



we know you will love it!
WATER POLO
un sport du coeur!

ILWP Volume #12 – OCTOBER 2011

What is I Love Water Polo (ILWP)?

ILWP is an *introductory, grass-roots water polo program for boys and girls ages 8-12* (adaptable for younger and older athletes including adults). In a *learn-to-play environment*, similar to swimming lessons, participants *discover the game of water polo and the basic skills* involved in aquatic sports. The ILWP program helps to enhance the participants swimming, balance and coordination skills. **No prior water polo experience is required!** The only prerequisite is that participants should be able to swim one width of the pool. This is a community-based program (rather than club-based), making it ideal for municipalities, boys and girls clubs, YMCAs and private aquatic facilities. Give Water Polo a Shot!

ILWP Instructor Training

It's inexpensive and candidates get NCCP certification right in your facility- **no water polo experience is required to get certified!** If you meet the criteria, funding is available to cover the cost of the trainer. This is a great time to get staff trained in anticipation of starting a program in winter or spring of 2012.

Updated ILWP Website

Click on the link below to find out what 'I Love Water Polo' is all about, equipment and supplies available for purchase, how to start up a program in your community, funding opportunities to help you get started, FAQs, and events happening across the country. <https://www.waterpolo.ca/ilwpinfo.aspx>

ILWP in Alberta

Alberta now has seven brand new Learning Facilitators trained and ready to start offering ILWP Instructor training. The communities of High River and Okotoks will be training staff in the coming weeks, and will be starting their programs up in the new year. We welcome them to ILWP! We look forward to new initiatives starting to happen in AB.

Taggart Family YMCA-YWCA Hosts ILWP CBC Sports Day in Canada Event

Kudos to Mitch Davies and the staff at the Taggart Family Y in downtown Ottawa, for running a successful *CBC Sports Day in Canada* event on Saturday, September 11, as part of the Grand Opening of their newly retrofitted facility. Lead by Ottawa Titans coaches, a number of children, Y staff, and a handful of adults enjoyed an instructional ILWP clinic, followed by a boisterous, fun-filled scrimmage. What a great opportunity to showcase upgrades to their facility, as well as invite guests at the Open House to stop in to see a water polo clinic in action. There have already been inquiries from potential new players as a result.

National Capital Region YMCA-YWCAs Just Love Water Polo!

The National Capital Region YMCA-YWCAs have just started a 15-week ILWP program at all four of their indoor pools. Staff were trained in the spring and have been ramping up for this program since then. Initial registration numbers suggest this program will be a great success. We hope to bring new YMCA-YWCAs into the fold, using the example of the successes of the National Capital Ys.

BC Water Polo Association Initiates ILWP

We are pleased that BCWPA staff and volunteers are 'out there' taking the lead in initiating ILWP programs across their province. Learning Facilitators trained last winter and this past month are contacting local municipalities to train their aquatic staff and start programs of their own. Newly trained LF Angela Johnson has already made some contacts and has some tentative training dates in the works.

We welcome success stories, best practices and ideas that might help our program continue to grow!

Contact Deanna Barry, ILWP Coordinator
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