

Team Canada – Racketlon – “Don’t buy gold, Win it”.

Get ready for some excitement. A group of seven Canadian players are travelling this week to Milan, Italy for representing Canada at the National Teams and Doubles World Championships, from April 29th to May 1st 2011. Racketlon is the name of the game, and each player will compete in table tennis, badminton, squash and tennis.

Here are the team members. Kathy Carter will make her first appearance on the international level. On her first time on the Canadian circuit, she won the competition. We may say she is on a winning streak and she will help the team, as points of all players are added. Kathy Carter has in her resume a squash women's Canadian championship, plays Division One university level tennis, and competed provincially in badminton.

	World ranking	Canadian ranking	Residence
Kathy Carter	--	20	Niagara, ON
Patrick Junior Laplante	50	4	Granby, QC
Jeremy Easterbrook	61	1	Laval, QC
Dany Lessard	100	5	Dorval, QC
Horatio Pintea	128	2	Ottawa, ON
Danny Shannon	304	6	Calgary, AB
Winston Pain	510	20	Kelowna, BC

Patrick Junior Laplante from Granby is the number one player for the men with a world ranking of 50. He will face the number one player of the opposite teams. He achieved this task brilliantly in 2010 when the Canadian team caused a surprise and finished fourth at the World Team Championships in Vienna. His individual objective is to raise his ranking in the top 30 before the end of 2011. Also at the age of 19, he will get two more chances of winning the world champion title for Juniors under 21 years of age.

Jeremy Easterbrook, an A badminton player, and ranked no. 1 on the Racketlon Canadian Tour will also play an important role on the team. His young age of 22 leaves him time to develop as a strong player on the international scene. Horatio Pintea, ex table tennis Canadian champion and Danny Shannon, multiple Canadian Masters winner in badminton doubles, are also contributing to make the 2011 version of the elite Team Canada a team to be watched for. Since the Elite team matches consist of 1 women match, 2 single men matches, and one men doubles match, there is a good chance that the pair Pintea-Shannon will play the doubles match.

In the Senior National Teams competition (45 years +), Pintea, Shannon, Pain and Lessard will be a very strong team. Winston Pain is a good player all around, with Elite teaching experience on tennis and Lessard is a world bronze medalist in senior category at the 2010 world championships.

In addition to the National Teams competition, there will be a Doubles competition. Laplante-Easterbrook will play Elite category. Pintea-Shannon will play Senior category as well as Lessard-Pain. Carter-Easterbrook will play Mixed Doubles. In Women Doubles, Kathy Carter will play with Simone Seitz from Austria. All results will be available on the web at <http://www.resultreporter.com/node/89891/draws/list> or you may read the summary on the Racketlon Canada web site www.racketlon.ca.

Written by: Dany Lessard, Team captain, 25-04-11