

OMHATM

THE ONTARIO MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

**KIDS LOVING
RETURN TO
HOCKEY THIS
SEASON**

**THANKING THE
THOUSANDS OF
VOLUNTEERS**

**NEW SEASONAL
STRUCTURE**

**A LOOK BACK AT THE
2021-2022
SEASON**



PLAYING LIKE A CHAMPION STARTS BY EATING LIKE ONE.



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REAL EGGS.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

03	BOARD OF DIRECTORS	14	COACH OF THE MONTH
04	MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	15	BACK TO PLAYING NORMAL HOCKEY
05	PARTRICIA HARTLEY ADMINISTRATORS AWARD	16	ESSAY CONTEST
06	WALLY SCOTT BURSARY	18	OHL DRAFT
07	HONOUR AWARD	19	THANK A VOLUNTEER
08	EXCELLENCE IN DEVELOPMENT AWARD	20	WHERE ARE THEY NOW
10	A LOOK BACK ON 2021 - 2022	21	ELIMINATING EQUIPMENT COSTS
12	THE NEW STRUCTURE	22	OMHA CHAMPIONS

2021-22

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: BOB HILL
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REGIONAL DIRECTOR: ANDY COOKE
REGIONAL DIRECTOR: CATHY BAKER-BELL
REGIONAL DIRECTOR: SUZANNE TERPSTRA
REGIONAL DIRECTOR: PAUL SEBASTIAN

WELCOME



WELCOME

Congratulations and thank you for being a part of another exciting season across the Ontario Minor Hockey Association.

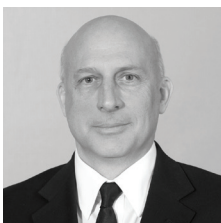
And what a season it was! Through two very challenging years, we were thrilled to see smiling faces, fist bumps and support in the stands as we were all reminded just how much love we have for our game.

The dedication of our minor hockey parents, volunteers, coaches, officials, trainers, managers and administrators made this a reality as they ensured a meaningful experience for all players.

Our new seasonal structure increased the focus on the mental well-being of our players with a less stressful start-up to the season and also extended the season, keeping all players playing longer and having the opportunity to participate in meaningful hockey through March.

Today's minor hockey players are the future parents and volunteers of our sport and the leaders in our communities. Let's continue to work together to create a safe, welcoming space for everyone in our game.

We look forward to continuing to work with you to make our game the best it can be!



BOB HILL
PRESIDENT



IAN TAYLOR
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE GAME
PATRICIA HARTLEY ADMINISTRATORS AWARD

JANE ZELKO

Essex Minor Hockey Association



Patricia Hartley Administrators Award

The Patricia Hartley Administrators Award is given in recognition of exemplary service in the field of sports administration. This award reflects the achievements of a local executive board member or volunteer staff person who worked toward the efficient operation of an association and the betterment of hockey.

The recipient of this year's award is Jane Zelko of Essex Minor Hockey Association. She always goes above and beyond to make sure every kid has the opportunity to play hockey over her decade-plus volunteering. Jane is always willing to lend a helping hand and is looked at as a valuable resource within the Essex hockey community.

“The work that she does in helping people through registration, the connections she makes with people in the community, it’s just amazing to sit back and watch her go. She’s tireless, her energy never ends, it’s infectious.”

- Mike Sales, Registrar, Essex Minor Hockey Association

RECENT RECIPIENTS

2020

Cheryl Carrier
 Quinte West Minor
 Hockey Association

2019

Colleen McGinnis
 Elmvale Minor
 Hockey Association

2018

Ann Flynn
 Stayner Minor
 Hockey Association

2017

Vonnie Crawford
 Township of Chatsworth
 and District Minor
 Hockey Association

2016

Terry Conroy
 Centre Wellington
 Minor Hockey Association

2021 AWARDS



MORE THAN A PLAYER OMHA-DAIRY FARMERS OF ONTARIO BURSARY PROGRAM

**LUKE BAILEY (LAMBETH), EVAN MULLER (OAKVILLE),
DYLAN PERGENTILE (WEST NIAGARA), AIDAN PRODERICK (LOYALIST)
AND HENRY STEPHENSON (LINDSAY)**



Wally Scott Bursary

Over the decades Wally Scott's personal and professional interests in hockey have merged to the benefit of the OMHA. The award presented in his name recognizes his contributions and commitment to the OMHA and to the game of hockey. This award reflects the achievements of a young hockey player who is committed to his community and demonstrates athletic ability while maintaining academic achievement.

