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Sports Magazine - May 2018

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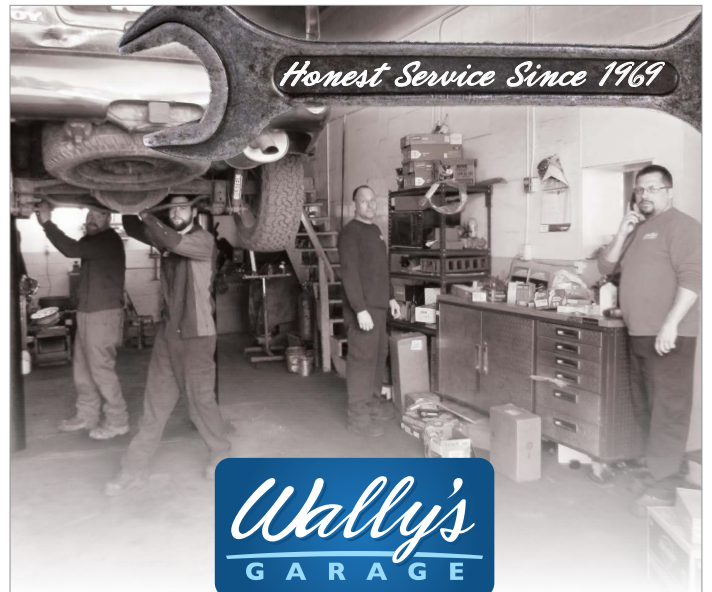
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PUBLISHERS / OWNERS:

Jeff Mitchell
Kristopher Sturgeon

EDITOR:

Matt Driscoll

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

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TOWN AWARDS CELEBRATION

The 2018 Bracebridge Community Recognition and Sport Awards Celebration take place at the Rene M. Caisse Theatre on Tuesday May 29 at 7pm.

On the sports side, this year's recipients include:

Sally Mills, President Muskoka Lawn Bowling earns the 'Good Citizenship Award' for helping bring the new club to fruition. Mills was also named 'Volunteer of the Year' by the Ontario Lawn Bowling Association (see 'Lawn Bowling Gets Its Due' in this edition).

The Hines Family receives the 'Christopher Todd Lang Accessibility Award' for their commitment to improving accessibility and awareness for people with disabilities, part of which is their work with Special Olympics.

Ken Veitch Jr. and Norm Raynor Player category; Tim McBride, Coach/Official are the 3 new inductees to the Bracebridge Baseball Wall of Fame for their contributions or achievements in the sport in Bracebridge.

'Community Coach of the Year' will be presented to Mike Fry who helped guide the Bracebridge Bandits Squirts to an undefeated season to capture the Ontario Amateur Softball Association's Championship.

The Jim Quigley Memorial Award, 'Athlete of the Year', will go to Alexis Kokkas. This past season, Alexis (16) played for Barrie Jr. Sharks in the PWHL (Provincial Women's Hockey League) and finished 6th in team scoring. The PWHL is a 21-and-under league consisting of 20 teams from Windsor to Ottawa. She previously helped Team Ontario win gold at the 2016 Summer Games by notching the overtime winner in the semis.

'Team of the Year', Norm Harkness Memorial Award, goes to the Bracebridge Knight Hawks Badminton team members who competed as part of the Georgian Bay area team in the recent Ontario Winter Games. Katie Garth, Tyler Blair, Paige & Kiersten Hillman played for bronze but fell just short. Historically, the Georgian Bay squad placed in the bottom of the event. To rise to this level was a significant accomplishment.



"The Bullpen"

GRAVENHURST CLASSIC SET

Submitted by *Gravenhurst Slow Pitch*

The 3rd Annual Gravenhurst Classic Slow Pitch Tournament runs June 8-10 at Muskoka Bay and Wharf diamonds.

The event is a Slo-Pitch National qualifier, Men's 'E' class, and supports Gravenhurst's local children's baseball program.

For teams, there is a minimum 3-game guarantee. Check availability to enter your team, contact Roy French at 705-571-0478 or rfrend@gmail.com.

Everyone's invited to watch the tournament which includes the Muskoka Petro-Tech Home Run Derby.

For more, visit gravenhurstslowpitch.com or their facebook page.

BIG TIME

Submitted by *Huntsville Hawks Lacrosse*

A group of Huntsville Hawks lacrosse players hit the big time.



The Hawks sent 26 Tyke and Novice players to participate in a scrimmage at the Air Canada Centre just before the Toronto Rock took to the floor to take on the Colorado Mammoth.

An awesome experience for the Hawks.

KUDOS

At the 'Muskoka Vigil for the Humboldt Broncos', Bracebridge resident Jeff Whittle spoke. Jeff once played for the Broncos. He told some stories, both on-ice and riding the bus. It was tough, but he did it. Thanks for sharing Jeff, well done.

Special thanks to South Muskoka Minor Hockey's Kevin Babcock and Barry Elson for taking the 'donation jar' idea and running with it. They looked after all the details. An additional \$1316 was collected - thanks boys.



