



## 2004 NATIONAL BRIGADE PATIENT CARE COMPETITIONS

March 2002

Vol. 9 No. 3

**DID YOU KNOW** that first aid competitions have been a St. John Ambulance tradition since 1880, when they were first introduced in England? National Competitions are held in Canada every three years. The 2004 National Brigade Patient Care Competitions will be held at the University of British Columbia from May 21 to 24, 2004.

# DID YOU KNOW?

AN INFORMATION SHEET FOR ST. JOHN AMBULANCE MEMBERS

The National Brigade Patient Care Competitions (NBPCC) take place for several reasons:

- to improve the efficiency of Brigade members;
- to promote the confidence of Brigade members by presenting a variety of surroundings in which to work, and an opportunity to work in full view of an audience;
- to maintain and increase interest in total patient care;
- to stimulate excellence in patient care performed at the site of an incident;
- to present an opportunity for Brigade members to develop camaraderie with their counterparts across the country, and to feel proud to be part of the larger St. John team; and,
- to create interest among the general public.

Invitations will also go out to International Pories for the 2004 NBPCC. We will limit the number of international teams to six (6) on a first-come, first-served basis. These teams will follow all of the same rules and guidelines our domestic teams.

### TEAMS

Teams competing at the national level have normally placed first in their category at the provincial/territorial level. The selection of team members is at the discretion of each Provincial/Territorial Commissioner. Each Council is entitled to enter a maximum of one team in each of the three Competition categories: Junior, Senior and Open. Each team is comprised of four members, one team spare (optional), and one Coach. If there are participants under 18 years of age, as of 21 May 2004, a Chaperon must attend the Competitions with them.

### COMPETITION CHALLENGES

All Competition Challenges are simulated to bring as much realism as possible to the scenario. They may involve emergency situations, one or more patients, or other situations which assess teamwork, initiative, problem-solving abilities and competency. Competitors should approach the scene and provide care as if the situation were real. As in real life, advantage should be taken of any equipment or material found at or around the scene, unless advised otherwise by a Judge. Teams are challenged and evaluated according to their level of required training:

- ⇒ Junior category Challenges reflect the full scope of the SJA Youth Program
- ⇒ Senior category Challenges reflect the skills and knowledge components of BTS Level 1
- Open category Challenges reflect the skills and knowledge components of BTS Level 3 and Oxygen Therapy (certification in either BTS Level 3 or Oxygen Therapy is not a prerequisite).

Spectators are welcome at all Challenge sites. They must not, however, interact with any of the Competition staff on the Challenge site.

Watch for Joining Instructions, the 2004 logo and other relevant information in the coming months.

Hats off to all SJA volunteers as we celebrate National Volunteer Week 2002 April 21 to 27. Thank you for your dedication, commitment and support!