Players know first-hand the commitment needed to succeed at a high level on the ice and in the classroom. The Bursary Program is comprised of two awards – the Dairy Farmers of Ontario Bursary and the Wally Scott Bursary. It reflects the achievements of young hockey players who are committed to their community, athletic ability, and academic achievement. Each recipient receives financial support towards their post-secondary education. It provides minor hockey players recognition of their outstanding commitment to:

- **Community service:** assisting in building stronger and healthier communities
- **Athletics:** on-ice success/achievement, as well a passion for the game of hockey
- **Academics:** dedication to studies and attainment of high grades in the classroom

Aidan Canning (East Gwillimbury) and Jakob Pedersen (Oakville) received the Wally Scott Bursary.

RECENT RECIPIENTS

2020

Ethan Andrews
Grey-Bruce

Adam Huras
New Hamburg

Vincent Robbenhaar
Barrie

Chloe Ryder
Kent

Andrew Salgo
Guelph

HONOURING DECADES OF SERVICE
OMHA HONOUR AWARD

NEIL SKIRVING

Hamilton Jr. Bulldogs



OMHA Honour Award

The OMHA Honour Award was established to recognize a person who has made an outstanding voluntary contribution to minor hockey for a considerable period of time, doing so of his, or her, own free will and not as part of a job or position for which they receive monetary consideration.

Neil Skirving of the Hamilton Jr. Bulldogs is the recipient of the OMHA Honour Award. He has dedicated a lifetime of volunteering to hockey and has exemplified outstanding voluntary contribution to minor hockey for decades in the Hamilton area. His contributions have come in the form of coaching, instructing, mentoring, and executive leadership. He contributes an extensive amount of time that stems from passion and desire for excellence.

“Neil was the reason I got involved in the Hamilton Jr. Bulldogs board. He helped me as a coach and now he’s helped me learn the operations of running the organization. He’s kind of a guru for us.”

- Adam Syring, Hamilton Jr. Bulldogs President

RECENT RECIPIENTS

2020

Rick Thomas
 Parry Sound Minor
 Hockey Association

2019

Wendy White
 Newmarket Minor
 Hockey Association

2018

Helen Ford
 Oakville Minor
 Hockey Association

2017

Cheryll Barr
 Coldwater Minor
 Hockey Association

2016

John Welsh
 Peterborough Minor
 Hockey Association

2021 AWARDS

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO PROGRAMMING EXCELLENCE IN DEVELOPMENT AWARD

KELLY HASTINGS

Collingwood Minor Hockey Association



Excellence in Development Award

An award established to recognize and honour individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to hockey development programming in minor hockey in the OMHA. Nominees can be from any area of hockey development, including Player development, Coaching, Officiating, Safety, and Program Administration.

Kelly Hastings, known as Coach Kelly around the rinks in Collingwood, has helped run the Collingwood Minor Hockey Initiation Program (CHIPS) for the last 20 years. He has been a regular fixture at the rink almost every Saturday and Sunday morning through the winter. Kelly teaches them the basics of skating, puck handling, shooting and passing but more importantly he helps build a love for our great game. Coach Kelly has worked with almost every hockey player in Collingwood over his time as a volunteer, taking them from barely able to stand up on the ice to Collingwood's rep and local league programs and beyond.

“He creates a positive attitude and a positive environment for the kids to have fun, get better and develop their skills.”

- Craig Hammond, Past President, Collingwood Minor Hockey Association

RECENT RECIPIENTS

2020

Matt Bell
Ennismore Minor
Hockey Association

2019

Wendy White
Newmarket Minor
Hockey Association

2018

Mike Hendrickson
Kent Minor
Hockey Association

2017

Derrick Burrows
Kincardine Minor
Hockey Association

2016

Brandon Boone
Niagara Falls Minor
Hockey Association

HOODIES

REP YOUR TEAMS COLOURS AT THE RINK OR ON THE POND IN OUR CUSTOM COTTON AND POLYESTER HOODIES.

NO MINIMUMS

2-3 WEEK TURNAROUND

YOUTH AND ADULT OPTIONS AVAILABLE

BD | BARDOWN



TRAINING

OFF-SEASON TRAINING STARTS WITH THE RIGHT GEAR. GET READY FOR THE NEW SEASON IN OUR MOISTURE WICKING, 100% POLYESTER TRAINING ITEMS.

NO MINIMUMS

2-3 WEEK TURNAROUND

YOUTH AND ADULT OPTIONS AVAILABLE

BD | BARDOWN



HEADWEAR

PROTECT THE FLOW WHILE TRAINING THIS SUMMER OR ON THE POND THIS WINTER WITH OUR HEADWEAR ITEMS.

NO MINIMUMS

2-3 WEEK TURNAROUND

YOUTH AND ADULT OPTIONS AVAILABLE

BD | BARDOWN



A LOOK BACK AT THE 2021 - 22 HOCKEY SEASON

AUGUST 2021

This past season the OMHA delivered Virtual Online (Live) and Recorded On-Demand clinics for over 6,400 Coaches and Referees who were seeking to certify or re-certify their credentials.