FIGHTING ALLENS

Judo Jeff Allen took Gold at the Tora International Judo Tournament in Brampton.

He's busy again - late May's Can Am in New York then the American State Games in Michigan in June. This year, Jeff's son Lucas will be fighting in these tourneys as well. He's trained hard with Dad and keeps getting better. Jeff's already qualified for the World Judo Championships taking place in Mexico in October.

OFF TO OFSSA

Submitted by *Bracebridge Knight Hawks Badminton*

At the Jr. B finals in Scarborough, the Bracebridge Knight Hawks brought home some hardware.

Tyler Blair, with partner Brandon, took silver in U19 boys doubles. Katie Garth and Tyler grabbed bronze in U19 mixed. Kiersten Hillman, with partner Hannah, capped the tourney with gold in U19 girls doubles.

Tyler, Katie, Kiersten along with Matthew Schmanda and Paige Hillman all placed first at GBSSA to advance to OFSSA championships in Windsor (played just after deadlines).

Good luck Knight Hawks.

SHIELD MOVING TO PORT

The South Muskoka Shield hockey club will, starting this fall, be playing out of Port Carling.

After over a decade in Gravenhurst the club had their ice time arbitrarily changed last year from an 8pm start to 8:30. It may not seem like a big deal, but the change in July adversely affected attendance and other teams in the league. For the upcoming season, the club was told there were going to be other conditions coming in a formalized contract. Following attempts to obtain those details, the Shield opted for an alternative - Port Carling.

The Shield is being welcomed in Port 'with open arms' from Mayor Furniss, arena staff and Muskoka Rock Hockey.

The Shield are looking for billets, game day volunteers, equipment manager and so on. If you're interested, email Frank Demasi at frank@shieldhockey.com or call (647) 262 - 3362.

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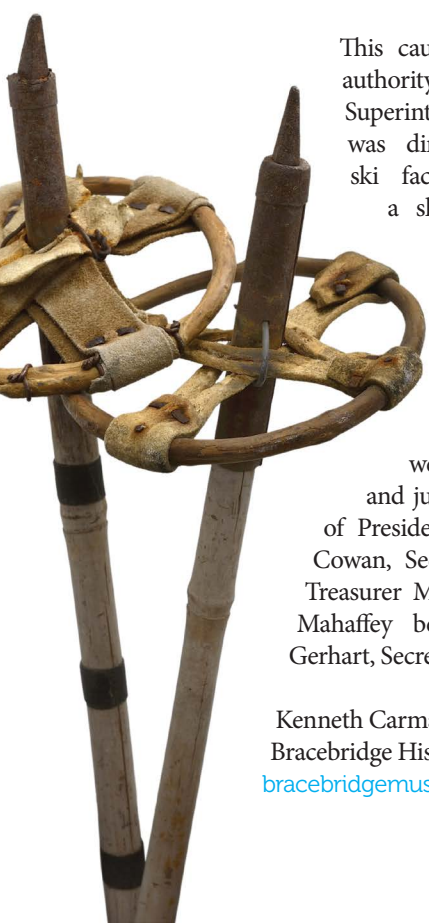
The 3 men from Cobalt that skied through Bracebridge in 1931 on one long set of cross-country skis fitted with three sets of harnesses (picture that), on their way to Toronto, sparked interest with people in Bracebridge.

That event may have given birth to recreational skiing in Bracebridge. Many in Bracebridge started skiing every weekend and, in 1933, the Bracebridge Ski Club was organized with 48 members, William Creswick as President.

This caught the attention of those in authority. In 1934, Bracebridge Road Superintendent, David Hockridge, was directed by Council to create ski facilities with 2 jump ramps, a slalom and downhill run and 3 bobsled runs in the steep valley on the Gibbs farm north of town, west of the Bracebridge Cemetery.

In 1935, club membership climbed to 109. Competitions were held in slalom, downhill and jumping. The executive consisted of President Dr. Fraser Greig, VP Mrs. Cowan, Secretary G. Leslie Tennant and Treasurer Mrs. MacMillan. In 1938, Judge Mahaffey became President and W. G. Gerhart, Secretary-Treasurer.

Kenneth Carman Veitch
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TRIVIA

QUESTIONS:

1. Kevin Pillar recently set a new Toronto Blue Jay record. For What?
2. What stadium hosted the first super bowl then later the 1984 Olympics?
3. Name all 6 professional (major league) teams in Chicago.
4. At 8, who holds the all-time NHL record for most overtime goals in the playoffs?
5. What's the movie: "I want you to kill every gopher on the course." (reply) "Check me if I'm wrong Sandy, but if I kill all the golfers, they're gonna lock me up and throw away the key."
6. Which is the only team to play in every World Cup (soccer/football) tournament?
7. Babe Ruth's first major league home run was May 6, 1915 in New York vs the Yankess. But, in what city did Ruth hit his first 'professional' homer in an official game?



