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Sports Magazine - April 2017

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APRIL 2017

PUBLISHERS / OWNERS:

Jeff Mitchell
Kristopher Sturgeon

IN-HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHY:

South Muskoka Photography
John Pokocky
southmuskokaphotography.com

CONTENT SUBMISSION:

submit-overtime@hotmail.com

ADVERTISING INFORMATION:

Jeff Mitchell 705-641-2288
jeff-overtime@hotmail.com

Kristopher Sturgeon 705-205-0950
kris-overtime@hotmail.com

Front Cover Photo Courtesy of Nate Pokocky
– South Muskoka Photography.

Back Cover Photo Courtesy of South Muskoka Minor Hockey,
Tina Norrie - Muskoka Rock, and Overtime Magazine.

*Distributed Monthly for Free Pick Up throughout
Bracebridge, Gravenhurst, Port Carling and Bala area.*

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Bantam AEs - 'A Year Of Firsts' TO REACH OMHA FINALS

With contributions from SMSK Minor Hockey

It was a year of firsts for many of the players. Especially reaching the OMHA Finals.

The South Muskoka Bantam AE Bears started the season showing signs of promise. Early injuries had the team hovering just over the .500 mark entering their first tournament in Huntsville mid-November. It was hard developing any consistency. This inconsistency developed into a month-long slump.

Players returned and the team got back on track winning the MPS championships in January.

A little winning streak brought confidence and the play downs. For many of the Bears, they had never gotten past Huntsville in the 1st round. This year was different. They easily disposed of the Otters.

The team showed solidarity and joined the tradition of dying their hair blonde in making it to round 2.

The tough, grinding playoff battles began when the Bears faced Douro. Taking game 1 rather handily, the Bears slipped, losing the next 2. They dug in, won the next 2 comfortably to eliminate Douro in 5.

Next up, Penetang. They had previously lost twice to Penetang, tied once and sustained several injuries. The series was very physical. The Bears never had a full bench. The Flames had home ice advantage. And, when you thought this team couldn't make it, the Bears stole the series in 5 games, winning 3 in Penetang.

Entering the championship series, the Bears were coming off 2 long, gruelling series but in their last 20, were sporting a 15W-5L record.

It started with 2 games in Pelham who were ready. It showed. Pelham decimated the Bears in both. Back in Gravenhurst for game 3, the closest of the series, the hole proved too deep. Pelham took the final 4-2.

A heart-wrenching way to end a season. Making it to the OMHA Finals is a hard road. If it was easy, it wouldn't have been 'a year of firsts'. Well done Bears!



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Submitted by W. Morris Hudasek, Vice President
Children's Foundation of Muskoka

During the first few months of 2017, applications have been reasonably steady.

At the February and March Board meetings, some 65 applications were reviewed. Five were deferred, two declined and the rest approved for a total cost of over \$12,000.

The two payment system, from the Foundation and CTC Jumpstart, seems to be working satisfactorily to date, but it will be important for applicants to submit their applications as soon as they know about registration and to include an e-mail address if possible.

For those who have applied, and received an e-mail and/or a letter of confirmation, please share with the service/program provider to ensure funding is allocated to your child(ren).

Many summer activities still offer registration via their website or phone. We look forward to dealing with applications that will allow the children of Muskoka to participate.

Application forms are available at childrenofmuskoka.com. If you don't have internet access or would like to discuss, call Morris direct at 705-645-2710

5TH VS 50TH

We attended Big Brothers Big Sisters 'Bowl For Kid's Sake' last month. We couldn't resist this photo op.

Left: Scotiabank (Bracebridge) manager, Angela LeMaitre... "The 5th Season Is When Kids Dream Big"

Right: Embarrassed Leaf Fan... "The 50th Season With No Cup Is When Dreams Die"



NEW BASKETBALL CHAMPS

Submitted by Muskoka Men's Basketball

In a hard fought battle for the Muskoka Men's Basketball League Championship, Boone Plumbing Ballers (pictured) overcame Bracebridge Medical Centre Thunder by winning 61 to 57 at Gravenhurst High School a few weeks ago. Boone Plumbing became the new 2016-17 Muskoka Men's Basketball League Champions in front of cheering friends and family.

