ONTARIO WOMEN'S HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Incorporated February 6, 1981

2001-2002

Executive Reports

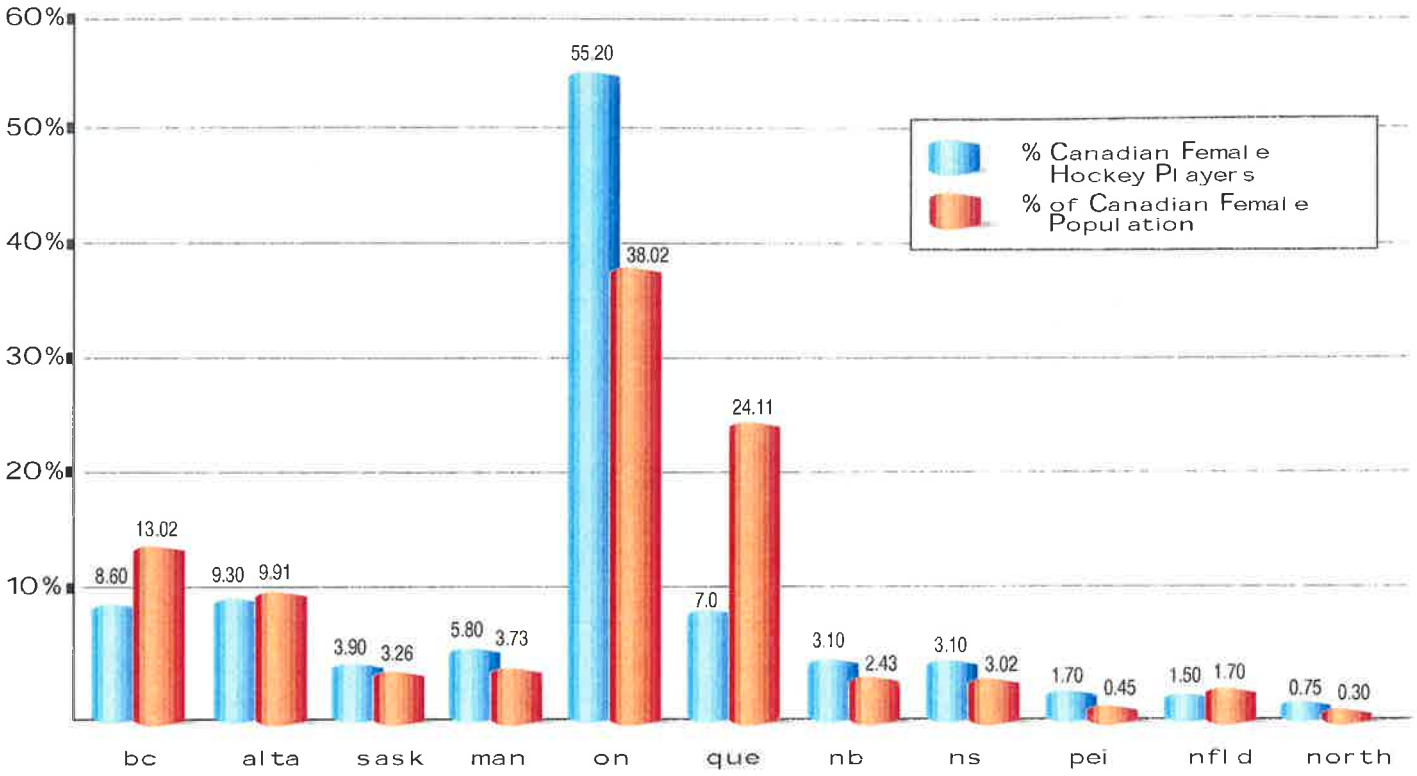
1975 • OWHA • 2002

Twenty Seven years of Team Work

Ontario Women's Hockey Association
5155 Spectrum Way, Building #3
Mississauga, Ontario L4W 5A1

Ontario: The Heart of Women's Hockey

The OWHA has created an inviting, safe and skilled atmosphere for female hockey players. Our growth has been steady and significant. The proof is in the numbers: Thirty eight per cent of Canadian females live in Ontario, yet Ontario is home to more than half of the country's female hockey players.



