

ON THE BALL!!!

The Manitoba Ball Hockey Association Newsletter

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CTO Set for Western Success

Kelowna, CTO is looking to make the jump from C Division to B Division at Westerns. Having made some key additions this year we're looking to make some noise in Kelowna. The chemistry on the team has been great and the transition from Division 2 to Division 1 has been remarkable. Everyone on this team this year has made the commitment to go to Kelowna and we are all fired up to head out west. The team is led by Mark Figueiredo and Darren Lodge with a team that follows their examples of play and sportsmanship. We still have a lot of work to do before Westerns and we are using the playoffs as a tune up for the tournament. This year's team is built on

speed and hustle we may not be the highest skilled team in the league but we definitely will be the hardest working. We started this season with a number of practices with to get CTO in condition for the season as well as scrimmages with Team Manitoba. Along with a number of our teammates playing with Team Manitoba the additional coaching and

practice can only serve to make CTO stronger. Hopefully we'll have a long playoff run and a number of practices prior to Westerns so that we'll be fully prepared to go come July. Last year's tournament provided us the experience we've needed in order to prepare for this year and we definitely look to improve on last year's performance.



Shawn Derkach, of CTO will be going to the Westerns as a member of CTO and to the Nationals as a member of Team Manitoba.

Special points of interest:

- The Team Manitoba Selects won last years Western B Championship hosted here in Winnipeg
- Only one player on each of our two Western Team representatives has won a medal at the Westerns and that would be Sean McLaren
- 13 of Division 1's top scorers will be on Team Manitoba going to New Brunswick
- MBHA Awards Banquet, July 8th at 8:00 PM Winn City Pub at Grant and Pembina. \$5 includes Pizza. Tickets available from, Team Manitoba, CTO and the Cereal Killers or at the rinks. Check out the list of award nominees in this issue.

Shawn Arnal came second in the scoring championship this year after having a horrendous 2006 season, Does going to the Nationals have something to do with the extra effort he has show?

Division 1 Report—Kelly Huff

This season Division 1 finally had some parity after many years of 1 or 2 teams dominating the division.

Transcona was the one new team who struggled to compete this year, however they were a class act to the bitter end and were getting better as the season went on. This will be the Ball Hockey team of the future if they can keep the core intact for next season. The Cripplers had problems early on with a small bench and it killed their chances at a

Playoff spot. The guys who did show up played hard every night, and kept the games close. This team will also be much stronger next season if they can keep some of the leaders together.

This division really has been a 4 team race from start to finish and any of these 4 teams can get hot come playoff time. CTO has been the most consistent team all season, and have looked very strong at both ends of the rink. The dark horse will be the Mustangs; if they continue to get solid goaltending in the

Playoffs they could put a scare into CTO in the first round of the Playoffs.

The Players when they have a full bench look like a Championship team, and they will need a full line-up when they meet the A Team in the opening round. The A Team has been on a roll as of late and hot heading into the Playoffs. This will be without a doubt one of the best Playoff matchups to watch as the A Team and the Players have always had spirited battles.

We look forward to an exciting Division 1 Playoff to see just who the top team in Winnipeg is this season.

Women's Division - Teresa Quaye

The Women's division has been a wonderful addition to the MBHA this season. The level of play was excellent, and the respect level of the floor towards the opponents and referees is something that many of the Men's team could learn from. The Playoffs will be split into 2 divisions with the top 4 teams playing for the A Division title, while 5th to 8th place will compete for the B Division crown. Off-limits is clearly the team to beat in the top division with their high powered offense. The Warriors gave Off-limits all they could handle in a pair of 2-1 losses this season, and are confident heading into the Playoffs. The Wave has been consistent all season and there strong defence could take them far in the Playoffs. The Yahbuts have quietly had a strong season, and are undefeated in the past 5 games heading into the Post season.

The B division Playoffs has the potential to be an exciting few weeks of action.

Cool Runnings who finished in 5th has all the offense they will need to win the big game, they will be tough to beat if they get hot. The Ball Breakers will have to rely on strong goaltending and a tough defence, and if they can get this rolling, they will have a great shot at winning it all.