JUDO JEFF TO HALL & COMPETITIONS

Judo Jeff Allen will be inducted shortly into the Town of Huntsville Sports Hall of Fame. At press, Jeff didn't know date of ceremony (and we can't find on Huntsville's website) but we congratulate him on the honour. Jeff's got 3 competitions this spring including the Tora Provincials in Brampton, followed by the Canadian Nationals late May in Calgary, AB.



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CURLING COMES TO TOWN

As the heady days of dominating the lacrosse world that brought Bracebridge numerous Canadian and Ontario Championships faded away, another sport was quietly and successfully operating in the shadow of all the acclaim for lacrosse and cricket.

In Robert Boyer's invaluable book on Bracebridge, "A Good Town Grew Here", it is reported that a curling club was discussed in 1896 and came into being in 1898.

As in lacrosse, baseball and cricket, prominent people of the community were involved in its formative years. In 1896, F.S. Cochrane, Station Agent with the Northern Railway who, just 11 years earlier welcomed the first steam engine to Bracebridge, held a meeting at his office in the railway station with W.A. Gillespie, a merchant in downtown Bracebridge. There was enough interest in this new idea for them to go to work, and in 1898, a club was formed with an executive consisting of Angus McLeod as patron, Dr. Bridgland M.P.P. as President and an executive consisting of F.C. Meekins, Rev. M.J. Leith, F.P. Warne, H. B. Bridgland, J.H. Campbell, Peter Hutchison, and of course the two that could be considered the founders of curling in Muskoka, F.S. Cochrane and W.A. Gillespie.



There is a possibility they may have received guidance and support from curling organizations that emanated from the first curling club in Canada, formed in Montreal in 1807. There is nothing stated about whether they used "stones" made from steel, as they did in Montreal. No matter, the sport took root and has provided excellent winter entertainment for our communities ever since.

Kenneth Carman Veitch
Bracebridge Historical Resources
www.bracebridgemuskokahistory.com

TRIVIA

QUESTIONS

1. Name all 10 New York City teams in the 5 major sports leagues (NHL, NFL, MLB, NBA, MLS)?
2. What were the names of all 3 Hanson brothers in "Slap Shot"?
3. In the 'Open-Era', who has won the most Wimbledon Tennis Titles?
4. What team was the last expansion team to join the NFL?
5. Which 6 teams have played in the World Series - and never won?
6. 4 teams in the WHA merged into the NHL in 1979. Who were they?
7. On the World Curling Tour, whose women's team won the most money in 2015-16?

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ARROWHEAD 3RD OVERALL AT MIDGETS

Submitted by Arrowhead Nordic Ski Club

The ANSC Race Team (ARC) had a fantastic Kawartha Nordic Midget Championships. Third overall in Ontario with only 12 skiers...a huge accomplishment that shocked many.

Andrew Bougai and Anna Jaklova won first in all their races. ANSC medaled in each category except midget boys. In peewee girls Classic Technique Mass Start (3km), ANSC swept the podium!

The 3-day event, hosted by Kawartha Nordic, brought skiers from across the province. ANSC results below.

Three ARC skiers, Fiona and Graham Shearing and Sophia Marshall just competed at Nationals in Camrose, Alberta (just after deadline, results next edition).

PEEWEE GIRLS

Anna Jaklova

Freestyle Ski Cross: 1st
Skate Interval Start Race 3 km: 1st
Classic Technique Mass Start 3 km: 1st

Roxanna Welsh

Freestyle Ski Cross: 2nd
Skate Interval Start Race 3 km: 4th
Classic Technique Mass Start 3 km: 3rd

Mya Marshall

Skate Interval Start Race 3 km: 2nd
Classic Technique Mass Start 3 km: 2nd

Dale Graham

Skate Interval Start Race 3 km: 5th
Classic Technique Mass Start 3 km: 6th

PEEWEE BOYS

Andrew Bougai

Skate Interval Start Race 3 km: 1st
Classic Technique Mass Start 3 km: 1st

Benjamin Shearing

Skate Interval Start Race 3 km: 4th
Classic Technique Mass Start 3 km: 3rd

Aidan Spiers

Skate Interval Start Race 3 km: 11th
Classic Technique Mass Start 3 km: 10th

MIDGET GIRLS

Sophia Marshall

Skate Interval Start Race 3 km: 1st
Classic Technique Mass Start 3 km: 4

Erin Doble

Freestyle Ski Cross: 8th
Skate Interval Start Race 3 km: 11th
Classic Technique Mass Start 3 km: 8th

MIDGET BOYS

Riley de Gans

Skate Interval Start Race 3 km: 8th
Classic Technique Mass Start 3 km: 6th

Sebastian Horton

Skate Interval Start Race 3 km: 14th
Classic Technique Mass Start 3 km: 12th

Robert Bougai

Skate Interval Start Race 3 km: 22nd
Classic Technique Mass Start 3 km: 22nd



WHAT A NORDIC SKI SEASON!

