

## GIRLS HOCKEY

### “SNAP SHOTS”

Tim Morris

The girls hockey season recently wrapped up with the conclusion of the MSHSL State Girls Hockey Tournament played at the Xcel Energy Center and Ridder Arena. Two state champions were crowned on Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> with The Blake School winning the Class A title and Edina winning the Class AA title, their first state championship in girls hockey. These teams were led by veteran Blake coach Shawn Reid and first year head coach Sami Reber for Edina. Reber is a former Hornet player and the first female coach to win a Class AA state title in girls hockey. Congratulations to both teams on their great seasons and state championships!!

The end of the season also meant distributing numerous awards to our players and coaches at the various banquets surrounding the state tourney. At the Minnesota Girls Hockey Coaches Association Hall of Fame and Awards banquet, the MGHCA inducted three individuals into the Class of 2016 Hall of Fame. The coaches inducted into the Hall of Fame were Denny Bray of Austin; John Schultz of Moorhead; and Steve Guider from Blaine HS. Between these three coaches, they have served over 80 years as high school coaches. Congratulations to these individuals for their service to their respective schools and community.

Two individuals were also named as Brano Stankovsky Award recipients for their service to the coaches association and to girls high school hockey in Minnesota. Tim Hunst from Owatonna and Tom Peart of Minneapolis were recognized for their contributions. This award was named for the long-time Blake School head hockey coach who passed away from complications of a stroke in 2012.

The MGHCA also recognized our top academic teams and individuals. The following teams were recognized as our section academic champions:

### **2016-17 ACADEMIC TEAM CHAMPIONS**

1A – 3.772 Northfield

2A – 3.886 Litchfield – Dassel – Cokato

3A – 3.788 Luverne

4A – 3.851 Minnehaha United

5A – 3.753 Princeton

6A – 3.898 Alexandria

7A – 3.864 Eveleth/Gilbert

8A – 3.942 East Grand Forks

**State Class A team Academic winner – East Grand Forks 3.942**

1AA – 3.944 Dodge County

2AA – 3.815 Holy Family/Waconia

3AA – 3.922 East Ridge

4AA – 3.812 White Bear Lake

5AA – 3.958 Maple Grove

6AA – 3.852 Robbinsdale Armstrong/Cooper

7AA – 3.848 Cambridge Isanti/Mora/Pine City

8AA – 3.889 Roseau

**State Class AA team Academic winner – Maple Grove 3.958**

The MGHCA also recognized 117 seniors as Academic All-State for their academic excellence. These seniors have a cumulative GPA of 3.80 or better while participating in girls high school hockey and all are in good standing with their team and the MSHSL. Each of these seniors will receive a certificate from the MGHCA that can be awarded at their team banquet. In addition to these academic awards, the MGHCA also awarded three \$1000 scholarships to deserving seniors. These recipients were:

Mackenzie Bergstrom, Roseau HS – Adrenaline Fundraising Scholarship – Awarded to a player showing leadership and community service initiatives.

Madison Chapman, Rogers HS – Premier Prep League Scholarship – Awarded to a player displaying development, leadership and teamwork skills along with superior academic performance.

Kirstie Ziegler, Blaine HS – Charlie Stryker Scholarship – Awarded to a player displaying sportsmanship and a team first attitude while pursuing rigorous academic studies.

Congratulations to these student athletes for their fantastic hockey careers and their academic excellence during their years of high school participation.

Planning is already underway for our fall clinic. Coaches and ADs should check out our website for updates on this event and other programs that will take place prior to the start of the 2017-18 season. The MGHCA website can be found at this web address: [www.MGHCA.com](http://www.MGHCA.com). Questions regarding any of our awards or programs can be sent to Tim Morris at [morrisgang@msn.com](mailto:morrisgang@msn.com). Have a great spring!!