

MISSISSAUGA **INVITATIONAL**

04-10-10

New Champs Crowned!

On April 10, 2010, the Mississauga Lightning hosted the 9th Annual Mississauga Invitational Floor Hockey Tournament at St. Augustine's Secondary School in Brampton. Twenty-four teams representing Hamilton, London, Scarboro, Oakville, Toronto, Midland, Muskoka, Simcoe, Milton, Woolwich, Guelph, Central Bruce, Newmarket, St. Catherines, Owen Sound, York South and of course Mississauga participated in the largest Floor Hockey Tournament in Canada and the largest 100% volunteer run Special Olympics event in the country! After the 39 games and over 250 goals scored, Four new Champions were crowned, but even more winners!

For those of you who weren't able to stay up and catch highlights of the day on the CTV Toronto 11:30 news, a recap of the days events is below:

In the newly formed Patrick Division, after two years of not garnering a single win, the Oakville Cougars came out on top posting a 3-0 record capturing their first ever Mississauga Tournament Championship! In the Smythe Division, three time champs, the Milton Mighty Ducks were looking to be the first team to win four championships, and after posting a 3-0 record in the round robin, faced the Muskoka Rattlers, who also went 3-0 in their bracket. Muskoka has had a few second place finishes in Mississauga and were looking to finally come out on top. In an amazing final, Muskoka broke the 2-2 tie and finished the game with a 5-2 victory, being the second team of the day to win their first Mississauga Championship! In the highly competitive Norris Division, York South posted a 3-0 record in the round robin, and grabbed a spot in the championship game. Guelph, also posted a 3-0 record in round robin play, with the last game being an OT victory over last year's Champs, the Hamilton Steelhawks. An epic contest was in the works, with both teams playing an amazing game. Tied at 2 going into the final shift, officials were preparing for OT, but York South decided to end the game in regulation by scoring with less than 2 minutes left in the game to win the title 3-2! This was York South's second Mississauga Championship, after winning the D division in 2003. Last up was the super fast Adams Division, which saw upsets and great action all day. The London Blazers went undefeated in round robin play, earning a spot in the championship game. They needed to await the mathematical calculations, as each of Mississauga, Metro and Midland had posted 1-2 records. In the end it was Midland who secured the second spot in the Championship by edging out Metro in the Goal Differential by 1 goal. After a tight beginning, and end to end action, London finally broke open the 2-2 tie and went on to win 5-2. This was London's third Mississauga Invitational Championship, winning the C division in 2003, and the Adams in 2007 previously. They join three time champs Peterborough, Milton and Mississauga, who combined have won 50% of all the Championships in the last 9 years! Although some familiar faces went home with titles it was the first time in three years where there wasn't a back to back champ!

But it wasn't just the Champions that went home with hardware. At the end of the day, each and every athlete received a trophy. At the Mississauga Invitational, "let me win" gets you a playoff game and "let me be brave in the attempt" gets you an award!

After 39 games, over 1000 minutes of floor hockey, over 250 goals, too many saves to count, and thousands of excellent plays, tournament organizers, referees and spectators, were once again impressed by the play and teamwork of the athletes. At the Mississauga tournament there is a 'one goal, per player, per game rule' which has resulted in a more competitive tournament and more participation by each and every player. This rule is unique to this tournament and encourages team work, sportsmanship and respect for your competitors, attributes that are the core foundations of Special Olympics.

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Tournament organizers and volunteers were extremely impressed by the sportsmanship, 'brave attempts' and excellent skills displayed by all the athletes. Appreciation and gratitude to all of our sponsors and donors, and for those suppliers who provide us with our 'special rates'. Special thanks to our referees Mark Woods, Rocco Licalzi, Lorne St. Louis, Carl Azzopardi, Brandon Azzopardi, Neil O'Gorman, Stevan O'Gorman, Jim O'Gorman, Rick Walker and Frank Jolic for doing a great job. If you are wondering where Stew Logan was – check out the Woolwich bench and look for their new coach...A final thank you goes to the parents, friends and family members of the Mississauga Lightning who work tirelessly to make this day a highlight of the Floor Hockey season for over 400 athletes from all over Ontario!