Submitted by Arrowhead Nordic Ski Club

Snow was not an issue for Muskoka this year - the most snow reported in the province - which made for a great nordic ski season at Arrowhead Nordic Ski Club (ANSC) and Arrowhead Provincial Park. Season highlights included:

ANSC, in partnership with the Park, hosted 2 Elementary Ski races in January and March. Over 350 eager skiers came out each race to put their skill and endurance to test on a classic and freestyle race course. These events exposed many new skiers to the joys of winter and the sport itself!

ANSC, with Arrowhead, hosted the Muskoka Loppet in January. Again, over 350 athletes competed in various classic style race distances, enjoyed camaraderie and a warm post-race meal.

ARC: Arrowhead Racing Centre, led by coach Katerina Jakl, posted several strong podium finishes and many top 10 results in various categories in races across the province.

The Jack Rabbit, Track Attack and Adult Ski For Fitness programs wrapped up another successful season where keen Nordic Skiers, aged 4-80, learned new skills in a fun, supportive environment.

ANSC extends a huge thank you to the countless volunteers who made our events possible.





A NEW BEGINNING – 2017 SOCCER REGISTRATION

Submitted by Bracebridge Soccer Club

March was busy for the Bracebridge Soccer Club. Club Executive and volunteers accepted registrations for 2017 programs at the Sportsplex and Gagnon's Independent Grocer!

"It's great meeting adults and children interested in our programs to enjoy the game of soccer" said John Miller, Club President.

While many have taken part previously, there's girls and boys registering for the first time to play minor soccer. Most new registrants will play in "Timbits" Introduction to Soccer recreational programs, the club's largest program. Almost 250 children, aged 4 to 8, learn and play soccer in activity based game format twice a week until the end of June.

Adults, and their children, came to registration to make inquiries, complete forms and register. The registration team (Cathy Janke, Amber McTaggart, Dawn Schrader, Vanessa Smith) did an excellent job providing assistance.

The club's still accepting registrations for programs online, and there's another registration at Gagnon's on April 23rd, 10am to 2pm

For information/registration for youth and adult programs, visit www.bracebridgesoccer.net.

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Sting Preparing For Next Season

Submitted by Huntsville Girls Hockey Association

The Huntsville Sting Girls Hockey Association has wrapped up another wonderful season. Participating in tournaments (home & away), league games, practices and building friendships, the girls learned the value of fun, fair play, respect for one another and competitors, to play in a safe environment while developing their on-ice skills each week.

Our 40th annual tournament saw the girls participate in a fantastic home tournament, cheer each other on and supported the different age groups in the organization.

We look forward to next season. For more about our organization, having your daughter play, volunteering, or coaching, visit us at www.huntsvillegha.ca. With enough interest, we hope to have some Rep teams next season. Coaching applications will be accepted in the spring.

The Huntsville GHA promotes and develops opportunities for girls of all ages, providing a fun, safe, competitive experience. We provide an environment that builds friendships, teamwork, respect and integrity. We look forward to being your hockey home and getting to know you next season!

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MUSKOKA WILD DELIVER A TRULY CANADIAN HOCKEY EXPERIENCE

Submitted by Alexander Baker, co-owner - Muskoka Wild Hockey

Mid-March saw the Muskoka Wild complete their inaugural season in the Canadian Premier Junior Hockey League (CPJHL), falling 4-3 in overtime to the Almonte Sharpshooters in the first CPJHL Presidents' Cup Final. In a fitting conclusion, the Wild trailed 3-0 after two periods before forcing overtime with 3 goals in the third. The comeback fell agonizingly short. The prospect of a long off-season loomed.

The Wild's march to the Final was dominant; their 35-7-3-3 regular season secured first overall in the CPJHL. The Wild easily dispatched the Seaforth Generals in a 2-game aggregate goal series. In the CPJHL 'Super 4', the Wild went 3-0 against the Grey Highland Hawks, Essa Stallions and Almonte to move onto the Finals. While the Championship game didn't end as hoped, the season was a resounding success.