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BREAKERS STRIKE GOLD

Submitted by Bracebridge Breakers Basketball

The Bracebridge Breaker's Under 13 Girls basketball team has come a long way. This season, the team went all the way to the Ontario Basketball Association (OBA) 2018 Ontario Cup and came away with the gold medal.

The Ontario Provincial Championships is the season finale, with clubs from all over the province competing. It is the culmination of effort, commitment and development made by teams throughout the basketball season.

This year, the Under 13 Girls tournament was held in Niagara Falls. Rankings for the tournament were based on games played during the season and the Bracebridge Breakers were placed in Division 9.

On day one of the tournament, the Breakers started off strong in their match against the Milton Stags with a 32-24 win. The momentum continued on day two with convincing wins against the Canadian Basketball Academy (40-26) and the Stratford Optimists Basketball Club (28-15).

With no losses in pool play, the Bracebridge Breakers went directly to the Gold Medal Game against Orillia Lakers. These two teams played regularly during the season and were evenly matched.

The game started off close and the Breakers were only ahead by a basket (14-12) at the half. The girls played strong defense in the third and fourth quarters which lead the team to a 26-16 victory.

The Bracebridge Breakers Basketball Club has proven itself to be a positive part of the community. In recent years, the program has grown from two teams in 2012-13 to seven club teams and offer additional youth programs such as Steve Nash Youth Basketball and the Junior NBA.

Basketball in Bracebridge has come a long way.



FALCONS SOAR IN NEWMARKET

Submitted by Gravenhurst Falcons Badminton

Club activities and competition ended the 2017-18 season.

The last tournament for provincial play was the GBDBA Junior Championships at Newmarket's Machi Training Center. Despite being the worst weekend for travel, seven Falcons and families braved the trip.

In Boys U13 we had the youngest players, William Nunnemucher and Desmond Gauthier (9) and Cameron Bird and Om Patel (10). In Singles, three of the four semi-finalists were Falcons – Desmond, Om and Cameron. Machi player, Leo Zhang, defeated Cameron in the semis and then Om in the finals in very exciting, long matches. Cameron came closest to defeating Leo, losing 23-21 in the first game of his match. Desmond went on to win second in the 'B' flight and William took second in 'D' flight.

In Doubles, Cameron and Om cruised to the Gold never having more than 14 points scored against them in any of their games. William and Desmond lost their first match, then won the 'C' flight in one of the most thrilling matches of the tournament.

Cameron teamed up with Midland's Kate Wang and, despite never playing together before, managed to win the 'B' flight of U15 Mixed Doubles.



Morgan Gillan, the only Falcon in U17, teamed up with partners from Bracebridge in Doubles and Mixed, finishing first in 'B' flight of Mixed Doubles and third in Doubles.

In Boys U19, Shrey and Dhir Patel proved to be the best, finishing one-two in Singles with Dhir coming out on top. They partnered in Doubles and won all their games on route to the Gold Medal.

Players now turn their attention to their school teams where several Falcons have made their mark already. Shrey is the MPS Senior Boys Singles Champion. Morgan, with Ashley Smith of Bracebridge, are MPS Junior Mixed Doubles Champions. Morgan and Shrey just competed at GB's, then Shrey hopes to move on to OFSAA.



SHIELD ALUM MAKES TEAM BELGIUM

Submitted by South Muskoka Shield Hockey Club

Former South Muskoka Shield defenseman Billy Denis has been selected to represent his birth country of Belgium in the 2018 Men's World Championships being held in Holland.

After only one season here in Muskoka, Billy advanced to play US college hockey for Lindenwood University in the NAIA. We are very proud to move another player into the college ranks and now to represent his country in the men's division.

Shield President and General Manager Frank Demasi said, "When Coach Gil Paelinck of the Belgian National team contacted me about Billy, I was happy to tell him the strides Billy made while playing here and how I am sure Billy will be a difference maker for Team Belgium. I played against Gil in



Europe and I am confident in his coaching abilities and for him to help Billy to continue to grow. Billy's a big, strong kid with a great shot, strong skating ability and great work ethic. He is very competitive and gives his all. Billy is a great kid and conducts himself very professionally on and off the ice."

Billy stated, "I am very proud to represent my country at the highest level and this could not have been done without the help from my family, teammates and coaches. I want to give a special thank you to the South Muskoka Shield in the GMHL. They helped me settle in North America and Head Coach Frank Demasi and Assistant Coach Anthony Gambacorta gave me the chances to improve and take my game to the next level. They helped me to achieve a big goal of mine which was to go to college and thanks to them I am now almost done with my Freshman year and have an opportunity to represent my country at a senior level."



SPORTREC BACKS CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

Submitted by W. Morris Hudasek, VP. Children's Foundation of Muskoka, Muskoka Coordinator CTC Jumpstart

YOU'VE WANTED TO

Submitted by Muskoka Rowing Club

Challenge yourself to learn something new. Fresh air and exercise on the water. Learn to row, you know you've wanted to.