The Blaze have lost 5 in a row heading into the Playoffs, and will need to pick up their game quickly, however the Blaze did split their season series with Cool Running and the Ball Breakers this year, so they are confident they can compete and be successful in the Playoffs.

The Jettes are also struggling heading into the Playoffs; however they have played strong all season against their 3 Playoff opponents, and have had some very close games with them. If they can create some offensive chances then they may make some noise in the Playoffs.

Chris Chene and Shelley Cockerill of Off-limits tied for the division points lead but Shelley takes the crown by the goals scored tie breaker. Congrats Shelley on a great season!!!

Division 2 Report - Bernie Young

"The way they performed against the top teams in Div 1 and with their season long success rate I Cannot see the Hooligan not winning Division 2 and making the jump next year" - Anonymous A Team player

Playoffs are around the corner and 2 spots are locked up. But really from 1st to 4th there is only 3 wins separating them. This division has been great in terms of parody. Any team can beat any team and often they end up as ties, I've never seen a division with so many tie games before. Every night every game has been like the playoffs all season. That's the great thing about playoffs there will be no more ties. Hooligans and Cereal Killers have locked up playoff spots but first overall is still up for grabs with 2 games left. Bad Intentions are currently holding down the last spot and can keep it if they win out. Fish Taco and Central Wizzards need some help. The Hosers have done a great job in turning around their season and look to be primed for playoffs led by Tweeter and Mango Kid. Cereal Killers are looking at making the jump from Division 3 champs to Division 2 champs. The Hooligans have a lot of experience and are lead by Poncho hoping the regular season success continues into the playoffs. Bad Intentions has the veteran experience to win this division. Who wins? Who knows but I will be watching as a fan.

"This has been the most closely contested division 2 in years, I would be amazed if division 1 did not increase by 4 teams next year" Kelly Huff MBHA

Division 3 Report - Corey Robinson

The playoffs are fast approaching and Division 3 is getting interesting. Ram Rod has been the class of this division all season but with a recent loss at the hands of Rip Em, this division is anything but guaranteed. The Devils should be in the mix come playoff time as well. A recent push by teams such as the veteran Sudden Death as well as a Lightning team that can score with anyone, there may be some playoff surprises in store. If the Reds can right the ship, they could be a tough out as well. The team that may surprise many could be the Bulls. Their offensive talent is undeniable but they are lacking defensively in their own end. As I see it, this will be a three team race with the Devils, Ram Rod and Rip Em all vying for the Division 3 championship. This title will more than likely come down to who gets into the final unscathed and only has to win the one game. Good luck to everyone involved in the playoff picture and congratulations to all teams in Division 3 for a great season. For those teams not making the playoffs, we hope to see you back next season. For those invited to the big dance, remember, you just have

Can Stephen George of Rip-em win an unprecedented 3 division crowns? He also plays ATeam and Hooligans

to be in it to win it. Anything and everything happens in the playoffs.



Ray Clarke of the Cripplers will be a leading force for Team Manitoba in New Brunswick. He played on Team Canada a few years back, Part of their 5 in a row run of gold medals

Division 4 Report-Stuart Swanson

July is here and we all know what that means.... It's Playoff Time!!! First things first, let me just say cognates to all teams on another great and successful season. Although there is some distance between 1st and 8th place, anything can happen.

The Decepticons are looking like the team to beat, and lead the division in all categories. The Chiefs have so far gone undefeated in the regular sea-

son, it will interesting to see if they can keep the streak going in the playoffs where there are no ties. The Moose are coming on strong at just the right time, if they can stay out the penalty box and play smart hockey, they could make a solid run for the championship. Look for the Rats, El Scorchos, or Hellfish to pull off the upset, they're all experienced teams and know how to win when the playoffs come

around. Even though the Rangers and Team Extreme may have finished near the bottom of the pack, I don't see them rolling over. They have grit and some talent, my advice to the teams that play them is not to take them lightly. Although the blades of Steel and YellowJackets finished just short this year, I hope to see these teams come back next year.