QUOTABLE

Our sport is growing at a phenomenal pace and the OWHA represents us with 100% focus on female hockey development and vision for the future....We (local girls teams & associations in Ontario) are strong together. We have the same vision. And we have 100% dedication to female hockey.

Gregg McLachlan
President, Norfolk Girls Hockey Association

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Director's Report 1
OWHA Registration Report 8
CHA Female Hockey Registration 9
OWHA Teams & Players – by Division & Category 10
New Membership 11
Certification Clinics (NCCP, HTCP, CHOP, Speak Out) 12
Development Programs - 2001 TSN Challenge 13
Development Programs - 2002 Esso Women's Nationals 14
OWHA Feedback – Light Weight Puck 16
Light Weight Puck – CHA Background & Update 17
Injury Reports 18
Discipline Report 19
Report - Provincial Championship Survey 20
Provincial Championship Review Committee 21
OWHA Tournaments 22
Provincial Champions - 2002 23
Toronto Maple Leafs 24
Ontario Winter Games - 2002 25
Central Canadian Championship - 2002 26
Esso Senior Women's National Championship - 2002 27
Winter Olympics - 2002 28
Canada Winter Games - 2003 30
Canadian Hockey Association Report
- Esso Women's Nationals (2003 & 2004) 31
- Risk & Safety Management 31
- Speak Out 31
- NEW RULE: Checking to the Head 31
- Protective Equipment-Helmets 32

Age Change – OWHA Clarification 33
Fair Play Evenings – New OWHA Initiative 33
Ice Chips
- Individual Stories 34
- Teamwork 34
- Provincial Championships 34
- New Liskeard 34
- Sault Ste Marie 34
- National Women's Hockey League 34
- Gloucester Women's Hockey 35
- Thunder Bay Thrashers 35
- Northern Regional House League Championship 35

Re-Categorization 35
Remembering our Special Friends 35
OWHA 2001-2002 36

Ontario Women's Hockey Association
#3-5155 Spectrum Way, Mississauga, Ontario L4W 5A1
Tel: (905) 282-9980 Fax: (905) 282-9982
www.owha.on.ca info@owha.on.ca

2001-2002 OWHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bryan Chappell	President
Fran Rider	Executive Director
Doug Nicholls	Treasurer/Past President
Pat Nicholls	1st Vice-President
Suzanne Essex	2nd Vice-President
Joan Dewdney	3rd Vice-President
Connie Rice	Secretary
Jim Davis	Regional Director – Central
Bill Williamson	Regional Director – Central East
Betty Solomon	Regional Director – Central West
Elizabeth Stein	Regional Director – Eastern
Bev Duffy	Regional Director – Metro Toronto
Denise Marjerrison	Regional Director – Northern
Dave Templeman	Regional Director – Western
Tony Bloomfield	OHA Delegate

Board of Regents	Mayor Hazel McCallion
Board of Regents	Professor Ed Ratushny
Board of Regents	Kay Cartwright
Board of Regents	Celia Southward
Board of Regents	Frank Champion-Demers
Board of Regents	Fran Rider
Board of Regents	Carl Noble
Board of Regents	Doug Nicholls

Rick Morphew	Director of Officiating
Laurie Taylor-Bolton	Referee-in-Chief

OWHA

ONTARIO WOMEN'S HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Executive Director's Report

Celebrating the championship of more than a century of female hockey.
Honouring those many women whose desire to participate,
their commitment to excellence and
their recognition of the Values of Integrity and Teamwork
enabled us all to share in the success of our Olympic Champions.
Thank you one and all!

Depending on our age, we all remember where we were and what we were doing on the day of two historic events – the assassination of John F. Kennedy and the Team Canada victory in 1972.

This year, we have seen two similar life experiences. We will all remember that tragic day in September – it has changed the world and leaves us with pain and compassion for those who lost so much. Also, we will remember that evening when we watched, along with six million viewers world-wide, when Team Canada rebounded from 8 straight losses to capture the gold medals in an exciting game against the very powerful USA.

Sports have an amazing impact on people. This report and the records of every team and player tell a very clear story and leave a factual message. Far more important are the life skills learned, the self-esteem gained and the special friendships made. These are those "immeasurable measures" of every game and season that stay with us forever.

The Ontario Women's Hockey Association is a very special team. Since our formation in 1975, we have achieved incredible success. We have worked together, cared about each other, turned hardship into opportunity and have had a world-wide impact on the game of hockey.