The Muskoka Rowing Club will host a couple 'Learn To Row' sessions. The first one is May 26 (8a-4p) -27 (9a-1p), two full days of instruction to complete the course.

The second session will be held in the evenings of May 29, 31, June 5, 7 and 12 (5:30-8). Rain dates are June 9-10.

It is also celebration time. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Muskoka Rowing Club. A party is being planned for July 27 and volunteers are needed to make this event a success. To volunteer or for more info, contact Bonnie Paterson at bonmaeday@gmail.com.

To get more details about the programs or the club itself, check muskokarowingclub.ca regularly for changes and updated information, on Twitter: [MuskokaRowingClub2](https://twitter.com/MuskokaRowingClub2) [muskokarowing](https://www.facebook.com/muskokarowing) or Facebook: [Muskoka Rowing Club](https://www.facebook.com/muskokarowing).

Now that the warm weather seems to have actually arrived, the playgrounds and parks are being used and summer sport organizations are completing registrations and getting ready to start programs. The Foundation has been busy approving funding for many of the children wishing to participate in these programs.

The Foundation recently received a significant donation from the Sportrec group in Huntsville, which was created many years ago to support youth sports programs in Huntsville. The Sportrec Board has decided to close its operation and turned its remaining funds over to the Foundation for the purpose of continuing financial support for Huntsville youth. We are very grateful for their support and thank them for the many years of effort and dedication to helping youth in their community.

The Foundation is always willing to accept funds for a specific purpose outlined by a donor, providing it is for the greater good for Muskoka youth.

I mentioned in last month's article that programs are being considered for this summer. It is expected more details will be available by June.

It is hoped a low cost/no cost hockey camp will be made available. Also any child who is wishing to play hockey for the first time this fall and has difficulty with funding, there is a plan to provide several young boys or girls with equipment as well as registration fees to begin their hockey experience. Our partners at CTC Jumpstart and the George Corn Memorial Fund will be assisting in these projects.

In the meantime, we will still be taking applications to support children in summer programs. So check with any organization that your child may wish to register with. If room is still available, send us an application for assistance.

There is no reason for a child in Muskoka to be excluded from recreational activities because of financial limitations.

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REDNECK SPIEL CROWNS "CHAMPEENS"

Submitted by South Muskoka Curling & Golf Club

You might be a redneck if you think the four seasons are bass, turkey, moose and deer...

The only season that counts to all them Rednecks that dun come out to play at South Muskoka Curling and Golf Clubs 'Rocky Island Tire Mixed Bonspiel' was the curling season.

Each team had four, 4-end games to complete. All was not as it seemed though 'cause them tricky convenors had some mud up their sleeves. Upon the completion of the first and fourth end of each game their fates would change faster than a redneck drops his tailgate. Thanks to a single piece of paper in a little envelope some teams found their fates changing for the good, some... well let's just say, some were madder than a wet hen!

The 2018 "Champeens" of the 'Rocky Island Tire Redneck 'spiel' hailed from South Muskoka Curling and Golf club and was comprised of Rae Anne Dion, Kelly Grubb, Lisa McCurdy and Alex Malcolm. As a fun aside to the awards, each participant was asked to bring a wrapped re-gifted item for the prize table or, as some found out, a prize steal!



One of the more popular features of the 'Rocky Island Tire Mixed Bonspiel' is the infamous potluck dinner in which each team is responsible

for bringing two redneck dishes. What terrific "grub" the participants provided each other. Thanks to all who filled those crockpots, salad bowls, baskets and platters!

The committee and participants thank the fine folks who supplied prizes for the awards but in particular they thank Rocky Island Tire for their continued support of this great event. Sponsors are an integral part to any bonspiel and we "thank 'em muchly!"



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HOT



- 1. Bala Curling's Gloria DeCaire wins 'Turkey Shoot' presented by Randy Brown.
- 2. Andrew Ramsay wins Leaf stick at Bala Curling.
- 3. Junior & Senior 'Hot Shots' winners at South Muskoka Curling & Golf.
- 4. Muskoka Hornets' indoor training.
- 5. Toilet Paper fashion at South Muskoka Curling & Golf.
- 6. Lucas Allen, son of Judo Jeff Allen .
- 7. MSK Limberettes in Richmond Hill.
- 8. BB Soccer Club readies for the outdoor season.

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Hot Shots SCORE IN BALA

Submitted by Bala Curling Club

The Bala Curling Club's annual 'Hockey Night Hot Shots', a hockey themed curling skills competition, proved quite challenging even for the best of the curlers.

Ron Overbeek was the overall winner of some cash, a beer mug and a 'Hurry Hard' Amber Lager for scoring the most points.



Ron Algate scored the only actual hockey goal with a stick and puck shooting from one end of the curling sheet to the other into a really tiny net.

Gloria DeCaire won a 12 ½ pound turkey in the 'Turkey Shoot', sending a diagonal curling rock shot from Sheet 1 to Sheet 2 and drew to the button, just 7 cm from the pin!



Winner of the Limited Edition Signature Series 2017-18 hockey stick, autographed by all the Maple Leafs players, was Andrew Ramsay.