Good luck to all teams in your playoff run. Keep your heads up and your sticks down, and let's see some great hockey.

COED DIVISION REPORT—Ryan Ratte

Our Compliments were the surprise of the division, having a great year and being a force all year.

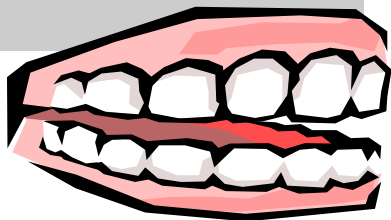
The co-ed division is heating up as we head into the playoffs. The Stars lead the way but not by much these days as Our Compliments are nipping at their heels, as well as the Co-ed Lightning. It is a very close race for spots one, two, and three, and don't be shocked when one of these teams comes out on top. The blues sit alone in forth, but do the aging veterans have what it takes to come back and win it all. We will have to wait and see how the next few weeks unfold to see the Stars can successfully defend their championship or will the surprising Our Compliments take it all. No matter who wins the big game it was a great year with the growth of new teams. Congrats to all the players in a great season and we will see you all next season. Remember the league gets better as it grows, so I encourage you all to tell some friends how much fun you have at ball hockey. Have a good offseason and we will see you all next spring.

The co-ed division is heating up as we head into the playoffs. The Stars lead the way but not by much these



Long Time Official Kevin Wilson will be at the Awards Banquet on July 8th to sign autographs

Look out for Joelle Sabourin as she has definitely solidified the Lightning Roster.



THE MOUTHPIECE

I would like to welcome everyone to the first ever Mouthpiece awards. I know the league will hand out their awards but I do not have to be politically correct. My criteria are as follows, for forward, I have 10 seconds left in a game and I need the ball on one guys stick to tie it up, who would that one guy be. For defence, I am a traditionalist, my D does not have to score but I need my guy to shut down the opposing teams best player and take that guy off of his game. In net, I need a shut down guy. I need someone who can take the pressure and come up with a big save when needed and maybe even steal me a game. So here we go.

Division 1- There are many great forwards in this division but by using my criteria, my choice was simple. Brant Cook of the Mustangs takes this hands down. He has speed, skill, and a shot. He is a threat from anywhere on the floor. I believe that if the Mouthpiece played with this guy that he could make even me look good. On defense, I have one name that pops into my mind. Wayne Erstelle of the A-Team. This guy is a pain in the arse to play against. He gets under your skin and does his job better then anyone. He can play even strength, shorthanded, and power play. He is the one guy I want on the floor for me late in the game. In net, I am looking for that guy to come up with a big save and keep me in a game. That guy this season is Pat Ross of the Mustangs. I know that may surprise some seeing as the Mouthpiece has at times been very critical of Mr.. Ross but all he has done is gone out and performed. He has made the Mouthpiece eat his words this season.

Division 2- At forward I have a guy that will more then likely win this award in Division 1 in the coming years. Kevin Marchuk of the Hooligans is a dominant forward. He makes others around him better and is an offensive threat whenever he has the ball and even when he does not. Kevin is the Mouthpiece's forward of the year in Division 2.

At defense Derek Poplawski is head and shoulders above anyone else at this position. He plays major minutes and also is one of the top offensive players in this division. I know that goes away from my criteria a little but there is no one else I want on the floor more then this guy. He is worth the price of admission.

Believe it or not, no goalie really stood out for me this season but I will have to choose Darren Anderson of the Hosers. I do not mean to take anything away from Darren but I was a little disappointed in the goaltending in this division, however Darren Anderson was solid on a team that is very offensively oriented.

Division 3- For my forward, I am going to go off the map here and select Stephan George of Rip Em. Mr. George may not lead his team in scoring but the intangibles he brings has made this first year team a real threat. And yes, I would want the ball on Stephan's stick late in a game. He may not score many pretty goals but it always finds its way into the net and that is all that matters. On defence, I have Dan Kaye of the Reds. He just does the little things well. He can also put the ball in the net when needed. He plays the physical game well and always makes the good first pass. He is rarely caught out of position.