We have formed teams, associations and leagues with positive Values at the forefront. Our prime objective has been creating an opportunity for every girl and woman in Ontario to play the game of hockey. A second major objective has been a focus on excellence, successfully striving for provincial championships, national championships, world championships and the Olympic dream.

Our success is recognized throughout the world. The Ontario Women's Hockey Association is a world leader due to the strength of a very capable and caring membership. We have always faced challenges. We have stood up to these challenges and turned them into opportunities.

We have been inspired by the exceptional letters of support we have received. Many times we are asked how female hockey is unique – we all know it is – we all know it takes a special focus and a full commitment if it is to succeed. It is often difficult to put into words what we all understand so very clearly.

There are differences on the ice. There is different equipment. There are different programmes and opportunities. There are different reasons for playing the game. However, the biggest difference is the "immeasurable" that those letters speak. It is a past full of turning a defeat into victory. It is those everyday victories that give little girls and adult women those opportunities they so dearly deserve. We thank you all for your work and share some of these inspirations with you. This is your report and your association. It is an honour and a privilege for each and every one of us to be a part of this exceptional team!

Please **enjoy** these comments from our friends and our teammates – they are an inspiration:

I referee female hockey and have been doing so for 18 years.....I started out as an inexperienced referee and reached the pinnacle of my career as a linesman at the Winter Olympic Games. This would not have been made possible were it not for the programs in place within the OWHA.

The OWHA has worked very, very hard to build an organization for girls. They are the voice for girls hockey within the province. They unify the girls leagues within the province and through governing of tournaments and provincial championships give a venue to girls to exhibit their talents as hockey players.

Our sport is growing at a phenomenal pace and the OWHA represents us with 100% focus on female hockey development and vision for the future....We (local girls teams & associations in Ontario) are strong together. We have the same vision. And we have 100% dedication to female hockey.

There is no association anymore dedicated to the personal development of young hockey players as athletes and as responsible human beings than the Ontario Women's Hockey Association.

For so many years, the OWHA was doing what needed to be done at a time when few people recognized the value of females in sport....the fact the OWHA is responsible for the participation of over 50% of females playing hockey (in Canada) is such a huge success story. You have so much to be proud of.

When I turned 45, I was invited to a game and had the time of my life. I have been playing ever since. I feel terrific playing Canada's game, and although no one on the National team has to worry about me taking her place, I am thrilled that there is a league for adult women that has welcomed me, taught me skills, and given me so much fun.

The OWHA is an important part of the sport landscape. The growth of female hockey would never have happened if the OWHA hadn't existed.

The OWHA has done an exceptional job of developing women's hockey over the last 27 years.....Having an organization like OWHA giving full attention to the needs of females only has made us a better hockey nation....

I have watched the doors slowly get pushed open and the walls come down so that women have the right to play hockey.....I have also watched the growth of players and interest in the sport of women's hockey.....This happened with the determination of every young girl and woman who would not let the beliefs of society tell us we shouldn't or couldn't.

Thanks for all the work you (OWHA) do to make hockey accessible to women!!

We set out to make it better by giving 100% focus on building the best possible female hockey experience possible. We did. .....better promotion of girls hockey, more aggressive ice purchasing practices and a stronger partnership with Town parks and recreation would help us to increase enrolment from 139 in 1995 to more than 600 girls playing hockey by 2000. We did.

Girls Hockey is girls hockey*...and vive la difference!*

Female Hockey in Ontario continues to thrive due in part to its uniqueness, its innocence, its popularity at the grass roots level and its thousands of volunteers who have worked tirelessly over the past twenty-five years to make the female game what it is today.

...female hockey under the OWHA is the most significant hockey growth area in the country. The OWHA is the model for female Hockey in this country...

...the success of the OWHA in running a program for girls hockey that is the envy of all those throughout the world who want to grow the game, and promote its excellence.

The OWHA cares for each and every member of the association whether you are "AA" or house league. The grass roots players who are registered with the OWHA develop hockey skills plus learn respect of all opposing players, officials and spectators.

The OWHA program is unique in Canada. It is the only stand-alone girls organization in the country. It also happens to be the most successful for providing a fun, rewarding recreational experience for our kids.

