

Athletes honored with lifetime achievement awards

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The inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award for the U.S. Wheelchair National Program was implemented with the first awards presented in August at the Four Seasons Curling Club in Blaine, Minn., during the World Team Pre-Trials.

The award was developed to recognize an individual who has demonstrated contribution, dedication and development to the sport of Paralympic curling. Two individuals were recognized – Robert Prenoveau and David Palmer. Prenoveau has been curling since 2002. Over the past 13 years, he has represented the United States at two World Championships (2005, 2008) and was a member of the U.S. team that won bronze at the 2008 World Wheelchair Curling Championship. Prenoveau has not only been instrumental with the development of wheelchair curling in Utica, N.Y., working with agencies such as Upstate Cerebral Palsy, he has also promoted the development of visually impaired curling in association with the Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

Palmer was introduced to curling in 2011 by Tony Colacchio of the Cape Cod Curling Club. Palmer quickly excelled at the sport and was eventually selected to the 2012 and 2013 U.S. National Teams as well as the 2014 U.S. Paralympic Team. During the past four years, Palmer has routinely assisted with conducting numerous wheelchair curling clinics throughout the country in an effort to grow the sport and improve the quality of life for those living with disabilities. ■



David Palmer (left) and Bob Prenoveau were recently honored with the inaugural Lifetime Achievement Awards.