Northern Athletic Education, Inc. (NAE) founded the Muskoka Wild to provide young players the opportunity to be part of a truly Canadian hockey experience; a supportive environment where management maintains a focus on skill development and character traits to maximize future success in life. Based in Port Carling, the tranquil surroundings and tight-knit community provided the backdrop for the experience many players dream of.

As a local ownership group, NAE's mandate was to establish its local presence, to be an integral member of the community. Through a concerted effort to get involved, highlighted by participation in the Port Carling and Bala Santa Claus Parades and Port Carling Winterfest, players came to understand and appreciate the value of being a role model.

The Wild's profile outside the rink led to success within. Attendance grew steadily, and the Wild became associated with their enthusiastic fan base, making the Port Carling Arena the most intimidating road game on the schedule. Community support allowed the Wild to become something larger than an anonymous team in a start-up

league. The community was engaged. The players played for somebody every night, their fans.



Housing much of the team in a residence enhanced player development, especially when many were away from home for the first time. Shared responsibilities of the communal off-ice space improved camaraderie and discipline; players demonstrated considerable personal growth during the season.

Despite some challenges, the executive team, in first year managing junior hockey, is proud of its efforts. NAE navigated growing pains, and the experience charged the group with a stronger pledge to improve the product for the players. Committed investments to the residence and online profile, including live streaming of home games, will serve to improve the experience for players and their families.

Though a season's end can create a sense of melancholy of what was, it can serve as a breeding ground for optimism. Doubt surrounding the viability of the Wild, and CPJHL, has been replaced by a collective confidence, supported by the league's united ownership group. NAE achieved most of its goals in its first year (a Championship loss was not part of the plan), and remains focused on delivering a truly Canadian junior hockey experience in its second year.

For information regarding next season, contact Scott Baker, Manager of Hockey Operations at info@northemathleticeducation.com or 905 244 4200.

Photos courtesy of Dorothy Duck Photography



GH Falcons Fly At Machi

Submitted by Gravenhurst Falcons Badminton Club

The Gravenhurst Falcons had positive results from the recent GBDBA (Georgian Bay District Badminton Association) tournament held at the Machi Club in Aurora.

Perhaps the least expected was the victory by Cameron Bird and Om Patel over their arch nemesis, the team of Demetrios Margou and Ethan Zhang, in an exciting 3-game match. It was the first time Cameron and Om defeated this team, eventually winning the BDU13 event.

Another positive was the play of Morgan Gillan/Thomas Battistini in BDU15. They finished second - losing to only one team in a close match. It wasn't their strong placement - it was how well they played considering their struggles before the tournament.

Shrey Patel, U19 Singles, provided another strong performance. He played one of his best matches ever in defeating Joshua Um of Newmarket in a long, 3 game semi-final. He showed great poise and determination while using a very intelligent attack.

The final in BSU19 was all Falcons as Dhir Patel joined Shrey after defeating number one seed, Jake Pridham of Machi. This was a much anticipated and exciting match as Dhir had defeated Jake in their last meeting with considerable difficulty. This time, Dhir was prepared and controlled the match to win in two decisive games. Dhir went on to defeat Shrey in the final to win the event.

*Back row (L-R) - Dhir Patel, Shrey Patel, Thomas Battistini
Front row (L-R) - Cameron Bird, Morgan Gillan, Om Patel*



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- 1. SMSK Curl – Game action at South Muskoka Curling & Golf.
- 2. Bala Curling Club – Hockey Hot Shots.
- 3. South Muskoka Bantam AE Bears reaching the OMHA finals.
- 4. Arrowhead Nordic Ski – Muskoka Loppett.
- 5. Bears Rock The Rock, photos courtesy of Nate Pokocky – South Muskoka Photography.
- 6. Bracebridge Knight Hawks in North Bay.
- 7. MUSAC: Ontario AA Meet, Brantford.



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8-ENDER IN BALA

Submitted by Bala
Curling Club

The curling equivalent of a 'hole in one' happened on the Competitive Curling Semi Final Page Playoff Game on March 23rd. Skip Jeff Overbeek threw a perfect raise takeout to move his 7th stone in the house, angling off to push out the other team's rock and kept his shooter in the house.

It last happened in club play in December '06, more than 10 years ago.