The OWHA was responsible for nurturing the development of women's hockey from its inception to the status and numbers it is today. The OWHA has done this through dedication to the sport, embracing strategic visions, maintaining the flexibility to adapt through growth in numbers and popularity while at the same time keeping its responsiveness to its members. The positive influence that this body had on women's hockey is not only felt in Ontario but also in Canada and the rest of the world. Without the OWHA, the level and popularity of women's hockey will not be what it is today.

Nowhere else in North America is there anything like the OWHA regional playdown and provincial championship process. OWHA development programs with OWHA instructors allow female hockey volunteers to learn from people experienced with female hockey, and to network with other female hockey volunteers.

OWHA registration and rules are flexible and fair for small organizations in areas where few female teams exist, as well as for organizations in highly populated areas.

My daughter played competitive hockey, Atom "A", this year. She has continued to learn, and been treated in a very fair and equitable way. Along with her teammates she has developed tremendous skills, self-esteem and a love of a sport she will be able to play for the rest of her life. She has learned to win and to lose with grace, and to play for the enjoyment of the game.

....the OWHA Provincials is an excellent way of giving girls of all calibres a chance to participate in a provincial championship.....hockey is about participating.

---

*By living in northern Ontario, we are all aware and experience massive conditions in which we have to run our hockey programs under (egs. Distances between communities, winter conditions on our northern highways, small registrations in small communities.....But as we stand together in all the diversity we still make it **HAPPEN** and without the support of **OWHA** our **GIRLS OF THE NORTH** would never have experienced or had the opportunity to compete in the **PROVINCIALS** or to drop the puck at the **WOMEN'S WORLDS**!.....*
Geographically, the distance that divides us is enormous, but you cannot make distances between us affect the growth of our unique togetherness as one. At the "stage in the game" there is no looking back because the future of girls hockey will be phenomenal.....

The OWHA provides consistent guidance and direction to its member organizations, while sharing its rich history, a history that provide today's young female athletes a clear line of sight from the arenas of Ontario to the Olympic ice pad.

The OWHA is a leader and a model for the world not simply because it exists but because it is so successful.

I am a second year coach of a girls hockey team in Ontario. It has been a very rewarding experience being involved with the girls league....They play with a lot of heart, concentration and camaraderie during the game and have fun together, after the game. Encouraging these girls to reach new heights is very rewarding.

Last weekend we were involved in the Provincial Championships, with 24 ice pads, and over 5,000 girls. Needless to say, it was an awesome event. The hockey was great and the people were too.

I envy the young girls of today and the opportunities they have to play this great sport and develop their skills. The teams are there. The coaching is there. The competition is there. Most of all the FUN is there. The opportunities increase every year. How I wish I was 5 again!

They say the atmosphere is very different from boys, being much more positive, supportive and fun. They also note that the level of competition is excellent, dispelling the myth that girls hockey is not as good. Let's face it girls are different, not better or worse just different.

I am thrilled and awed at the number of girls now playing from house league to AA, and the skill and dedication they exhibit.

My daughter was involved in the Championship Weekend and it was an absolute blast. Hockey at its finest....all the girls are winners for having played this wonderful game and being part of this amazing organization.

I am 47, and have played in a women's league for 2 years. We have something undeniably different in the way we play and what we get from the game.

I have three daughters all of whom started playing hockey when they were 5-6 years old. The oldest is now 17 and all of them continue to play and have a passion for the sport.

It was a great day when the inception of the OWHA was formed. A body of individuals with high standards for the female game.....It is a different game, and the OWHA has the best interest of all female players and officials.

If it wasn't for the OWHA support, women's hockey would not be where it is today.....The success and popularity of women's hockey today is because the OWHA exists. They will always have our best interests in mind.

I wanted to write a note of support for the OWHA.....a vibrant organization administering and supporting girls and women's hockey.

This governing body has spearheaded the organization and development of the game of hockey for women of all ages across Ontario and they are not only wanted they are needed to continue the development of our game.
.....Through concentrated efforts of the OWHA, women's hockey has grown from about 30 teams when we were children to its current level where participation has surpassed 1700 teams and over 25,000 players.....and a National Team program. Women of our age would never believed it possible when we were kids playing that the game would have grown to the level and organization that it has. An awesome accomplishment to think that many of my teammates girls (and believe me we have enough among us to create our own farm team) can actually dream of playing on the national Women's Hockey Team and the dream of playing in the Olympics!!!!!!! Everything that is Girls hockey has been made possible by the OWHA.....