Preparations are already underway as Mississauga looks to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of this event on April 9, 2011. We hope to see you all there!

RESULTS

Adams Division

1. London Blazers (4-0-0)
2. Midland Hawks B (1-0-3)
3. Metro Leafs B (1-0-2)
4. Mississauga Lightning C (1-0-2)

Norris Division

1. York South Hawks (4-0-0)
2. Guelph BunsMaster Rollers (3-0-1)
3. Hamilton Steelhawks C (2-0-1)
4. Newmarket Ringers (2-0-1)
5. Owen Sound Thunderbolts (1-0-2)
6. Scarboro Cyclones C (1-0-2)
7. St.Catherines Chargers (0-0-3)
8. Central Bruce Shrieks (0-0-3)

Smythe Division

1. Muskoka Rattles (4-0-0)
2. Milton Mighty Ducks (3-0-1)
3. London Blazers C (2-0-1)
4. Simcoe Spitfires (2-0-1)
5. Midland Hawks D (1-0-2)
6. Mississauga Lightning D (1-0-2)
7. Woolwich Wolves (0-0-3)
8. Metro Leafs D (0-0-3)

Patrick Division

1. Oakville Cougars (3-0-0)
2. Hamilton Steelhawks D (2-0-1)
3. London Blazers D (1-0-2)
4. Scarboro Cyclones D (0-0-3)

Tournament stats

- 263 or 6.74 goals scored per game
- 13% of games decided by OT
- 49% of games decided by 3 goals or less!
- Over 355 athletes awarded for being "Brave in the Attempt"
- Over 700 items sold at the snack bar!

Goal Differential (GD)

DIVISION	Overall	Round Robin	Playoff
Patrick	4.00	4.00	n/a
Smythe	4.93	5.07	3.00
Norris	2.80	2.93	1.00
Adams	2.42	2.33	3.00
OVERALL	3.62	3.72	2.33

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SCORES

TIME	PAD		1		PAD		2		PAD		3	
8:00 AM	Hamilton C	2	Scarboro C	1	Mississauga D	7	Toronto D	4	Hamilton D	2	Oakville D	5
8:42 AM	York South	5	St. Catherines	1	Mississauga C	2	Metro Leafs B	1	Milton	7	Woolwich	0***
9:24 AM	Central Bruce	2	Guelph	3	Newmarket	3	Owen Sound	2*	Muskoka	5	Simcoe	2
10:06 AM	London B	2	Midland B	0	London C	6	Midland D	2	London D	4	Scarboro D	3
10:48 AM	Central Bruce	1	Hamilton C	6	York South	4	Newmarket	2	Guelph	7	Scarboro C	0
11:30 AM	Owen Sound	3	St. Catherines	2*	London C	3	Milton	3**	Midland D	7	Woolwich	0***
12:12 PM	Mississauga D	0	Muskoka	9	Simcoe	7	Toronto D	0	Hamilton D	7	London D	0***
12:54 PM	Mississauga C	2	Midland B	5	London B	3	Metro Leafs B	2	Central Bruce	1	Scarboro C	6
1:36 PM	Guelph	4	Hamilton C	3*	Oakville D	7	Scarboro D	3	Newmarket	4	St. Catherines	1
2:18 PM	London C	6	Woolwich	5*	York South	6	Owen Sound	0	Mississauga D	2	Simcoe	7
3:00 PM	Muskoka	10	Toronto D	1	Midland B	2	Metro Leafs B	3	Mississauga C	1	London B	7
3:42 PM	Hamilton D	5	Scarboro D	1	Midland D	1	Milton	5	London D	2	Oakville D	7
4:24 PM	ADAMS		CHAMP		SMYTHE		CHAMP		NORRIS		CHAMP	
4:34 PM	LONDON B	5	MIDLAND B	2	MILTON	2	MUSKOKA	5	YORK SOUTH	3	GUELPH	2
5:16 PM	AWARDS				AWARDS				AWARDS			

*OT

** Shoot-Out

*** Forefit Game (scored 7-0 for winner)

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