyball sized court on a gym floor with goals at either end spanning the entire back line, two teams of three players compete by throwing a ball along the floor and into the opposite team’s goal. The opposing team attempts to physically block the ball from crossing the goal line. Because players can have different levels of vision, all participants are blindfolded to create a level playing field. The players orient themselves on the court by feeling the raised lines on the floor; and the ball has bells in it, allowing players to hear the ball during play. Goalball is played throughout the world by both men’s and women’s teams, with international competition culminating at the World Championships and Paralympics.

The Nova Scotia junior girls won the bronze medal at the Canadian Junior National Goalball Tournament in March 2015 and the junior boys won silver medals in April 2016 and 2017. The Nova Scotia men won back to back gold medals at the Canadian Senior National Goalball Tournament in April 2015 and 2016. The Nova Scotia men and women both won bronze at the Senior National Goalball tournament in April of 2017. BSNS had the pleasure of hosting the Canadian Senior National Goalball championships in Halifax both in 2011 and 2013. The local groups involved in these phenomenal championships found themselves part of a new opportunity to support athletics both through sponsorship and volunteerism.

The Nova Scotia Open Goalball Tournament will represent the only opportunity for local athletes to participate in an organized goalball competition east of Montreal. This tournament attracts teams from several provinces as well as the USA and features Team Canada national players, several of whom are from the Atlantic region, who will be playing on their own club/provincial teams. As two-time national champs, the Nova Scotia men will be one of the tournament favorites to win the third annual Nova Scotia Open Goalball Tournament against national and international competition. Along with the men’s competition, we will host exhibition games featuring our junior and youth athletes along with our Nova Scotia women. This tournament will provide some of the best competition of the season. We hope to attract a large audience to cheer on our local competitors.

***Your sponsorship support will contribute to the success of our third annual Nova Scotia Open Goalball Tournament.***

It takes a great deal of resources and community support to host a tournament. To encourage community involvement and awareness for this Paralympic sport and our local athletes, we do not charge spectator admission, and registration fees for teams are kept low in an effort to attract the best competition. Community support from sponsors and volunteers is critical to our success. As a sponsor of the Nova Scotia Open Goalball Tournament, you will demonstrate to the local, regional, national and international communities your awareness and support for the abilities of athletes with vision loss. Sponsorship levels are presented on the following page.

Please consider supporting BSNS and the second annual Nova Scotia Open Goalball Tournament. We are very grateful for any help you may be able to offer us. If you have any other questions about the tournament, goalball, BSNS, or how your assistance can specifically help us, please feel free to contact me at (902) 229-8246 or info@blindsportsnovascotia.ca.

Thank you,

Peter Parsons

BSNS Chairperson

**Sponsorship levels for the 2017 Nova Scotia Open Goalball Tournament**

The value of any monetary contribution or non-monetary contribution required to host a successful tournament (i.e. food, water and juice, T-shirts, paper products, etc.), would go towards achieving one of the following sponsorship levels:

**Paralympic Gold Plus Sponsor**

A $5,000 sponsorship contribution would allow our Gold Plus Sponsor's name to become part of the tournament name, which would be mentioned in all advertising and media releases, and would be presented on the cover of the event program, on the front of the tournament participant and volunteer T-shirts, and on an individual banner or poster in the gymnasium. A representative of the Gold Plus Sponsor would be invited to present medals at the closing ceremony. In addition, the Gold Plus Sponsor could set up a corporate booth at the gymnasium.

**Gold Sponsors**

With a sponsorship contribution between $2,500 and $4,999, the Gold Sponsor would have their name and logo placed on the back of the tournament T-shirts, on an inside page of the program and on an individual banner or poster in the gymnasium.

**Silver Sponsor**

With a sponsorship contribution between $1,000 and $2,499, the Silver Sponsor would have their name placed on the back of the T-shirts, on an inside page of the program, and all the names of the Silver Sponsors would be placed on one poster in the gymnasium.

**Bronze sponsor**

With a sponsorship contribution between $500 and $999, the Bronze Sponsor would have their name placed on an inside page of the program and all the names of the Bronze Sponsors would be placed on one poster in the gymnasium.

**Goalball Supporter**

Goalball supports can contribute up to $499 and all the names of the Goalball supporters would appear on one poster listing in the gymnasium.

We appreciate your support.