It's a game and the girls treat it as a game.

The girls game is enjoyable to watch, I love the finesse and the no intentional hitting.....The girls game has grown so much since we became involved about 12 years. We enjoy the game very much.

I support you 100% and am proud that I have been a member of the OWHA since 1976. The OWHA has developed a great hockey program and can be used as a model organization for other provinces/countries.

The women's game and how it is played, with artistry and finesse, could become the role model by which the men should really play the game.

Murray Costello, CHA President
1990 IIHF Women's World Hockey Championship, Ottawa

As an outsider, I am consistently amazed by the level of organization, expertise and passion that encompasses all areas of women's hockey in Ontario. At the many tournaments that I attend, it's clear that you are doing a fantastic job. To find that you are coming together on this scale to do it even better is commendable, and certainly a model for us in other areas of the world.
Do you have anything materials, programs etc. that illustrate the difference in the approach between men's and women's hockey. I constantly fight the battle "It was good enough for the boys, we'll do it the same way for the girls." Whether promoting the game, providing developmental opportunities, etc. I believe it has to be done differently.

"...for over 20 years (the OWHA) has been a beacon in the development and advancement of women's hockey. Today they run the only organization for women's hockey only in the world, offer development clinics for women's hockey only in coaching and officiating and boast the highest calibre of league play in the world."

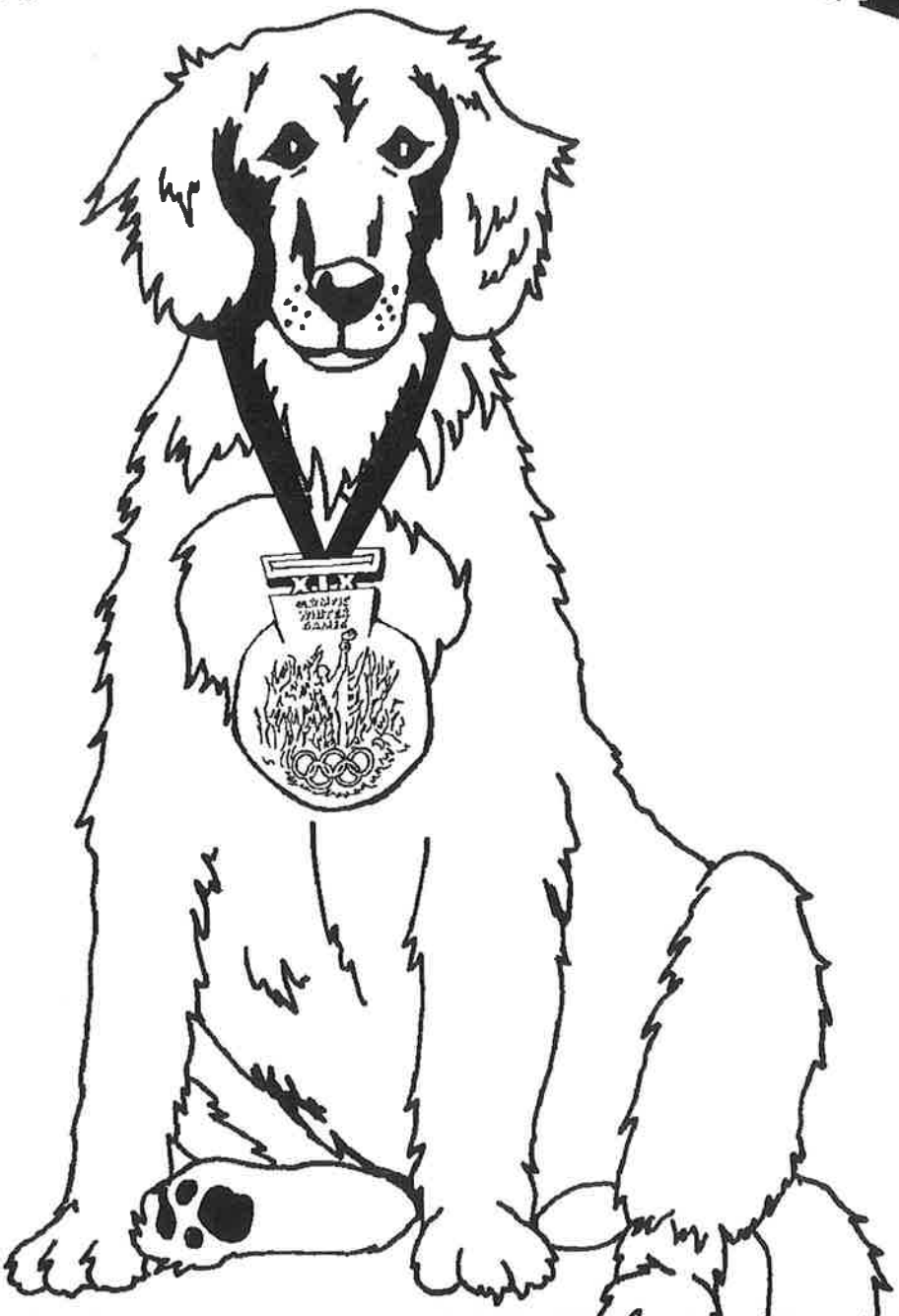
Glynis Peters, Canadian Hockey Association (1997)