Thanks to our sponsors: Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment, Geoff Tait at Triple Bogey and Hurry Hard Amber Ale and Cottage Cravings for a wonderful evening.

ABOVE RIGHT: Ron Overbeek (L) with Randy Brown

ABOVE LEFT: Ron Algate (R) with Randy Brown

THREE ASCEND IN THE SOUTH

Three local head coaches continue their ascent in NCAA golf south of the border.

John Handrigan (Notre Dame), Erin Thorne (Wingate) and Brennan Webb (Middle Tennessee) are all coming off spectacular seasons.

Handrigan's team threatened at the ACC Championships and finished 6th, the best showing at the ACC's ever. The team shot 19-under par, third lowest in program history. The squad had a -22 last October, tied for lowest all-time.



Finishing 26 strokes ahead of the 2nd place finishers, Thorne's Bulldogs women's golf team recently won the SAC Championship. Though the Bulldogs were to play in the Regionals, the SAC win qualified them for NCAA postseason play (mid-May).

Though the Blue Raiders men's team weren't necessarily having a great year overall, Webb guided the group to MTSU's first-ever Conference USA Championship. The C-USA launched MTSU into the Regionals with a shot to advance to NCAA Championships (end-May).

To top off the season, Thorne and Webb were honoured recently in their respective conferences - each were named 'Coach of the Year'.

ABOVE: Brennan Webb (L) - photo courtesy MT Athletics Communications.

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FASTBALL STARTS 45TH YEAR

Submitted by Bracebridge Men's Fastball

The 45th season of Bracebridge Men's Fastball League commences on May 22.

Ten teams and two new sponsors, Rock Solid and Dockside Welding, join one of the longest running fastball Leagues in Ontario. League President Scott Hammond and the executive are excited and anxious to embark on another successful season playing at Peake Fields at Verena Acres in Bracebridge.

Games are on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, starting at 7 pm.

The annual League Tournament again is on Father's Day weekend, Friday June 15 and 16, with a Ladies Tournament going on at the same time.



Come out and celebrate the great game of fastball with friends and family this summer at Peake Fields.

The season kicks off with fastball veteran Mike Crawford facing defending League champions, Boston Pizza, May 22, 7pm.

Any players wishing to play should contact our Secretary Nathan Lee via bracebridgefastball.com

MEET ELIZABETH PETERSEN

Submitted by Muskoka Limberettes

Elizabeth is seven years old and in our 12 hour competitive compulsory group.

Throughout April, Elizabeth spent her time in the gym preparing for upcoming competitions. Elizabeth remained focused and determined during practice to perfect her routines and learn her front hip circle on bars.

All this hard work paid off as Elizabeth placed first on Vault at her second ever competition in Richmond Hill. At age seven, Elizabeth is the youngest Muskoka Limberette to compete.

Keep making us proud Elizabeth!



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CHAMPIONSHIP WEEK WRAPS CURLING SEASON

Submitted by South Muskoka Curling & Golf Club

The curling season at South Muskoka Curling & Golf Club ended with a great 'Championship Week'.

New this season was the addition of a junior 'Hot Shots' event where four juniors tested their skills learned over the season. After some great shooting, 'Hot Shot' junior winners were Michael Millar and Annalise Smart.

In the senior event, four men and four women attempted six different shots. Sue Larose-Lorenzini and Steve Post captured the 2018 'Hot Shots' crowns, well done.

The mixed championship was a rematch of the 'A' side semi. 5th-seed Team Post rebounded to defeat 6th-seed Team Goltz in the finals. Congratulations to Steve Post-skip, Keyaira McQueen, Rian Allen and Cheryl Post.

The ladies final saw the battle of the Thursday businesswomen come to pass. After eight great ends by both the Whitty and Larose-Lorenzini teams, the ladies championship went to Barb Brown, Judy Walker, Louise Kirbyson and Nancy Whitty- skip.

The men's final found Whip Moores' team of the Monday Businessmen's league take on Andy Nelan from the Tuesday recreational league. The back and forth game came down to the last shot. With hammer, Team Moore made a difficult raise take-out

to take two, and the game. Congratulations to David Knowles, Taylor Styles, Whip Moore -skip and Bob Knudson.

In the open final, 6th-seed Team McGuire faced 2nd seed Team Guy. Recovering from their loss to McGuire earlier, Team Guy bounced back to secure the 2018 open title. Well done Mitchell Guy, Tyler Lockhart -skip and Nathan Guy (absent: Jim Fitzgerald).

One final championship was to be determined...the Wednesday mixed! First draw winners Team Corbett took on first draw runners-up Team Gilbert. Rallying to defeat Corbett's collective

and claim victory, the growling wolves were Jeff Gilbert, Jackie McCutcheon, Jenn Josiak and Ross Gilbert - skip.

South Muskoka thanks all volunteers - committee member, draw master, bonspiel organizer, ticket seller or by developing South Muskoka's future in the junior and school kids.

