

Knitting – The Next Olympic Sport?



Yes, knitting at the Olympics (heck – there are enough knitters in the stands already that the Olympic organizers can't have helped but notice us). Think of the possibilities. Only the best of the best compete. The rest of us watch our knitting heroines and heroes. We're so into it that we can hardly breathe (although we do manage to knit away without a glitch). We see who knits the fastest, who knits the tightest, who knits the neatest. Heck, we even measure for 'best consistent tension throughout'. And really measure – like with a ruler. So, unlike figure skating, we'd have objective judging based on reality. Hmmm – what a concept. As the world watches a bunch of people with furiously clicking sticks and threads of yarn swirling, magic happens. Mittens appear, hats pop up, scarves wrap around necks, sleeves magically sprout out of squares and rectangles. Wait, a curve. Voila – a sweater.

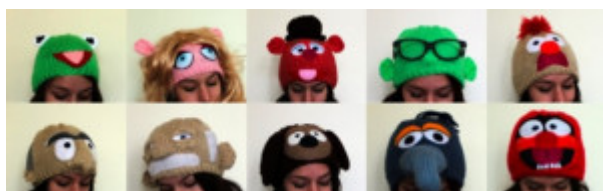
OK – likely not going to happen. But one never knows...

Knitting can be solitary – we knit alone while listening to an audio book, watching TV or being so totally absorbed in that special project that it's all about the knitting. But knitting is also a group activity, and has been since at least the middle ages when people sat together to figure out a sock, or teach each other a new technique. Now more than ever knitting groups are sprouting up everywhere; a couple of hours of enjoying fellow knitters' company while shutting out the

rest of the world. Rest, relaxation, learning, sharing, entertainment and, at the end of it all, a tea cozy, dishcloth or anything our imagination leads us to create. We venture out back into the world refreshed and ready to tackle our daily lives once again...until the next knitting group get-together.

What could be even better than a couple of hours with fellow-knitters? How about a couple of DAYS? **We knitters have no end of opportunities, and an all-Canadian retreat is coming up soon! It's from November 8th to 10th at the Briars Resort & Spa in Jackson's Point.** Click on <http://www.pinesandneedlesretreat.com/> for details. Trust me – it will be a blast. We'll meet new people and reconnect with old knitting buddies, learn new techniques and feel the magic of sharing our own tricks with others.

After all, if the Muppets sang about it (Album: Other Songs G-R), it must be true:



***It's neat and it's sweet
It's a ding dong treat
Knittin' socks for little feet
Just sittin' with your knittin' all day long
You know knittin's friendly
And knittin's fun
Knittin's good for everyone***

So join your fellow knitters at the Briars. <http://www.pinesandneedlesretreat.com/> I'll see you there.