April 2020 Special Olympics Article Local Mike Oswald

YO! THIS IS CRAZY!

Now that’s out of the way, let me say to all my readers that unfortunately all Special O Spring sports programs have been suspended until further notice due to covid-19. This means I will not submit another column until the ban has been lifted.

In the meantime, allow me to take you back to a more pleasant time when the whole world was still rolling on.

On March 11th, the Orca swim team gathered at Sechelt Aquatic Centre for a final swim. It was strictly relaxation and playtime. Head Coach Cathy Verge received some flowers to commemorate her hard work this season and there were also cupcakes at the end of the day to help celebrate athlete Lisa Wortley’s birthday.

The final game of floor hockey took place on March 9th at Chatelech Secondary as the RCMP once again joined the athletes for some fun. The evening’s activity was bittersweet, though, as this would be the final time Sgt. Shepard would play with our team. Sgt. Shepard helped organize these games for the past eight years or so and he will be missed. We wish him the best as he moves to the Interior.

Talking to Head Coach Mike Gojevic, he also thanked the firefighters for their previous games and looks forward to future match ups.

Michael Brooks, peer mentor for 6 years, enjoys the game, as he sees the skill levels increase among the athletes. He also enjoys that men and women in public service and safety have an opportunity to interact with S.O athletes and vice versa.

Hope this finds you safe, healthy and in good spirits during this a time of difficulty and confusion.

Let’s all keep the flame of hope alive.