We express our gratitude to the businesses and individuals who sponsored a league or bonspiel and/or donated items for prizes.

Thank you to Port Carling Curling Club for donating ice and organization during the MLA and Men's Muskoka Lakes Bonspiels.

Thanks to 'Championship Week' sponsors: Fresh Kutz Market & Grill, Muskoka Brewery, Pepsi Bottling, Bricie Boothby of Cavalcade Ford Lincoln Sales Inc., Sysco Foods and Jay-Jay's Gardens.

We appreciate the membership for supporting the leagues and bonspiels and for coming out during championship week to support their curling family.

With club championships in the books, the 2017-18 season officially closes. See you in October!

1. Friday Mixed Champs
2. Ladies Champs
3. Men's Champs
4. Open Champs
5. Wednesday Mixed Champs



TO TURF OR NOT TO TURF - PART I

Topic: the rec facility eventually coming to Bracebridge. The arena and library are what they are. We're wondering about the 'indoor rec facility,' 'fieldhouse' or glorified gym concept.

Present plan: the floor is to be 'rubberized' and, theoretically, can house basketball, pickleball, badminton - which require various 'nets'

The schools and Sportsplex already have these floors and nets, just not 'rubberized'.

We contacted the school boards. The Catholic board office (for St. Dom's & MMO) spoke to us. TLDSB never returned calls. We presented this scenario:

We operate a minor, youth sports group with volunteer coaches. What's the cost to book your gym one night a week for 20 weeks? Answer: \$160.00 (+hst) - broken down: \$60 one-time 'permit fee' plus \$5.00 per rental 'security check'. Gyms ours from 7p-10p. Average, \$2.67 per hour (discounts/subsidies applied) including potential access to their equipment.

The Town's website lists a 'half hall, community service, recurring rental' rate at the Sportsplex at \$18/hour. Arena, dry pad (no ice), 'community service' rate, \$38/hour.

We'll make this (knowingly incorrect) assumption for demonstration purposes.

Say the new facility splits the difference above and charges \$28/hour. We'll take off 50% for subsidized groups. Rental rate using school example above, \$840 (\$14/hrx3hrx20nights).

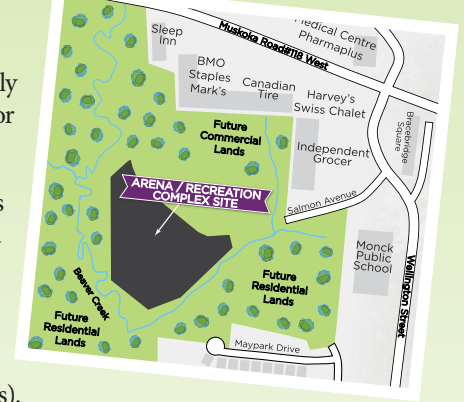
A 525% increase...and, we're guessing we're very low in what will be charged for the new facility.

A 'turfed' surface is different. One can create a market/demand for it. Get new sports - touch football, ultimate frisbee, soccer league, winter baseball/ soccer practice...things you cannot do properly on a wood or 'rubberized' floor. Groups from Huntsville, Orillia, etc may use our 'turfed' floor. That's economic spin-off.

We wrote about this first in March '17 - visit issuu.com/overtimesportsmagazine (pg 4 titled "\$47.5 Million - Quick Thoughts").

We'll continue this topic next month.

Express your views to the Town and/or your councillor.



LAWN BOWLING GETS ITS DUE

Submitted by Muskoka Lawn Bowling Club

Sally Mills was awarded 'Volunteer of the Year' by the Ontario Lawn Bowling Association (OLBA). Mills received a plaque and cash award at the OLBA's Annual General Meeting.

"Sally Mills, President of the Muskoka Lawn Bowling Club, is a role model for the expansion of the great sport of lawn bowls," said Phillip Francis, VP, OLBA. "Through the enormous efforts of Sally and her committee, the Club was established on the grounds of Muskoka Highlands Golf Links in July 2017."

"Establishing the Club was a great deal of work, we were fortunate to have a lot of support," explained Mills. "Muskoka Highlands got us started by providing the leased land for \$1/year. We received grants and private donations. Other clubs offered guidance and used equipment."

You can still register for the fun 'Introduction to Lawn Bowling' programs that start late-May.

"We had a successful first partial-season, and look forward to our first full year," added Mills.

All ages and abilities program information are at muskokabowls.ca, or contact Sally Mills at 705-646-0086 or office@muskokabowls.ca.



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BLUSHING BRIDES CURL FOR LAUGHS

Submitted by South Muskoka Curling & Golf Club

Spring was in the air and so were the bouquets as the 2018 Spring Fling “Always a Bridesmaid” Bonspiel got underway at South Muskoka Curling and Golf Club recently.

Fourteen teams got all decked out for this themed ‘spiel in support of the YWCA of Muskoka. From the “Morning After” bachelorette party (complete with big hair and smudged make-up), to the parents of the bride and groom, the ladies got into the true spirit of the Bonspiel.