Over 10,500 Coaches, trainers and referees continue to certify or re-certify their credentials in the off-season.

SEPTEMBER 2021

The puck drops on the OMHA Regular Season as a new year of hockey officially gets underway.

New Virtual Recorded On-Demand Entry Level 1 and Entry Level 2 Clinics provided new officials with an opportunity to acquire officiating skills and rule knowledge, while completing OMHA and Hockey Canada qualification requirements.

The Breakaway Podcast returned for its sixth season. As one of minor hockey's only podcasts, this season of Breakaway featured discussions on practice plans, player development and growing the game.



OCTOBER 2021

The first set of this season's U16 and U18 AAA Rankings presented by Hudl are released. The Top 5 of each group are revealed throughout the year on a bi-weekly basis along with a list of Players to Watch.

The OMHA launched the fifth season of the Coach of the Month award presented by The Coaches Site. Nominations from all over the province were submitted highlighting the fantastic work that coaches are doing across all of our associations.

The recipient Associations of the new Player Assist Program presented by Egg Farmers of Ontario are revealed. The pilot project eliminates the cost of equipment for 350 hockey families across 10 minor hockey associations for players under 7 entering the game.

NOVEMBER 2021

The eighth annual OMHA Essay Contest presented by Respect in Sport was launched with this year's theme being 'Why I'm Excited Hockey Is Back'. Dylan Waduck from Whitby was later announced as the grand prize winner. The contest is designed to engage players in an educational manner while encouraging them to express their thoughts on why hockey is a sport that all players can enjoy.

Hockey Labs is introduced as an online, at-home training tool for players to keep their skills sharp at home. They develop in all of the important areas with guided lessons and can track their progress to win prizes.



DECEMBER 2021

The U16 AAA Showcase presented by Hudl was hosted in Oakville, featuring teams playing in front of OHL scouts during their draft year.

Many OMHA teams volunteered their time over the holidays, participating in Hockey Gives Back to make their communities a better place through gift drives, food bank donations and other great initiatives.

JANUARY 2022

The season is placed on pause from January 5 - January 27 due to COVID-19 as part of the Government of Ontario's announcement.



FEBRUARY 2022

Thank a Volunteer Week was celebrated, shining a spotlight on the thousands of volunteers across the province who are the lifeblood of minor hockey working behind the scenes.



YEAR IN REVIEW

MARCH 2022

As part of the new Hockey Canada Player Pathways, all players play meaningful hockey until March 1. Teams competed in League Qualifiers to punch their ticket to the OMHA Championships.



APRIL 2022

#RedHats are handed out to 41 Champions at the OMHA Championships presented by Egg Farmers of Ontario. Close to 375 teams competed in over 700 games across five locations over three weekends around the province.

The first ever U14 OHL Cup presented by Dairy Farmers of Ontario took place in Oakville featuring 12 of the top U14 AAA teams from across the province. The York-Simcoe Express took home the silver medal in the inaugural event.

The annual Ontario Hockey League draft saw 68 players from the OMHA selected including four in the first round, led by Ben Danford. The OHL Under-18 Priority Selection was also held and the OMHA had eight players chosen in the first round including Vlad Visan, selected second overall.



NEW SEASONAL STRUCTURE

This season the OMHA introduced some great new programming changes that will make organized hockey an even better experience for players and their families.

Over the course of the pandemic, we studied how to make hockey more welcoming to new players and looking at ways we can keep our experienced players in the game for life.

WHAT WAS NEW THIS SEASON:

- Increasing focus on the mental well-being of our players. By allowing more prep time before tryouts, the season start-up will be less stressful for everyone.
- Scheduling seasonal breaks in December and March. This makes it easier for families to spend time relaxing together over the holidays.
- Ensuring a longer, more meaningful season for all players. Our new format and playoff structure keep everyone playing right up to March!

In addition to these new elements, we've adopted Hockey Canada's development model known as Player Pathways. This takes players through five phases during the season, from their first steps onto the ice right to the last buzzer of the championships.

RE-CONNECTING WITH OUR LOVE OF THE GAME

PREPARATION PHASE

During the preparation phase in September players can participate in warm-up skates hosted by local associations and scheduled to begin just around the time school is starting up. This means kids will be able to meet their friends again, both on and off the ice, find their skating legs, and feel that exhilarating rush of wind on their face. With a concern for kids' mental health top of mind, we want to give everyone a chance to get back onto the ice in a stress-free way, rather than in formal tryouts or an evaluation setting.