Oddly enough, on the wrong side of the 8-ENDER were Terry McFadden, son James and Allan Turnball. It was Terry McFadden, his other son Gord and Allan Turnball who were part of the team that achieved the previous 8-ENDER.

The Ontario and Canadian Curling Associations are sending awards to Team Overbeek for their accomplishment.

An 8-ender involves having all 8 rocks in the house and all 8 are closer to the button than any of the other team's stones. Scores 8.



PREP FOR THE GOLF SEASON

Submitted by Muskoka Highlands

The golf season is upon us - get ready to play.

BEGINNER – find a friend who golfs and go with them to their course. They'll introduce you to the game. Consider entry level lessons, such as the 'Get Golf Ready' program or something similar, at the course. Learn fundamentals - putting, chipping, long irons and the dreaded driver! A grip on the basics makes the game more enjoyable.

NOT SO NEW – and want to improve your game...track it. There's no better way than joining Golf Canada and using their app to enter your score. You can also enter number of putts, length of drive, longest putt, penalty strokes and more. After about 5 rounds, you'll have an index which will change with every score lower than those used to start the process. Then you can tell your fellow players how many strokes they have to give you at the first tee!

EQUIPMENT – there's new equipment every year. It's best to get fitted for clubs. You wouldn't buy shoes without trying them on. Ditto for golf clubs. At various courses, you can try some of the latest clubs on the course before buying. It helps to test-drive on an actual course versus a store simulator or driving range.

LESSONS – we all want lower scores. The big gap can be covered with a tweak to your swing or set up. Only a practiced eye will see this. Most courses have those eyes.

PRE-SEASON WARM-UP – visit a practice facility. Give the clubs a swing there before teeing off or use the driving range option on a simulator to get the rust out and the lubrication into the swing joints used just for golf!

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Rock Peewees - Team Effort Brought Them To The Edge

Submitted by Muskoka Rock Hockey

Everyone that showed up, showed up to play...as a team, as a family. There were no 'cuts', no house league team to draw from. Everyone made the team and they played like it all year.

The Muskoka Rock Peewees, half minor, half major peewees, with a wonderful girl on the wing had a season to remember.

It started early as the team jelled quickly. Then, with extra practices, the dynamics of the team started to show. Northern Athletics Education Inc., were brought in by the coaching staff. NAE helped train and develop both on-ice and off-ice skills.

On the ice, the peewees had won most of their games by mid-November. Then, the true turning point. It wasn't wins that turned the team around, it was losing 4 of 6 approaching the Christmas break that did it. They could have crumbled. However, they regrouped and identified some downfalls. Coaches changed some lines as well as attitudes...then it hit.

On January 12th, the Muskoka Rock Peewees started what turned out to be a 14-game winning streak when they edged Coldwater 4-3...it was also the first game of the OMHA playdowns. They would go on to



sweep Coldwater in 3, tightly contested games. Then the Rock blew away Creemore, swept away tough Dundalk and took out Norwood 3 straight.

Those sweeps brought the OMHA Finals. The Drayton Defenders walked in to Port Carling on March 11th and snapped the Rock's winning streak with a narrow 2-1 victory. They had met their match.

Drayton would go on to take the OMHA Championship.

To the Muskoka Rock Peewees, you proved - from start to finish, from 'top' to 'bottom' - your exceptional team effort brought you the opportunity to play for the OMHA Championship, a rare feat. You'll remember Drayton for awhile and it'll probably be years before you recognize what you accomplished. You all did well - be proud...keep your heads up.



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BANTAM BEARS - OMHA CHAMPS

With contributions from SMSK Minor Hockey

Disciplined, opportunistic and focused...three words to describe the South Muskoka Bantam Bears, OMHA 'BB' Champions of 2016-17.

All were evident during game 5 of the OMHA final against St. Mary's Rock. The Bears took advantage of 2 power plays, hit the Rock hard - but clean - and held the fort under pressure in the waning moments without any sign of panic in their game.

The Bears took a 2 games -0 series lead with 1-0 and 6-1 home victories. St. Mary's bounced back, taking the next 2 at their rink. The decisive 5th game was back in Bracebridge.

A very undisciplined penalty by St. Mary's led to the Bears 1st goal. After adding another power play marker, the Bears physically and intelligently shut down any chance. There were a few anxious moments which included the Bears killing off back-to-back penalties in the latter part of the third. Final score, Bears 2 - St. Mary's 0.