In addition to the silent auction, best-dressed vote and the ever-popular basket raffle, this year’s event included two traditional bridal shower games.

The first was the clothespin game. Each player was given one clothespin and the instruction to not use the word “game”. Upon hearing someone use the forbidden word they were to steal the other woman’s clothespin. The woman with the most pins at the end of the evening would win a prize. Taking home the victory by a landslide was Taylore Blekkenhorst, who also happened to have donated the prize for this event.

Our second game, and one of the highlights of the evening, was the infamous shower game: The Toilet Paper Bride. In this event the ladies had to get very imaginative, as each team was given one roll of toilet paper to create their bride and two minutes to come up with a design. This was immediately followed by an additional five minutes to bring their design to fruition. Oh the exuberance! Oh the toilet paper fashion! Oh the imaginations of curlers! Each team came up with

some great designs but after several rounds of voting Team Smith and their pregnant bride took the cake... and some hydrangeas! Thank you to Jay-Jays Gardens and Maintenance for sponsoring this event.

Winning the 2018 Spring Fling by a quarter of a point was the “Parents of the Bride and Groom” team led by Pat Lloyd (PICTURED LEFT: L-R Father-of-the-Groom: Andree Baillargeon, Mother-of-the-Groom: Monica Terry, Mother-of-the-Bride: Louise Kirbyson and Father-of-the-Bride Pat Lloyd). In the category of “Always a Bridesmaid, never a Bride” was the Mallone team who, despite their struggles, continued to smile throughout the day and went home happy as recipients of Muskoka Brewery gift certificates!



Of course who wins or loses this event is secondary to the reason the ladies come together in the first place. This Bonspiel has traditionally associated itself with a local charity or organization. In order to bring as big a donation as possible to the YWCA of Muskoka, an event such as the ‘Spring Fling’ relies on sponsorship to help cover the costs. The committee thanks: E. Jean Polak, Muskoka River Tree and Property Care - Jackie McCutcheon, The Cooperators - John Cleator, South Muskoka Curling & Golf Club, Jay-Jay’s Gardens and Maintenance - Jenn Josiak, Tony King, Beamsuntary - Rae-Anne Dion, Taylore Blekkenhorst, Muskoka Brewery, Scotiabank- Port Carling and Cynthia Warner for their support.

The committee is pleased to announce that \$2700 was raised in support of the YWCA Muskoka. Well done ladies!

For information regarding this event or other Bonspiels at South Muskoka Curling and Golf Club, please contact Jenn at jennifer@southmuskoka.com





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RIDING A WAVE INTO CHAMP SEASON

Submitted by Muskoka Aquatic Club (MUSAC)

The Muskoka Aquatic Club had great success in April! MUSAC attended two competitions; Markham for the 13 and over swimmers and Owen Sound for 12 and under. At each competition MUSAC achieved more than 90% best times and brought home many medals and ribbons!

At the Owen Sound Invitational, MUSAC came home with 38 top-8 finishes. The club's medal count topped those from any other club attending the meet! Below are the highlights:

- Molly Dunlop - 6th, 100 IM; 8th, 100 fly
- Neil Duncan - 5th, 100 back & 200 breast; 7th, 200 back
- Teaghan Croxall - 8th, 100 breast & 200 IM
- Sydney Freeman - Gold, 200 back; Silver, 200 free & 200 breast; Bronze, 100 free, 100 back & 100 fly
- George Kierstead - Gold, 200 free; Bronze, 50 back; 4th 100 free & 50 free
- Josh Geveart - Silver, 50 fly; 5th, 200 free; 6th, 50 back; 7th, 50 free; 8th, 100 free
- Tyler Geveart - Silver 100 fly & 100 back; 4th, 50 fly
- Hayley Oke - Bronze, 100 back; 4th, 100 fly; 5th, 200 IM & 50 free
- James Mitchell - Bronze, 200 free; 4th, 200 breast; 6th, 100 breast & 200 IM; 7th, 50 & 100 free
- Daniel Parry - Gold, 100 fly, 100 & 200 breast, 100 back, 200 IM, 50 free
- Georgina Henderson - Bronze, 100 fly; 7th, 200 free
- Harrison Jones - 5th, 200 free; 6th, 50 & 100 free
- Duncan Gray - Silver, 200 free & 200 back; Bronze, 50 free, 100 free & 100 back; 4th, 200 IM
- Boys 10 & Under team of Tyler, Duncan, George and Daniel - Gold, medley relay & 4x50 free relay
- Boys 11-12 team of Daniel, James, Harrison and Tyler - Bronze, 4x50 relay



At the Markham Invitational, Muskoka's smaller contingent of swimmers represented the club well. MUSAC placed 15th out of 28 attending clubs with only 9 swimmers racing. Here are the highlights:

- Mark Cox - Silver, 50 back; Bronze, 100 back
- Mitch Cox - Qualified for finals in all 9 of his races
- Allyson Goldring - Gold, 50 free, 50 & 100 breast; Bronze, 200 IM
- Megan James - Qualified for finals in 50 & 100 breast
- Jasper Varieur - 6th, 50 breast
- Owen Jibb - Gold, 200 breast; Silver, 50 breast; 5 top 10 finishes
- Tyler Skinner - 7th, 100 free; 10th, 200 free
- Branwyn Shaw - Silver, 100 back; Bronze, 200 back
- Daniel Ortiz - Qualified for finals in 6 events

These two competitions lead MUSAC into the championship season. June and July have 32 swimmers qualified for Huronia Long Course Championships in Sudbury; 7 swimmers qualified for both Ontario Festival Champs and AA/Provincial Champs in Etobicoke and Markham; 4 swimmers qualified for Canadian Junior Championships in Winnipeg.