ASSESSING PLAYERS' SKILL LEVELS TO PROVIDE AN OPTIMAL EXPERIENCE

EVALUATION PHASE

For players at the U8 level and below, this is the time when we assess each player's skill level. By placing players in groups of similar skill level, we help make sure each child has the best possible development experience during the hockey season.

Players at the U9 level and above will have the opportunity to try out for representative ("rep") programming.



SHARPENING SKILLS AND SKATES

DEVELOPMENT PHASE

Once evaluation has been done, players move into the development phase. This includes working on skills and team-building exercises. These activities are designed to help players gain self-confidence before they begin regular season play. This phase runs for at least seven days after evaluation - before the season starts - so players have a chance to practice on-ice skills, and settle in and feel comfortable with their teams and coaches.

THE PUCK DROPS, AND AN EXCITING NEW SEASON BEGINS

REGULAR SEASON PHASE

As players go through the development phase, they start to get excited about the regular season. Each league sets the details of this phase for itself, including number of games, season schedule, and the way its playoffs will run. Always working to make hockey even better for families, the OMHA has scheduled seasonal breaks periods for the December holidays and the March Break. There will be no league play during these times. Teams may choose to offer skill development, or participate in jamborees or tournaments, but these are optional. This welcome change will allow families to plan other activities during these school breaks.



AN EXCITING FINISH

PLAYOFF PHASE

The end of season phase offers some of the most important benefits of the new OMHA model. The traditional playoff format has been changed to make sure we keep players on the ice until March 1. It's a longer regular season, keeping kids active and involved, with no chance of elimination in February.

Each league will begin playoffs in March. This means extended meaningful competition, with well-matched teams playing together. This format also replaces elimination-style series and reduces the need for families to travel for games.

As league playoffs wrap up, teams earn spots in the OMHA Championship Weekends. These exciting and action-packed weekends are scheduled for the end of March and early April.

We know this Hockey Canada Player Pathways model will make hockey an even better experience for our players and families. See you at the rink!

COACH OF THE MONTH



This was the fifth season of awarding an OMHA Coach of the Month presented by The Coaches Site and we were overwhelmed with the amount of nominations received and all of the deserving coaches. Aimed to recognize the importance and dedication of coaches in the province, one coach was chosen each month and their work was profiled. Thank you to all of the bench staff who make minor hockey possible for our players!

NOVEMBER

RYAN CLARK – BARRIE JR. COLTS U15 TEAL

Why is it important to you to volunteer and be a coach in your community?

Being a volunteer in my community is important because I want to set as positive an example as possible for young hockey players. Furthermore, because parents are trusting me with their children I hold myself personally accountable to them by being as positive as possible and owning up to mistakes or oversights when they happen. Lastly, I wholeheartedly enjoy being able to share my passion for hockey with young people to hopefully inspire that same passion within them.

JANUARY

DAVID GIANCOLA – MILTON WINTERHAWKS U10 AA

What learning opportunities does your team get from the post game 'heroes, highlights and hardships' chats?

We use "Heroes, Highlights and Hardships" as a way to debrief after each game. Rather than simply having the coaching staff dictate to the players as to happened in the game, we use this method to allow the players to feel empowered and take ownership themselves. It is important to allow the players to share their thoughts on the games and to engage them in the learning process. It's not uncommon for the players to recognize the efforts of some players from the opposing teams. It is something the boys look forward to participating in after each game.

MARCH

JASON TAYLOR – ST. CATHARINES FALCONS PEEWEE A

How do you work with your coaching staff as a 'team'?

Collaboration is king, each member of the staff has something to offer and it's important to enable those contributions. It's really important to recognize when someone is trying to help or when it's time to attempt something different. We plan ahead, talk about practice content well in advance and distribute the plan before the event. Ice time is precious, we make sure we use every minute of it.

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DECEMBER

SHAWN PERRY – BRADFORD BULLDOGS U11 AE

How have you managed to return to hockey and provide a positive experience for your players?

I have noticed the kids this year were really happy and excited to be back after a long year off and just being as positive as we can and encouraging them in having fun as well as a strong work ethic. I like to ensure these kids are having a positive experience by talking to every kid 1 on 1 in every practice - asking them questions about how school is going, how they are enjoying hockey this year, making sure they are having fun.

FEBRUARY

MIKE CWIERTNIEWSKI – NIAGARA ON THE LAKE WOLVES U11

What are some of the ways you enter your practices organized?

We usually play every Saturday and sometimes Sunday, and we practice Mondays, so it's fresh in your mind what needs to be worked on from what happened over the weekend. I always like to put emphasis on positioning and staying "in your lane" on the ice, because at the U11 age group the kids are still trying to figure out the game, and they tend to chase the puck together and bunch up in the same spot on the ice. That being said, I also like to carve out about 5-7 minutes at the end of each practice to have some fun and do something that's not so structured but still helps out their individual skill sets. This could be ball tag, ice soccer, or even a shootout where they can be creative and try whatever move they want.