The road to the finals wasn't perfect, but was dominant. The Bears season record, 50W - 9L - 1T. They won the MPS Championship going undefeated in league play, 22W - 0L. There were two losing "streaks"...of 2 games each. A few winning streaks occurred throughout the season including the 22-gamer which started December 2 vs the Highland Storm and ended against St. Mary's in game 3 of the finals (March 11). Plus, a tournament win in Kingston where they defeated the likes of Newmarket, Richmond Hill and Richmond West-Carleton (Ottawa area).

Over those 60 games, the Bears scored 266 goals and allowed a paltry 68...a 1.13 GAA. Goaltenders Curtis Dewasha and Brad Webb combined for a mind-numbing 25 shutouts...almost half the season. They're not doing that without their stellar 'D' of Max Larock, Connor Marling, Jack Lyndon, Brett MacDonald, Jamison Barrett and Tristan Gollan.

Forwards Dylan Whipp, Brendan Zsadanyi, Jamie Boyd, Dustin Labelle and Aiden Baker played integral roles at both ends of the ice... their pesky fore-checking complimented both their defensive and neutral zone play. Though maybe not apparent on a stats sheet, their unsung contributions to the team's success were truly immeasurable.

Offensively, 5 players tallied over 50 points. Though Captain Keegan Mitchell led the way surpassing the 100-point mark, it wasn't a one-man show. Travis Newman, Lyndon, Ryan Henderson and Tyler Weese were the other members of the 50 + club and 9 players were double-digit goal scorers.

"The coaching staff is very proud of the accomplishments of these young men. From the first day of tryouts they were fully committed, very coachable and worked hard all season to achieve their goals. They played a fast, physical and disciplined game. They were a pleasure to coach and work with all season. We also thank the hometown crowd who supported our team, they helped us to three home wins in the finals," stated Coach Dan Blum.

A year that won't be forgotten. Simply put - South Muskoka Bantam Bears, OMHA Champs!

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10 SWIMMERS TAKE 16 MEDALS

Submitted by Muskoka Aquatic Club (MUSAC)

The highest competitive level swim meet so far this season was held early March in Brantford. 10 swimmers from the Muskoka Aquatic Club (MUSAC) qualified for the Ontario Spring Provincial Championships and Ontario AA Meet. Their training was tested. They came home with 16 medals.

Most notably, Ally Goldring earned two provincial titles as a 14yr old, winning gold in both 100m & 200m breaststroke. Mark Cox claimed gold in 200m backstroke as well as silver in 100m backstroke in the 14yr old boys events. The team was happy to reunite with Samuel Kuntz, now attending University of Guelph, and were excited for his bronze medal performance in the 17&over boys 200m backstroke race.

The following are results from the Ontario AA meet:

Branwyn Shaw - 13 & under:	bronze - 200m backstroke
Owen Jibb - 13 & under:	bronze - 200m breaststroke
Ian Markham - 14yr old:	silver - 800m freestyle, bronze - 200m backstroke
Daniel Ortiz - 14yr old:	gold - 50m freestyle, bronze - 100m freestyle
Andrew Markham - 16yr old:	gold - 100m breaststroke, bronze - 200m individual medley
Mitchell Cox - 17 & over:	gold - 200m freestyle, silver - 100m freestyle

Mitchell, Andrew, Samuel, and Mark also placed 2nd in the 400m Medley relay.

This meet was an excellent measure of the swimmers' progress to this point and the direction they need to go as they prepare for the height of the season this summer. Next up: Hamilton Aquatic Club Long Course meet, Owen Sound Invitational, and Eastern Nationals in Etobicoke, all in April!


Pictured (L-R) is Ally Goldring, Sam Kuntz and Mark Cox.

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NAIL BITER CAPS 79TH ANNUAL BONSPIEL

Submitted by South Muskoka Curling & Golf Club

The 79th Annual Men's Muskoka Lakes Bonspiel, sponsored by CRS Contractors Rental Supply, took place across Muskoka in late February.

Four area curling clubs: Baysville, Huntsville, Port Carling and South Muskoka Curling and Golf Club organized volunteers and donated ice time to enable this great Muskoka Curling tradition.

The committee and participants thank these clubs for their efforts in providing first class facilities on which to play.