ABOVE: Owen Sound meet top 8 award recipients (L-R): James Mitchell, Molly Dunlop, Sydney Freeman, Georgina Henderson, George Kierstead, Hayley Oke and Harrison Jones



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FINAL DRAW WINNERS AT SOUTH

Submitted by South Muskoka Curling & Golf

The final draw winners of the curling season were announced by South Muskoka Curling & Golf.

The Tuesday winners were as follows (PHOTOS ARE L-R):

Men's Rec 'A' Division - Brandon Kuehn, John Arrigo, Jay Herbert & Bob Wolgemuth



Men's Rec 'B' Division - Bob Whitehouse, Tim Kuehn, Kevin Wray, Ed Ghikadis



Afternoon Ladies - Rosie Smith, representing sponsor Persimmon Management, Andrea Wolgemuth, Pat Lloyd, Wendy Stalkie & Marion Dunham

Evening Ladies - Kayla Matchett, Monica Terry, Kathyne Sander & Andree Baillargeon. Dawn DeCaire representing sponsor Deker Stone Construction.



The Thursday Evening Ladies winners were: Annalise Smart, Laura Bell, Kathyne Sander & Sue LaRose-Lorenzini, Nancy Raynor representing sponsor Raynor's Tree Service.



And, Friday Night Mixed winners were: Tacey Cross, Abbey Jewell & Keith Cross, John Hughes representing sponsor KKP-Kwik Kopy Printing.




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3. Black Hawks (NHL), Bulls (NBA), Bears (NFL), Fire (MLS), Cubs & White Sox (MLB)
4. Joe Sakic, Colorado (2 in '96 & '04, 1 in '98, '01, '06, '08)
5. Caddyshack
6. Brazil
7. Toronto - Sept 5, 1914 at Hanlan's Point Stadium (Toronto Island)



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SENIOR TUESDAYS

YOUTH TENNIS HITS YEAR THREE

Submitted by Bracebridge Tennis Club

Calling kids between 6 and 12!

The Bracebridge Tennis Club hosts the Muskoka Junior Tennis League (MJTL), a progressive learn and play program run by BTC pro Nigel Griffiths. Entering its third season, the MJTL was developed with grants from Tennis Canada and Ontario Tennis Association.

“The goal is to get kids to have fun while actually playing tennis,” says Griffiths. “The basics are covered in the ‘learn’ portion, then kids play with age appropriate formats and scoring. The emphasis is on effort and improvement versus winning or losing.”

The spring session begins May 22, Tuesday and Thursday evenings for four weeks. The summer session starts week of July 9, Tuesday or Thursday nights for eight weeks.



The clinics run at the Bracebridge Tennis Club, at the courts in Kelvin Grove Park, and is open to all youth. No tennis experience or club membership is required. Youth will be provided a racquet or can bring their own.

The cost is \$100 per participant per session.

To learn more, or to register, contact Nigel at nigel.griffiths@rogers.com.

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	BB Men's Fastball	www.bracebridgefastball.com
	BB Men's Slo-Pitch	www.bbslowpitch.wix.com/ball
	BB Minor Ball	www.bracebridgeminorball.com
	BB Soccer Club	www.bracebridgesoccer.net
	BB Tennis Club	www.bracebridgetennisclub.com
GRAVENHURST	GH Falcons	www.gravenhurstfalcons.ca
	GH Men's Slow Pitch	www.gravenhurstslowpitch.com
	GH Minor Soccer	www.gravenhurst.ca
HUNTSVILLE	HV Hawks Lacrosse	www.hawkslacrosse.ca
MUSKOKA	MSK Aquatic Club (MUSAC)	www.musacswimming.ca
	MSK Dart League	www.facebook.com/muskoka.dartleague
	MSK Highlands Golf	www.muskokahighlands.com
	MSK Hornets Baseball	www.hornetsbaseball.ca
	MSK Kayak School	www.muskokakayakschool.ca
	MSK Ladies Softball League	www.facebook.com/MuLSL
	MSK Lakes Soccer	www.mlsc11.wix.com/muskokalakesoccer
	MSK Lawn Bowling	www.muskokabowls.ca
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	MSK Paddle Club	www.muskokapaddle.club
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	Special Olympics	www.muskoka.specialolympicsontario.ca
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