THE ONTARIO MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION IS BACK TO PLAYING 'NORMAL HOCKEY'

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ALMOST TWO YEARS, AFTER THE PANDEMIC FORCED RESTRICTIONS ON AND OFF THE ICE AND MANY STARTS AND STOPS TO THE SEASON.

At rinks all over Ontario, including one in Markham, thousands of the OMHA's young players and parents alike are enjoying the moment.

"You don't know what you have until it's gone. So, it's this magical feeling of being back on and it's very emotional," says Richard Wong as he watches his 10-year-old son out on the ice.

Wong, whose parents came to Canada from Hong Kong and never had a chance to play in his youth, says his son Marcus hasn't been the same without hockey.

"I was bored, I had nothing to do. I just spent most of my days on the couch," Marcus says.

It's a similar story for his teammate Myrah Somani.

"I missed it a lot because we weren't really doing any exercises during COVID. And now we're moving. It's a lot of fun."

Myrah's mother, Alifa Somani, was born in East Africa and never had a chance to play when her family moved to Canada when she was a child. She says her daughter now can't live without the sport.

"It's fantastic. Because they were away from their friends. They were away from the game of hockey, and she loves hockey. So, this is sort of getting together, starting to get a normal life back and getting away from the whole COVID."

Andrea Stevenson is smiling watching her daughter Asha out on the ice again as well.

Stevenson says the pandemic impacted her daughter's mental health with all the screen time sucking the life out of her.

"For her, it's life changing (to be back). She's an only child. So being quarantined when she's an active kid really took its toll. Not being able to see her friends for two years now feels like an eternity."

"On a scale of 1 to 10? It's a 10 (to be back)," Asha says, adding she loves some of the changes the OMHA made this year to help players get their feet back under them with less stress and more prep time before tryouts.



"It felt different because I hadn't done it in a long time. At first, I felt like I needed to get back to where I was. But after the warmup and you skate around the ice, I felt like it (COVID) had never happened."

With the much-anticipated start to the season, the OMHA also introduced a number of major new changes to improve the hockey experience for participants such as Asha and their families.

Among the changes, there are now five developmental phases over the course of the season plus seasonal breaks over the holidays in December and March Break so families can spend more time together.

A new playoff format saw exciting championship weekends and festivals all over the province in the new year including more teams than ever before. That will ensure more meaningful hockey across the province and as many players as possible in action right up until March.

12-year-old Evan Giannone likes what he sees.

"I love that we get to play more than six months of hockey. It's amazing how long it is and how much how much fun it is. I also like how we have breaks over the holidays. But right after the holidays, we're back on the ice."

The pandemic forced the cancellation of the season in March 2020 and there were many restrictions last year to keep players distant and safe on the ice. That's why the OMHA is ecstatic to see more than 80,000 players have registered for the 2021-2022 OMHA season, a 17 percent increase over last year.

"We are thankful to see thousands of players and their families so excited and back playing 'normal hockey' and we've introduced some major changes this year to make hockey even better," says Ian Taylor, Executive Director of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association. He adds, "We know how difficult these past two years have been for our children and it's reminded us once again of the important role hockey plays in their lives. It's something we can never take for granted again."

'WHY I'M EXCITED HOCKEY IS BACK'



The Ontario Minor Hockey Association is excited to reveal the Grand Prize Winner and four Finalists for the 2021-22 OMHA Essay Contest, presented by Respect in Sport. Entries were been submitted by minor hockey players of all ages on the topic of **"Why I'm Excited Hockey Is Back"**

The essays received for this year's contest were a great reflection of just how much our players and communities missed hockey and were thrilled to be able to go on the ice again. Playing sports helps both physical and mental health, and this year's entries covered exactly that.

While the game we love is often the true teacher of these lessons, they are reinforced daily by the volunteers who make a significant impact on players, as evidenced by the fantastic essays we received this year.

GRAND PRIZE WINNER



DYLAN WADUCK
U15
WHITBY WILDCATS

When COVID began I was in my hockey league playoffs and they were cancelled before we could finish the round. It was upsetting but we knew that something serious must be happening in the world and it was unsafe to be around people. Hockey is Back! This is my coping mechanism because when COVID hit and hockey was cancelled I was also diagnosed with Leukemia cancer and thought I would never be able to play hockey again. I spent a lot of time at SickKids hospital and dreamed about being on the ice again. I have under a year left of treatment and when I am on the ice I feel free and like I belong. Being on the ice with a team brings me confidence and I have made new forever friends. Being on the ice helps to take my mind off everything that I am going through.