In their 2nd year as sponsor, CRS GM Phillip Betts also supplied this season's winners a certificate towards their next rental at their Bracebridge and Huntsville locations. Chris Sidhu of CRS presented the trophies to our winners. Thanks to CRS for helping make the 79th Annual Bonspiel a great success!

By Saturday evening, only 8 teams (represented by four different clubs) remained, battling for the thrill of calling themselves champion in their respective event.

The main event saw Steve Cooke's team from South Muskoka taking on the John Woolhouse team from the Orillia Curling Club. After 8 fantastic ends the score was tied, forcing an exciting extra end! It came down to the last shot. The Woolhouse team stole the extra point to earn the Ecclestone trophy and the right to call themselves "Champions"! Congratulations to the Orillia team of John Woolhouse-Skip, Brian Moffatt, Lee Winch, Bob Hepburn

Congratulations to the finalists and winners! Other trophy event winners are pictured.

The 80th Anniversary of this curling tradition takes place February 22nd-24th, 2018. Keep the date open, it's going to be a great event!



For information regarding this, or any of our other bonspiels, contact: Jenn Josiak at jennifer@southmuskoka.com. See you on the ice!

1. "B" Event Champions – Borotraegar Trophy : LtoR Jeff Gilbert-Skip, Tyler Lockhart, Joe Mac Neil, Steve Post, Chris Sidhu- CRS
2. "D" Event Champions – Duke Trophy: LtoR Carl Seymour- Skip, Dave Rigby, Ken Ciphery, Chris Sidhu- CRS, Don Clelland
3. "C" Event Champions – Book Trophy: LtoR Dave Wilson, Tim McBride, Bill McCutcheon- Skip, Rob Heggie, Chris Sidhu-CRS absent: Jamie McBride
4. Main Event Champions – Ecclestone Trophy: LtoR Chris Sidhu-CRS, Jon Woolhouse-Skip, Brian Moffatt, Lee Winch, Bob Hepburn

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ROWING IN MUSKOKA

Submitted by Muskoka Rowing Club

Fitness, enjoyment and support are emphasized within MRC. Rowing uses all major muscle groups providing a low impact, full body workout!

Offering a variety of boats, members can join a crew and/or row individually. MRC encourages individual and team development. For competitive rowers, there are regattas and races to compete in under the Muskoka Rowing Club banner. Several of our students compete at university, returning each summer.

OPEN HOUSE

Our Open House is Saturday May 13, 10am-2pm at the Boathouse (Kelvin Grove Park). Information and registration will be available on-site.

LEARN TO ROW COURSE

Required for first-time rowers. Participation is limited and on a first-come basis. It is one dry-land orientation session and on-water sessions. Fee: \$175 - to row entire season, an additional \$200 fee.

Course runs June 3-4 and again June 10-11 at the same times:

Saturday Session 1 Day 1 8am - 4pm

Sunday Session 1 Day 2 9am - 1pm

RETURN TO ROW (Adult Recreational)

Those with rowing experience and completed an instructional rowing course, "Return to Row" runs Mondays, starting June 5th, 5:30pm to 8pm. Fee: \$350 for the season; \$250 for the second adult from the same household.

STUDENT RECREATIONAL

Full-time students, elementary to post-secondary, can enjoy a lower membership rate. Includes "Learn to Row" and unlimited rowing. Fee: \$200

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SEASONAL

For students rowing just spring/fall school season or summer (July/Aug) also a good option for those rowing with another club during school, but cottage in Muskoka. Fee: \$125

HIGH SCHOOL TEAM

Our BMLSS girls team has been training over the winter. They'll compete twice in June at the Canadian Secondary School Regatta against students from across Canada and the U.S., and at the Barrie Sprints Regatta.

COMPETITIVE ROWER (Adult or Student)

An additional fee is required to compete in regattas or races, includes Row Ontario and Rowing Canada fees. Fee approx.. \$90

LOCATION

The club's in Bracebridge, Kelvin Grove Park. Boathouse and parking on the south side of Ecclestone Drive with docks on the shore of the Muskoka River.

Visit us at: www.muskokarowingclub.ca

On Twitter: MuskokaRowingClub2muskokarowing

On Facebook: Muskoka Rowing Club



Muskoka
Limberettes
Gymnastics Club

MEET LUCY GUY

Submitted by
Muskoka Limberettes

Lucy is 7 years old and in our 4 hour pre-competitive group. Lucy has been part of the Muskoka Limberettes competitive program for just over a year and has made an astounding amount of progress over that time. It is amazing to see such focus and attention to detail in an athlete so young. Lucy is determined to learn and get things right, and has been working on feeling confident in her ability in the gym. Over the coming months she will be concentrating on developing and perfecting her routines to be ready for her first showcase demonstration in North Bay on May 25th. Congratulations Lucy!



