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A Message from the Executive Director

There’s a lot going on as we begin the New Year. First, as some BORP cyclists know, for the first time ever we are keeping the Cycling Center open during the winter months. So far, the response has been very positive. Our various youth and adult sports teams including power soccer, goalball and wheelchair basketball have been enjoying some great competition in tournament play from Berkeley to Salt Lake City.

As we reported on our web site last week, the United States Department of Education made headline news with its announcement that public schools must provide equal extracurricular athletic opportunities to students with disabilities. Here at BORP we think this will be a great opportunity to work closely with school districts as they work to create equal opportunities for their students with disabilities. [Read the complete Department of Education guidance letter.](#)

Big events around the corner: the **10th Annual BORP Poker Slam** happens on Saturday, February 23rd. I’m looking forward to playing in my first Slam and having a great evening supporting BORP’s Power Soccer Program. Follow the link to register: [10th Annual BORP Poker Slam](#). And for those of you that like wine, come by Angela’s Bistro and Bar in Alameda (2301 Central Ave) on Friday, February 15, for their “Friday Night Flight” program and taste some delicious local wine. Angela’s will donate a portion of every purchase to

BORP. We're also starting to plan this year's **Revolution Ride and Festival**. Make sure to save the date – September 28, 2013. By popular demand, we'll be back at the Trentadue Winery in Geyserville, CA.

During the next several months BORP's board and staff will be engaging in a strategic planning process to think about BORP's future. It's an opportunity to think BIG. What could we do if money were no object? Together we want to renew our organizational vision and think creatively about what it will take to have greater impact around our mission. After all, until you envision it you can't really pursue it or as the Cheshire Cat said in *Alice in Wonderland*, "If you don't know where you're going, any road will get you there." Anyone who has thoughts about BORP and its future is welcome to share them – just send me an email at rick@borp.org or call me at 510-225-7030. We're particularly interested in hearing your ideas about how we can make our programs more accessible and available in the future.

I'm approaching my one year anniversary as BORP's Executive Director and I'm really looking forward to year two! Thanks to everyone who has helped to make my transition into the role so smooth.



Rick Smith
Executive Director

10th Annual Poker Slam Benefiting BORP's Power Soccer Program



FEBRUARY 23, 2013

at the Ed Roberts Campus in Berkeley

5:30pm – doors open

6:30-11:00pm – No Limit Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament (You must be 21 to play)

Join us for a fun-filled night of cards, food, and fun all to support BORP Power Soccer!

\$100 donation entitles you a seat in the poker tournament, delicious food and non-alcoholic beverages. Beer and wine will be available for additional purchase at the event (bring a valid ID).

Grand Prize: \$400 voucher for Southwest Airlines!

Upcoming Events

February 15 – [Friday Night Flights at Angela's Bistro and Bar](#) (See below for more information)

February 23 – 10th Annual BORP Poker Slam benefiting Power Soccer.

March 1 & 2 – West Coast Conference Championship Youth Wheelchair Basketball Tournament in Portland, OR.

March 2 – BORP Power Soccer v. Santa Barbara Rollin' Rebels at the James Kenney Recreation Center in Berkeley.

March 23 & 24 – Adult Wheelchair Basketball Tournament at James Kenney Recreation Center. Teams from San Jose, Sacramento, Santa Rosa, Redding and Reno are expected to compete against the BORP All Stars and the BORP varsity youth team.

Check out the [BORP Events Calendar](#) for more upcoming events and activities.



The "5-50k Challenge"

Two local fitness enthusiasts, Lauren Kallen and Austin Shenefield have chosen BORP as the beneficiary of their personal running fundraiser they have dubbed the "5-50k Challenge".



Over the next five months, the couple has committed to train for and run in a series of five Bay Area road and trail races to raise money for BORP's adaptive sports and recreation programs. They kicked off the Challenge on January 27 by running in the Rainbow Falls 5k in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. Both runners finished the race under the times they set as their goals!

"We wanted to run for an organization that supports fitness, health and community and BORP seems like the perfect fit," Lauren says. In addition to raising funds for BORP, they are encouraging people to get fit by joining them in the races or to come out and cheer them on. Updates on their training progress, race results and fundraising efforts will be posted regularly on [Lauren's blog](#) and the [BORP homepage](#).

If you'd like to contribute to their efforts, donations can be made directly to BORP [online](#) or via check to BORP, 3075 Adeline St, Suite 155, Berkeley, CA 94703. Be sure to indicate "On behalf of the 5-50K" in the dedication field online or on your check.

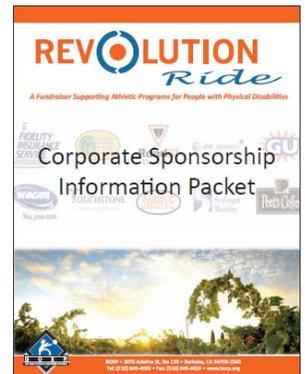
On behalf of everyone at BORP, thanks Lauren and Austin and good luck!

Sponsor the Rev!

Is your company interested in becoming an official sponsor of the 2013 Revolution Ride & Festival?

Sponsor the 'Rev' and your company supports more than a mere event. Your brand will be in front of the 300+ motivated cyclists, volunteers and friends that attend the Rev each year. In addition, you will reach over 2,000 individual donors that support the fundraising participants in the Revolution and the many thousands more who hear about the Rev in the media. Your company will be identified with a joyous, inclusive event and a successful community comprised of people of all ages and abilities.

For more information download our [2013 Sponsorship Packet](#).



Angela's Bistro and Bar "Friday Night Flights"

When: Friday, February 15 – 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Where: [Angela's Bistro and Bar](#), 2301 Central Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501

Join us at Angela's Bistro and Bar where Chef Saboor Zafari has hosted "Friday Night Flights" for the past five years to raise awareness and money for local charities. Come taste local wines (\$5/glass), order appetizers from the special bar menu and support BORP. Angela's will donate a portion of the proceeds to BORP and we are honored to be the chosen charity on February 15th.

For more information visit [Angela's Bistro on the web](#) or call the restaurant at (510) 522-5822.

Get Fit Fair

Save the date:
June 22, 2013.

The Get Fit Fair is coming to the ERC!

Discover a variety of resources and learn valuable information about recreation, fitness, and dance opportunities for people with disabilities & chronic illnesses, and seniors.

The fair is joint effort between BORP, Axis Dance Co. and Kaiser Permanente.

BORP Wishlist

When you support BORP you help athletes and recreation enthusiasts with physical disabilities get active and healthy.

All of our programs are made possible through the generosity of individuals, businesses, organizations and foundations who donate gifts of time, money and services.

Please consider donating the following items to BORP. All donations are tax-deductible.

- brand new basketballs
- new power soccer balls
- new goalballs
- adaptive cycles
- power wheelchairs
- basketball wheelchairs
- new yoga equipment (mats, blocks, straps, etc.)
- ski goggles
- small dumbbells (1-5 lbs.)
- ropes and stanchions
- a computer server
- printer/copier paper
- Tripod for a camcorder