Hockey is not only exciting for the players but it brings all the families together. I am excited to have hockey back because it feels amazing to get out and be active doing what I love. I lost so much being diagnosed but at least I have my hockey.

The silver lining. COVID stopped hockey and gave me the time to get stronger and fight my battle. My battle continues but hockey is guiding me through my healing and I don't know what I would do without my passion. Hockey is Back and it returned at the most perfect time. #DylanStrong

FINALISTS



SAWYER BRADLEY
U13
WASAGA BEACH STARS

One of the biggest things about hockey for me is my team. I didn't realize how much I needed them until I didn't have one last year. I go through the good, bad and ugly with them. They cheer me up when I'm sad and I'm always there for them. They are like a second family to me.



SADIE EVANS-FOCKLER
U15
HIGHLAND STORM

Playing hockey really helps me feel better about who I am and what I look like. In fact it is scientifically proven that most people are healthier and happier after exercising and being outside. Keeping this in mind, for some people hockey is the only exercise they get all week. This is why hockey is incredibly important to a healthy community. In conclusion, me and my mental health are both happy hockey is back!



JAZPER ZAJAC
U11
WASAGA BEACH STARS

Why am I excited that hockey is back? It's putting my gear in the pack. Then after a game I'll pat my teammates on the back. I am excited to help a teammate score a goal. Just to make a happy soul.



MARCUS WONG
U11
MARKHAM WAXERS

I get super excited when going to the rink because I can't wait to get on the ice and skate, shoot, stickhandle, pass and compete just like my favourite players. There is so much excitement when your team scores or has a great defensive play. I love the excitement and how loud and cheerful your team is in the dressing room after a big win.

OHL DRAFT



The OHL draft took place over two nights and saw minor hockey players get one step closer to realizing their NHL dreams. Four players from the Ontario Minor Hockey Association were selected in the first round of the draft, led by defenceman Ben Danford of the Quinte Red Devils. The OMHA had 68 players selected from 16 teams. The Quinte Red Devils led the way with 13 players chosen. The Ajax-Pickering Raiders, Niagara North Stars and York-Simcoe Express each had seven players drafted, followed by the North Central Predators (6) and Markham Waxers (5).

The sixth annual OHL Under-18 Priority Selection draft wrapped up on May 5 for players to be selected by OHL teams. The top pick from the OMHA was Burlington's Vlad Visan, chosen second overall by the Erie Otters. He follows in a long line of high overall selections in this draft's history, including former first overall picks Kevin Henstock, Aidan Spooner, Mitchell Weeks and Victor Hadfield. In total there were eight OMHA players selected in the first round.

U16 DRAFT

ROUND	PICK	NAME	OMHA TEAM	OHL TEAM
1	14	Ben Danford	Quinte Red Devils	Oshawa Generals
1	15	Luca Testa	Niagara North Stars	London Knights
1	20	Ethan Proczynyn	North Central Predators	North Bay Battalion
1	21	Frankie Marrelli	Markham Waxers	Ottawa 67's

U18 DRAFT

ROUND	PICK	NAME	OMHA TEAM	OHL TEAM
1	2	Vlad Visan	Burlington Eagles	Erie Otters
1	4	Ryan Johnstone	Ajax-Pickering Raiders	Niagara IceDogs
1	10	Graeme MacAuley	Burlington Eagles	Barrie Colts
1	12	Charlie Vanhaverbeke	Oshawa Generals	Guelph Storm
1	13	William Haley	Ajax-Pickering Raiders	Mississauga Steelheads
1	14	Sebastian Bradshaw	Ajax-Pickering Raiders	London Knights
1	16	Nolan Ling	Oshawa Generals	Kingston Frontenacs
1	19	Cameron Eke	Niagara North Stars	Windsor Spitfires

THANK A VOLUNTEER



Off the ice or on, whether you see them or not, there is an extremely dedicated group of parents and volunteers who keep minor hockey in motion and ensure the best experience for the kids who play the game. From February 28th to March 6th, the OMHA celebrated everyone who spends their time to enrich the lives of kids through hockey.

This season, more than ever, we recognize the impact that volunteers have in delivering minor hockey across the province. They found new and creative ways to offer hockey in a safe way during COVID-19 throughout the pauses and starts. It speaks to the love they have for our game and the benefits it provides to our children.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of minor hockey. The OMHA takes great pride in having an outstanding group of volunteers

across its centres. Parents can choose to volunteer their time on an administrative level with the association or get involved in with their child's team. Every bit helps - from organizing community Hockey Gives Back events to creating a carpool schedule, these things all add up. These actions, while some may feel small, are crucial to the big picture and are important pieces to the puzzle.