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Knight Hawks Smash Two Tournaments

*Submitted by Bracebridge Knight
Hawks Badminton*



Last month, on the same weekend, one group of Knight Hawks visited North Bay, the other went to Aurora.

The 2-day tournament in North Bay proved the Knight Hawks can compete, and win, against larger centers like North Bay, Sudbury, etc.

In U14, playing in their first tournament outside the GBDBA region, the trio of Wyatt Blair, Ben Stephen and Jamie Garth surprised the home teams and placed well in their divisions. Wyatt faced players two years older, and upped his game to the best he's played.

In singles, the group lost only to the gold and silver medalists - and each other. Jamie took bronze and Wyatt and Ben took fourth. In doubles, Jamie and Ben teamed up for 'A' division silver. Wyatt and his partner played well to stay in 'A'. In mixed doubles, all three partnered with North Bay. Ben and his partner grabbed silver in 'B'. Wyatt and partner won silver in 'A', losing to the team that knocked Jamie and partner to the bronze game, which they won. That bronze gave Jamie three medals.

In U-16 and U-19, 7 Knight Hawks earned 'A' division medals in 9 events. Many matches were won and lost in three games or extra points. Kiersten Hillman dominated, winning gold in U-19 singles, silver in doubles and silver in mixed. In U-16 singles, Katie Garth lost by two points to the gold medalist, rebounding to take bronze. Paige Hillman met that same player in the finals, played strong in earning silver. Katie and Paige played up in U-19, lost some close matches but rallied to win 'B' division.

Jimmy Yao placed 4th in singles while Andrew Bunker, out most of the season with a broken ankle, had some strong games placing 2nd in 'B'. Matthew Schmanda won gold easily in U-16 singles.

Tyler Blair, up an age group in singles, placed 4th. Tyler and Matthew earned silver in doubles while Andrew and Jimmy teamed up to take gold in U-17.

In mixed, Katie and Tyler lost to medalists' Kiersten and her partner, taking them to extra points. Katie and Tyler bounced back, winning bronze in extra points.

Down at Machi in Aurora, Knight Hawk executive Chris Etherington took on coaching duties. Ashley Smith continued her strong efforts, snagging gold in doubles. Dan Etherington, and partner, took home the 'B' silver. Mackenzie Etherington, playing up an age group, earned the 'B' gold. Josie Niles, in first year, works hard at practice and attends tournaments already. She teamed with Hannah Schroeder, one of our young committed players, to capture the U-13 'B' finals. Laurie and Kate Moore played well in U-15's bringing home the 'B' gold medal.



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4. Houston Texans - 2002
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6. Edmonton Oilers, New England (Hartford) Whalers, Quebec Nordiques, Winnipeg Jets (1st time)
7. Rachel Homan - \$183,754



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Bonspiels Cap Season In Bala

Submitted by Bala Curling Club

In late February, the Bala Curling Club, with Johnston's Cranberry Marsh & Muskoka Lakes Winery, hosted "Curling on the Marsh" to celebrate Canada 150. A good number of enthusiastic people came out, including those who had never curled, to veterans of the sport.

The Ladies "Ides of March" Bonspiel in early March showcased the theme of "Curling Away In Margaritaville". Eight Muskoka-area teams dressed in tropical attire and enjoyed a variety of flavourful island cuisine. Nanci Beers' team, from Parry Sound Curling Club, won the day.

On March 11, the Club hosted "Hockey Hot Shots". The packed house remained entertained watching the on-ice activity, the Brier semi-final and the Toronto Maple Leaf game on TV. Steve Davidson and Sean Johnston were the "Hot Shot" winners. Cottage Country Cravings secured prizes from the Maple Leafs and served a delicious dinner.

The Club re-opens in November. Visit us on our Bala Curling Club Facebook page or contact balacurlingclub@gmail.com for any questions.

Picture of Allan Turnbull and Frida Ardal, winners of the prize for dressing in traditional period costume for "Curling on the Marsh"



TICKER... THE TICKER ... THE TICKER ... THE

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