In net, most people may think that I would go with the goalie from Ram Rod because of his stats but the goalie that stood out for me was Kevin Landerville of Rip Em. This guy has come up with some amazing saves this season which turned the momentum of games in the favor of his team. He is also very consistent and never loses it for his team. A very solid goaltender.

Division 4- My choice for top forward in this division is another player that has not received much accolades this season. Brock Higgins of the Hellfish was simply amazing. Whenever I got out to see the Hellfish play, I was never disappointed in this guys play. He should be playing in a higher division because he is too good for this one. He is the Hellfish. He has skill and speed and even a bit of a mean side to go with it. I really like this guys play. On defense my choice again was pretty easy. J.R. Sabourin of Team Extreme. With J.R. in the line up, this team was able to run with anyone in the division, without him, they were the free spot on the

old bingo card. Steady and strong play made J.R. head and shoulders above any other d-man in this division.

In net, I was tempted to go with anyone not named Kevin Hughes playing for Team Extreme but I went with Mike McKenzie of El Scorchos. Mike should also be playing in a higher division. He plays on a team who's defense is very slow and on many nights, he alone keeps his team in games. If you do not believe me, check how many one goal games this team is involved in. It is not too often that a goalie can dictate the pace of a game but that is what Mike does.

Womens= There are 4 or 5 players who have stood out this season in my eyes as top forward so this was not an easy choice, but in the end I felt that Chris Chene of Offlimits was the most consistent of the bunch. Chris brings it all, she can score as well as set up the big goals, and she is very strong in the corners. Chris is also a strong leader of the team, and would be my pick if I were to build a Womens team.

For the top defensemen I had to go with the Veteran Maureen Macrae of the Yahbuts. Maureen has been solid all season, and never panics when she gets the ball. She always makes the smart pass out of her zone, and is the consummate leader of her team.

The top goaltender was not easy as well, but I had to go with Maeve Hawash of the Warriors. Maeve was on top of her game all season, making the big save when needed and fired the team up with her feisty play. She had an amazing 8 shut outs and led the League with a .69 goals against average.

Co-Ed= I am torn as to the best forward in this division, some may make the argument that Dave Lundberg and his gazillion points should be the winner but Dave does not make the players around him better and he never leaves the floor. Anyone can have that many points if he never changes it up. I am going to go with Brad Cockeril of the Stars. Brad is very offensively gifted and has grown this year as a player. He gets more people involved and will do what he has to to win. With the game on the line, I want the ball on his stick.

On defense, I have a cagey old veteran. Kelly Huff of the Blues is still dominant on the point. He not only can shut down the other teams best players but he can also put the ball in the net or on someone's stick that can. No one makes a better first pass.

In net, Nelson Arruda of the Stars takes this one fairly easily. Nelson was solid all season and gives his team the confidence to do what they have to in front of him.

The top female player in co-ed was Tamara Waite of the Stars. This girl has some serious hockey skills. Always in the right place at the right time, Tamara was an offensive force for the Stars this past season.

On defense, I have Kelly Hooper as the top female defenseman of the season. Kelly is solid and very hard to beat in her own end. She is never out of position. Never a liability, Kelly Hooper was without a doubt my pick as the best female defenseman.

I will also hand out my surprise teams of the year. In division 1 I have CTO. This team won division 2 last season and have assembled a real good squad this season. They added what they needed and finished first in the regular season.

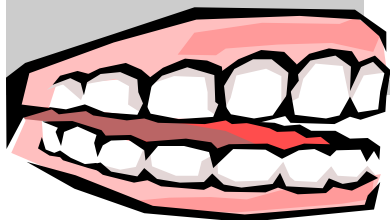
In Division 2 I have Bad Intentions. Many thought that they were playing out of their league this season. They do not have the skill that some teams have but they work hard and are in it every night. In Division 3 I have a new team, Rip Em. They have been one of the top teams all season in this division despite being brand new to the league.

In Division 4 I am going with the Decepticons. I have been very harsh on the boys at times this season but people have to remember that this team used to be the whipping boys of any division they played in. They have had a great season. Way to go guys.