There are associations who rely on a few number of volunteers do the work of many and having one extra person contribute their time can help immensely. Organizing registration, payment, scheduling and standings are all areas that volunteers dedicate their time into ensuring that everything runs smoothly. They are always looking for parents who want to contribute and get engaged.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW: BURSARY 'PRIORITIZES MY FUTURE'

CATCHING UP WITH OMHA-DAIRY FARMERS OF ONTARIO BURSARY RECIPIENTS

The two most recent school years have been a challenge for students, teachers and parents alike. Just like the hockey season, there have been pauses and changes that have proven to be adjustments for everyone. That's why this year's group of bursary winners will be deserving of their recognition.

The OMHA Bursary Program presented by Dairy Farmers of Ontario rewards student athletes who are dedicated to community service, academics and athletics as they graduate high school and prepare to enter post-secondary education.

Now in its third season, we reached out to some of the previous recipients to see how the bursary impacted them and how their studies are going.

"The bursary has allowed me to prioritize my future. It's given me a substantial amount of financial stability which I'm hoping will allow me to pursue further education because I'll be able to put money aside for a grad degree or PHD," said Henry Stephenson, in his first year at McGill University. "The OMHA Bursary has made it possible for me to stay focused on my undergrad and it's alleviated the financial pressure."

The differences between Grade 12 and university education hit Dylan Pergentile quickly. After graduating with the highest ever average in his high school's 26-year history, he is now studying Biomedical Engineering at McMaster University.

"The workload and the speed. My Grade 12 year, because of COVID, I was doing one class at a time and I went into a program where I had six classes that are all a lot faster pace," said Pergentile. "You're learning content daily that you have to keep up with or else you're going to fall behind."

It's a sentiment echoed by Adam Huras, who received the bursary during the program's first year.

"University is definitely a full-time job and takes a lot of time and dedication," said Huras, now in his second year at the University of Waterloo studying Mechatronics. "It could be easy to say 'I've had enough, I don't want to do this, I'm going to take a week off' but you can't really do that or you're going to fall behind. You've got to work hard for the entire term but once it's over you get a nice break. You've earned it."

Growing up playing minor hockey has given these students the life skills that have helped them in the classroom.

"Learning how to communicate with your teammates is crucial in university because there's a lot of independent work. I was

someone in high school who did my work on my own and didn't really ask questions. As it gets faster and harder, using skills from communicating in the change room and on the ice, I've been able to reach out to people and ask for help and work together to solve different homework problems," said Pergentile.

It's not only the teamwork skills that have shown themselves to be beneficial. The time management and dedication has led them to be more organized to keep track of all of their courses.

"Hockey's been able to keep me regimented," said Stephenson. "You have to stay fit to be playing hockey so it's important to keep up your skills and practice a lot which is something that's very important for school work as well. You've got to sit down and practice questions for every course you're in to succeed."

Even with the increased workload of university studies, all three have managed to keep their passion for the game active. Huras is still an OMHA referee while Stephenson plans to sign up for intramurals. Pergentile is currently a member of the Thorold Blackhawks in the GOJHL.

There will be co-op placements available as their studies continue and their fields of study narrow. Stephenson has goals to apply to MIT or Stanford and focus on cancer research and Huras wants to work in the field of green energy.

"I've enjoyed it so far, I find it interesting," said Huras. "Definitely a large workload but I made a good choice in selecting my program. I enjoy what I'm learning."





EGG FARMERS OF ONTARIO ELIMINATING EQUIPMENT COSTS FOR 350 FAMILIES

This season, the OMHA introduced the Player Assist Program presented by Egg Farmers of Ontario, a pilot project that eliminated the cost of equipment for 350 hockey families across 10 minor hockey associations for players under 7 entering the game.

The sets included skates, shin pads, pants, shoulder pads, elbow pads, neck guard and helmet. The associations will retain the 350 sets of equipment at the conclusion of the hockey season to loan to players in following years, similar to loaning out a library book.

The 10 Associations who each received 35 sets of equipment at the start of the season are: Flamborough, Georgina, Ilderton, Parry Sound, Shallow Lake, Simcoe, South Huron, Southpoint, Stirling and Twin Centre.

“With hockey now back on the ice, we know this equipment is going to be put to use right away,” said OMHA Executive Director Ian Taylor. “We know some of our families are feeling the pinch because of COVID-19 and we hope programs like this one will help families participate in the game across the province.”

“To first get into (hockey), it’s very difficult for families because of the cost,” said Todd Bevand of Georgina Minor Hockey, one of the 10 associations who have received the equipment. “This is going to provide a lot of kids with opportunities to play a game that maybe they wouldn’t be able to play without this.”

The OMHA worked with each of the 10 Associations on delivering programming for the recipients to ensure a positive first experience. The Associations each hosted an Initiation Program festival as well as parent information sessions throughout the season.

