

Message from the Ontario President (September 2015)

OBTA has enjoyed another successful year of hosting and organizing several baton twirling activities. The Board met last fall to kick start our year of preparations starting with our elections followed by our AGM. We met again in February 2015 to finalize details for another year of twirling events.

OBTA had 4 Clubs run open competitions this year, and thanks to Jen Meron, who offered to be competition director for the OBTA Ontario Provincial Championships. This was a huge undertaking that was greatly appreciated as the event was successful and well run.

In November OBTA's Kim Genton ran Ontario Baton Day. There was a great turn out for the clinic, badge testing and Coaches Education seminar with Maureen Johnson. An L1 coaches course was also run with 8 participants with Denise Johnston as the Course Conductor.

Ontario Athletes Nicole Johnson and Matthew Johnson represented us at the Congressional Cup Invitational in March 2015. Congratulations to Matthew for winning back to back Men's Invitational.

Congratulations to all Ontario athletes who competed at the National Championships in Oshawa and the International Cup in Abbotsford. You all did us proud. A special mention to five Ontario Volunteers, Jeff Johnson, Michelle Bretherick, Kim Genton, Tonya Lee and myself for the immense work that was committed as IC Organizing Committee volunteers. I will say it was one of the best organized International events I have attended.

OBTA has had a very successful year, I am proud to have worked alongside so many wonderful people whose passion for the sport is seen in everything they do. Thank you OBTA BOD for all you have done! Going forward I would like to encourage more members to get involved with the Board and take advantage of the multitude of experience from those on the board as their mentors for the future growth and development of our sport in the province of Ontario.

Ontario hosted the 2015 National Championships; it took many volunteers to pull off the very successful event. I would like to mention in regards to the amount of work it takes to host such an event, that last minute requests and decisions add much stress to the organizers. Also, in regards to financials, the cost of judges due to selection process is a factor in the overall success of the event.

Respectfully submitted, LeeAnn Wilson, OBTA President