In the Women's division the Off-limits were fun to watch. They control the ball so well and have so much skill up front, that they seemed to score at will in some games.

In Co-ed I have Our Compliments. This team is from our winter league and I was sure that they would struggle this year being new to the big rink and with the lack of star power but this team plays a team game more than any team in all of MBHA. They have been a tough opponent every night and will contend for the championship in the playoffs. Great season ladies and gents.

Continued on next page, I am the Mouthpiece and I do go ON AND ON AND ON!!!!!!!!!!!!



THE MOUTHPIECE –Continued

My busts this season are as follows: In Division 1 I guess you can say Transcona except that no one expected much of these young guys. They will be better suited in Division 2 or 3 where they will contend instantly. In Division 2 I have the Wizards. This is one of the Mouthpiece's favourite teams and I thought that they would do much more in this division with their speed and skill, maybe next year.

In Division 3 I have two teams, the Reds and the Devils. The Reds, if you listened to their valiant leader Mr. Kaye, were supposed to dominate in this division. They look more like pretenders than contenders. You may ask why I have a third place team in my bust list. I thought that the Devils return to the league would be all rainbows and jolly ranchers and I believed that this was their division to lose but some nights, I just don't know. The good thing for both of these teams is that they have a chance in the playoffs to redeem themselves.

In Division 4 I think I have to go with Blades of Steel. I just assumed from seeing them play in past years that this team would be playoff bound but I guess I was wrong again.

The Jettes would be the bust in Women's, this team early on looked like they had a solid team, however they did have problems with a short bench at times and then a lack of offense that hurt them throughout the season.

In Co-Ed I have to go with the Blues. This team in my mind should have been fighting for first and not for a playoff spot. Again though, they do have a chance to redeem themselves.

These awards are just the opinion of the mouthpiece, so please do show up at the Awards banquet on Sunday July 8th at the Winn City Pub to see who the real MBHA winners are in 2007..

Award Nominees as selected by the MBHA Selection Committee

Division 1

Outstanding Forward
 Mark Figueiredo CTO
 Andrew Chartrand Players
 Shawn Arnal A Team
 Brant Cook Mustangs
 Dom Vann Cripplers
 Matt Geady Transcona

Outstanding Defensemen
 Mark Derkach CTO
 Wayne Manyshots Players
 Landon Duchon A-Team
 Al Mendes Mustangs
 Ray Clark Cripplers
 Kris Sinclair Transcona

Outstanding Goaltender
 Darren Lodge CTO
 Scott Cameron Players
 Mike Granove A Team
 Pat Ross Mustangs

The Best Run Team
 CTO
 Cripplers
 Transcona

Division 2

Outstanding Forward
 Kevin Marchuk Hooligans
 Jeff Thoroski Cereal Killers
 Dom Vann Hosers
 Dustin Fredette Wizards
 Mark Werner Bad Intentions
 Jason Dubeau Fish Taco

Outstanding Defensemen
 Dan Nowicki Hooligans
 Enzo Buoncore Cereal Killers
 Derek Poplawski Hosers
 Donald Beardy Wizards
 Cory Moder Bad Intentions
 Mark Vandal Fish Taco

Outstanding Goalie
 Travis Blahitka Hooligans
 Brett Roberts Cereal Killers
 Darren Anderson Hosers
 Colin Grantham Bad Intentions

The Best Run Team
 Hooligans
 Cereal Killers
 Hosers

Womens Division

Outstanding Forward
 Chris Chene Off Limits
 Colleen Clarke Warriors
 Julie Beaudette Wave
 Alina Harding Yahbuts
 Janet Olson Cool Running
 Christy Schneider Ball Breakers
 Diane Evenson Blaze
 Shanlee Rutherford Jettes

Outstanding Defensemen
 Jana Fredbjornson Off Limits
 Tracy Clark Warriors
 Bridget Harper Wave
 Maureen Macrae Yahbuts
 Tammy Westaway Cool Running
 Kelly Francyz Ball Breakers
 Daria Gillis Blaze
 Amanda Langly Jettes