Since 2018-19, the Egg Farmers of the Ontario has supported the OMHA’s Playdowns where more than 31,000 minor hockey players compete on 6750 teams from January through March. With Playdowns unable to take place the past two seasons because of the pandemic, the Egg Farmers of Ontario wanted to support OMHA participants in a new way.

“Egg Farmers of Ontario is proud to be a part of a program that supports and encourages children to be active as part of a healthy lifestyle. We are excited to lend a helping hand to new players who are keen to learn about Canada’s favourite past time without the worry of the cost of equipment,” said Scott Helps, Egg Farmers of Ontario Chair.

2022 OMHA CHAMPIONS



Parents and grandparents packed into arenas cheering on their children as skaters carved up the ice with huge smiles on their faces on the road to the #RedHats, the Ontario Minor Hockey Association's coveted prize for its champions.

This year, the Championships took on an exciting new look and format that saw 713 games played with 374 teams from across the province competing in 41 championships over three weekends in five locations: Windsor, Oakville, Barrie, Whitby and Kingston.

Leading up to the OMHA Championship weekends were League championships and regional qualifying events where teams could punch their tickets to get to these OMHA Championship weekends.



BARRIE JR. COLTS
U10 AAA



HALTON HILLS THUNDER
U10 AA



CENTRE WELLINGTON FUSION
U10 A



HESPELER SHAMROCKS
U10 TEIR 1



QUINTE RED DEVILS
U11 AAA



OAKVILLE RANGERS - RED
U11 AA



WOOLWICH WILDCATS
U11 A



LAMBETH LANCERS
U11 TIER 1



LAMBTON SHORES PREDATORS
U11 TIER 2



SHALLOW LAKE LAKERS
U11 TIER 3



BARRIE JR. COLTS
U12 AAA



WHITBY WILDCATS - BLUE
U12 AA



ESSEX RAVENS
U12 A



OSHAWA GENERALS
U12 TIER 1

2022 OMHA CHAMPIONS



NIAGARA NORTH STARS
U13 AAA



AURORA TIGERS
U13 AA



WOOLWICH WILDCATS
U13 A



MOORETOWN FLAGS
U13 TIER 1



SOUTH HURON SABRES
U13 TIER 2



COLLINGWOOD JR. BLUES
U13 TIER 3

2022 OMHA CHAMPIONS



PETERBOROUGH MINOR PETES
U14 AAA



BURLINGTON EAGLES - GOLD
U14 AA



ORILLIA TERRIERS
U14 A



MILTON WINTERHAWKS - WHITE
U14 TIER 1



HALTON HURRICANES
U15 AAA



GUELPH JR. GRYPHONS
U15 AA



QUINTE WEST GOLDEN HAWKS
U15 A



MIDLAND CENTENNIALS
U15 TIER 1



WALKERTON CAPITALS
U15 TIER 2



DRESDEN JR. KINGS
U15 TIER 3

2022 OMHA CHAMPIONS



YORK-SIMCOE EXPRESS
U16 AAA



OAKVILLE RANGERS - RED
U16 AA



MILTON WINTERHAWKS
U16 A



OAKVILLE RANGERS
U16 TIER 1



GUELPH JR. GRYPHONS
U18 AAA



MILTON WINTERHAWKS
U18 AA



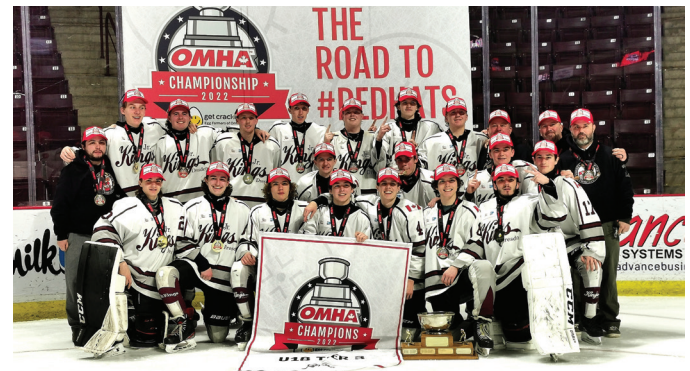
BURLINGTON EAGLES
U18 A



MITCHELL METEORS
U18 TIER 1



LUCAN IRISH
U18 TIER 2



DRESDEN JR. KINGS
U18 TIER 3



THOROLD BLACKHAWKS
U21



**THAT BURN IN
YOUR LEGS IS
WHAT PROGRESS
FEELS LIKE**

HOCKEY. STRONGER THAN EVER.

It may feel like we've taken a blow this year, but that doesn't mean we're weaker because of it. On the contrary. It has helped us appreciate all that we hold so dear for the sport of hockey, the people we connect with in it and the importance of the values our kids learn from it. There's never been a more important time to get kids into the game.



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