

FLOORBALL ON WHEELS

Interview with Štěpán Karásek

Štěpán Karásek was a normal boy who enjoyed sports. He was seriously injured during a downhill skiing accident, and now has to use a wheelchair. However, because sport is such an important part of his life, he took up (= started playing) floorball. He now represents the Czech Republic in international wheelchair tournaments (= competitions).

Does playing floorball take up all of your free time?

I don't only play floorball. I like learning new disciplines and sports because it's important to have variety (= to do various things). In the last few years I have also been skiing again. Skiing is physically demanding (= difficult) and it is good preparation for other sports.

How much time do you spend training?

Floorball training takes two hours, and with the time spent **commuting**⁴, at least three hours. I have to go to Říčany which is 170 kilometres from my home. I train with SKV Praha ComAp team (sportovní klub vozíčkářů) in Prague.

What has been your biggest success in sport?

Before my accident, I used to play floorball occasionally (= sometimes) and just for fun. Two years ago I tried playing it in a wheelchair. Since then I have played a full season as a member of the wheelchair league. Our team came second. We were also second in the **prestigious**⁵ Prague Wheel Open tournament, where we competed against many international teams.



Štěpán Karásek
joined the
Czech national
team in 2011.

VOCABULARY

- ¹ **seriously injured** ['sɪəriəsli ɪndʒəd] – vážně zraněn
- ² **downhill skiing** – sjezdové lyžování
- ³ **wheelchair** [wi:l'tʃeə] – invalidní vozík
- ⁴ **to commute** [kə'mju:tɪŋ] – dojíždět
- ⁵ **prestigious** [pre'stɪdʒəs] – prestižní