



The Redmen Review

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Newmarket Minor Hockey Association, www.nmha.on.ca 905-898-0714

Newmarket Hosts Bantam AA OHF's

By Brenda Furnish

NMHA to Host Bantam AA OHF, April 8-11, 2010 at Ray Twinney Complex!!

Every year our NMHA rep teams hit the ice in search of the ultimate prize - an OMHA Championship. But beyond that accomplishment lays the highly coveted OHF Championship for AA and A teams in their major year. The OHF Championship is a weekend tournament with the Champion teams from the OMHA, the NOHA, GTHL, Alliance and the Host Team from Atom through Midget. Each year the Branches rotate the host duties of each OHF. This year the OMHA had the responsibility to host Bantam AA and Pee wee A.

Please see *HL Championship Weekend* page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 NMHA Hosts Bantam AA OHF Championships
- 1 HL Championship Weekend
- 2 Tryouts – What do Coaches look for?
- 3 Annual General Meeting
- 4 Important Dates / Events / Kudos

"Developing better people should be the number one goal for any coach when dealing with kids."

Bobby Orr

HL Championship Weekend

By Murray Taylor

This is always an exciting time of year in minor hockey. The playoffs are well under way and somehow regardless of your skill level you seem to be adding just a little more intensity to what you are doing on the ice. While you've always thought you were working hard on the ice somehow you reach just a little deeper because this is the playoffs and you want to win. And while you may not always be on the right side of the win column you don't want that to be because you didn't give it your best and in the end, that's what really counts. After all, this is the playoffs!

At the start of every season one of the goals of every team in every division of House League, is to make it to Championship Weekend. As parents we marvel at how the teams and the individual players have progressed through the season, but the prize is still Championship Weekend. With only a couple of games to go it is impressive how many teams in all the divisions still have an opportunity to make it. That is a testament to the fantastic work our volunteer coaching staffs have been doing.

Please see *HL Championship Weekend* on page 3

Tryouts – What are Coaches looking for?

By Murray Taylor

*“Listen, Finish the Drill,
Demonstrate you want to
make the Team, Take a
deep breath, Relax and
have Fun.”*

Over the years I have had the privilege of assisting many Coaches during the tryout process by leading the on-ice portion of the tryouts. I think I have managed to cover almost all the different age groups and all the different levels at one time or another. While I’m on the ice I’ve told the players that I am there to run them through the drills that the coaching staffs have put together and provide them all with an equal opportunity to show what they can do as well as ensure that it is as safe an experience as the game allows. I am NOT there to Coach or guide any player on whether or not they are doing a drill properly or not.

I would encourage any player to try out for our Rep program if they wanted to give it a try. Tryouts are a test, a test of your individual skills, a test of your game awareness and a test of how you stack up against the other players. Coaches make their choices based on a lot of different criteria but based on my experience here are a few basic things you need to keep in mind if you want to put your best foot forward during a tryout.

1. **LISTEN** - It doesn’t matter how old you are, this skill is absolutely essential. Coaches can teach skills. That’s what they do. But that becomes dramatically more difficult when they have a player who doesn’t pay attention to what is being said.
2. **FINISH THE DRILL** - if a drill is suppose to end at the goal

Please see *Tryouts* on page 4



*Thank you for stepping forward and
being a volunteer*

Newmarket Hosts Bantam AA OHF's from page 1

Our NMHA Bantam AA team won the OMHA Championship last year as Minor Bantams, therefore did not qualify to participate in an OHF so when the opportunity arose to host this year’s OHF, the team jumped on board. The Host Committee put together a bid and submitted it to the OMHA in September 2009 and in October was notified that NMHA had won the host centre duties! This is the third OHF hosted by Newmarket.

The event features a Welcome Banquet for all the teams, followed by 2 days of round robin tournament play, finishing up with semi finals and the championship game. Gate fees are charged to assist the host centers with recouping some of their costs for the weekend.

For more information on the OHF Championships visit www.ohf.on.ca. For information on the game schedule or to obtain advance, discounted passes, please visit www.nmha.on.ca

Annual General Meeting

By Murray Taylor

The NMHA Annual General Meeting will be held on **Saturday April 17, 2010**. It will start at **10:00 am** and is being held at the **Ray Twinney complex in Lounge #2**. Please take note of the location change. This change was necessitated due to the Town closing of the Newmarket Community Centre.

The NMHA is your association and this is your chance to have your say. Not only will there be a review of association business and review of the financials of the association but as is the case every year, half of the Executive Board is open for election.

This year's Executive positions up for election are:

- President,
- Vice-President House League,
- House League Alternate,
- Secretary, and
- Sponsorship.

If you are interested in one of these positions but aren't sure what it would entail please contact Patricia Thibault at the Hockey Office and she will be able to provide you with an outline of the various positions.

Once again, this is YOUR association and this is YOUR OPPORTUNITY to influence how this association is managed and operated.

We hope to see you there!

HL Championship Weekend from page 1

This year Championship Weekend will take place over the weekend of March 27th and 28th at Ray Twinney, rink #1. Even if your team doesn't manage to qualify come on out and cheer on your friends that are on teams that have qualified. The schedule can be found on the NMHA website under the House League tab.

So, come on out and enjoy this showcase of the best teams from each division of the NMHA House League!



Get involved, it does nothing but make your association stronger!

*“HL Championship
Weekend March 27th &
28th at RT1”*

Tryouts on page 2

line, go hard to the goal line. Too many players do a drill and then pull up before it ends because they think the primary purpose of the drill is over. Don't forget that Tryouts are a test and Coaches are looking at the details because those are indicators to a Coach. Finishing a drill right to the end may seem trivial but not doing it can be

revealing to a Coach.

3. **DEMONSTRATE YOU WANT TO MAKE THE TEAM** - Coaches will put drills into a tryout to test not only fitness but desire. Understand that.
4. **TAKE A DEEP BREATH, TRY TO RELAX AND HAVE FUN** - believe it or not, you will perform better.

See you at the tryouts and GOOD LUCK!

Important Dates/Events/Kudos

By Murray Taylor

Dates:

- Mar. 27/28 - NMHA Championship Weekend
- Apr. 9-11 - Bantam AA OHF Tournament
- Apr. 17 - NMHA - Annual General Meeting
- Apr. 19 - Tryouts begin for the 2010/2011 Season
- June 1 - Registration Opens for 2010/2011 Season

Minor Bantam AE - Win Roger Senecal Memorial in Ottawa

Bantam AA - Win Wolverine Classic in Detroit

Congratulations Newmarket Redmen - please check the website under Rep Hockey/Kudos for details.

Congratulations:

Minor Bantam AE - Win their 4th Tournament in a row winning the North London Blue and White Tournament - VERY WELL DONE!!

Atom HL - Twin Contracting - Championship 'A' Finalists in Schomberg

Atom HL - Braced for Action take Silver in Bobcaygeon Tournament

Minor Midget A - Win Oakville Tournament

Peewee HL - Consumer Tire win Whitby Christmas Classic

Once again this year we would like to have a column called Players Perspective. It is intended to be a contribution from a current or past NMHA player.

If you have a story you would like to share about playing in the NMHA please email Murray Taylor at vp.hl@nmha.on.ca. The subjects can be memories such as attending your first tryout, what it's like to play on a Rep team, helping others to learn the game, what you like best about playing House League, a favourite Coach, what you like best about playing for Newmarket, etc. The list of subjects can be endless and these articles can be written under a pen name if you choose or using your own name.

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