Outstanding Goaltender
 Sylvie Boucher Off Limits
 Maeve Hawash Warriors
 Lori McGavin Wave
 Nancy Lambert Cool Running
 Laura Scott Ball Breakers

The Best Run Team
 Cool Running
 Yahbuts
 Wave
 Warriors

Division 3

Outstanding Forward
Ken Dixon Ram Rod
Tyler Galvin Rip Em
Chad Pinkos Devils
Roy Evanyshyn Lightning
Ryan Trapp Sudden Death
Anders Strome Bulls
Dwayne Van Dosen Speed Kills

Outstanding Defenseemen
Justin Gibson Ram Rod
Richard Howard Devils
Thaddeus Bourassa Bulls
Dan Kaye Reds
Stephane Morency Gators
Darryl Rudolph Brigg Spur Doggs
Blake Penner Mezzanine

Outstanding Goalie
Daniel Patenaude Ram Rod
Kevin Landerville Rip Em
Duane Chemerika Devils
Owen Wagenr Lightning
Tyson Tremblay Bulls
Charles Reid Reds
Dave Tallieu Sudden Death

The Best Run Team
Ram Rod
Rip Em
Devils
Bulls
Gators

Division 4

Outstanding Forward
Matt Manning Decepticons
Clay Brown Chiefs
Quiton Waite Moose
Jody Walsh El Scorchos
Brock Higgins Hellfish
Adam Kelso Rangers

Outstanding Defenseemen
Gord Chappel Decepticons
Keenan Bentham Chiefs
Curtis Howson Moose
Darren Buchan El Scorchos
Rob Gregoire Rats
JR Sabourin Team Extreme

Outstanding Goaltender
Paul Janssen Decepticons
Dennis Desrosiers Chiefs
Ely Bushie Moose
Mike McKenzie El Scorchos
Kyle Stewart Hellfish
Rob Rurak Rangers
Dallas Alexander Rats

The Best Run Team
Decepticons
Chiefs
El Scorchos
Rats
Rangers

Coed Division

Outstanding Forward Male
Brad Cockeril Stars
Dave Lundberg Lightning
Kevin Sigurdson Our Compliments
Chad Stewart Blues
Simon Wang Screaming Beavers
Randy Kenning Cids

Outstanding Forward Female
Tamara Waite Stars
Monica Deschutter Lightning
Kim Kizinkewich Our Compliments
Christy Dzikowicz Blues
Karen Cassidy Screaming Beavers
Janine Boulanger Cids

Outstanding Defenseemen Male
Casey Johnson Stars
Bill Cook Lightning
Paul Wawryko Our Compliments
Cam McCallum Blues
Jon Graham Screaming Beavers
Jim Turner Cids

Outstanding Defenseemen Female
Lorraine Spence Stars
Kelly Hooper Lightning
Lindsay Lemanski Our Compliments
Marcy Hrechkosy Blues
Suzette Larochele Screaming Beavers
Theresa Sexton Cids

Outstanding Goalie
Nelson Arruda Stars
JR Cruz Lightning
Jordan Warne Our Compliments
Chris Larochele Screaming Beavers

The Best Run Team
Our Compliments
Screaming Beavers
Cids

Other awards that will be handed out that evening will be

Most Valuable Male Player in the MBHA.
Most Valuable Female Player in the MBHA.
The Best Run Organization in the MBHA.
The Volunteer of the Year in the MBHA.

Bulletins

Men's 3 on 3 and Co-ed 4 on 4 Winter Ball Hockey

Season begins on October 14th

Games played on Sundays at the River Osborne CC

For more details e-mail us at mbha1@hotmail.com or visit manitobaballhockey.com

Westridge Sponge Hockey League

Played 5 on 5

There are 4 different Men's divisions played Friday, Saturday, Sunday Afternoon and Sunday Evening.

There is a Co-ed division played on Monday evenings with some Saturday games as well.

Season begins in early December

For more details e-mail us at mbha1@hotmail.com or visit manitobaballhockey.com

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