

THINKING WEATHER

at Games Time



Day 8 – March 19 | Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games

Highlights for Day 8, March 19



Games enthusiasts were out in full force on Day 8 of the 2010 Paralympic Winter Games.

Overcast skies and showers in Vancouver necessitated wet-weather attire and umbrellas. The temperature reached a high of 8°C. Due to the humidity, maintenance crews at the indoor venues implemented the dehumidification systems to ensure optimal ice conditions. The atmosphere was intense inside Hillcrest/Nat Bailey Stadium Park as tiebreakers were held in wheelchair curling to determine who would proceed to the medal match-ups.

In ice sledge hockey, matches were held to determine fifth- through eighth-place standings. Spectators, cheering from the stands, were riveted by the intensity of play.

Over at Whistler Creekside, alpine skiing's giant slalom events took place. Temperatures were slightly below freezing throughout the day, and a light dusting of snow settled on Franz's Run, the alpine skiing course. Course conditions were great for the athletes competing in the men's and women's sitting and visually impaired competitions.

To the delight of Games organizers, the favourable weather conditions have helped the Games run smoothly without delay, postponements or cancellations. And, as the Games enter their final days, the Paralympic spirit continues unabated in the hearts of Paralympians, officials, staff, volunteers and spectators alike.

Events held March 19

Whistler Creekside

Alpine skiing: men's giant slalom: sitting and visually impaired; women's giant slalom: sitting and visually impaired

UBC Winter Sports Centre

Ice sledge hockey: men's tournament

Hillcrest/Nat Bailey Stadium Park

Wheelchair curling: mixed 10-team tournament

By the Numbers:

4 the number of times that Norway has been first in Paralympic Winter Games medal standings: 1980, 1988, 1994 and 1998.

6 Canada's best results in medal standings. Canada finished sixth at both the 2002 and 2006 Paralympic Winter Games.

35 the number of Paralympic athletes Canada sent to the Torino 2006 Paralympic Winter Games.

WEATHER FOR DAY 8

March 19, 2008

VANCOUVER

Cloudy with showers, possibly mixed with wet snow in the evening. Morning low: 3°C; afternoon high: 8°C

WHISTLER CREEKSIDE

Cloudy with occasional morning flurries. Periods of snow developing early in the evening. Total snowfall amounts 3 to 6 cm. Fog dissipating in the afternoon. Wind southeast 20 to 40 km/h at top of the course. Morning low: -5°C; afternoon high: -2°C

WHISTLER PARALYMPIC PARK

Cloudy with scattered morning flurries. Periods of snow developing late in the day. Total snowfall amounts 5 to 8 cm. Morning low: -3°C; afternoon high: 2°C

FORECAST FOR DAY 9

March 20, 2008

VANCOUVER

A few showers possibly mixed with wet snow ending in the morning, then sunny periods. Morning low: 3°C; afternoon high: 8°C

WHISTLER CREEKSIDE

Flurries ending in the morning then cloudy with sunny breaks. Further snowfall amounts 2 to 4 cm. Fog dissipating in the afternoon. Wind southwest 20 km/h at top of the course. Morning low: -4°C; afternoon high: zero

WHISTLER PARALYMPIC PARK

Flurries ending in the morning then cloudy with sunny breaks. Further snowfall amounts 3 to 5 cm. Wind southeast 10 to 15 km/h. Morning low: -2°C; afternoon high: 2°C

Thinking Weather Reports

The Thinking Weather Reports are fictional Games-time scenarios created using real-time weather information. VANOC is producing these hypothetical reports during the Games-time periods (February and March) to help conceptualize and plan how the organization will respond to weather conditions during the 2010 Winter Games.