Thank-you for the great time tonight at ma-te-way activity centre in renfrew, ontario! My three sisters and I had a blast at the fun night! I think I'm ready to join the team!
Love L....
age 3

From the OWHA have come some of the best female hockey players in the WORLD! This organization looks after the interests of women and girls and hockey in an era still dominated by men. Women's hockey deserves to be its own sport in Ontario, with all women's and girl's leagues under the same umbrella of the OWHA, sporting a proud past and bright future.

---

paws-itively

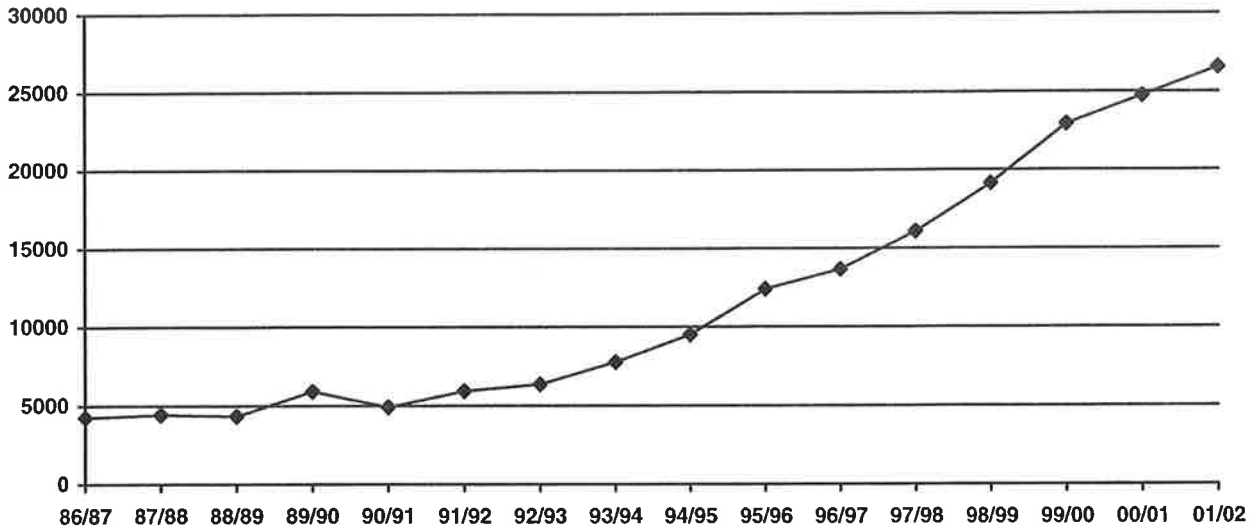


GOLDEN

OWHA REGISTRATION REPORT

Congratulations to all members of the Ontario Women's Hockey Association on another season of phenomenal growth. Membership in the OWHA increased by **128 teams** and **1,807 players** in the 2001-2002 season. The growth can be directly attributed to the dedication of the OWHA membership towards promoting the game in their local communities combined with the incredible enthusiasm of the players. All female hockey administrators are now in the planning stages for the upcoming post-Olympic season, readying themselves to capitalize on the great interest generated Canadian Women's Olympic gold medal.

OWHA GROWTH CHART (Players/Year)

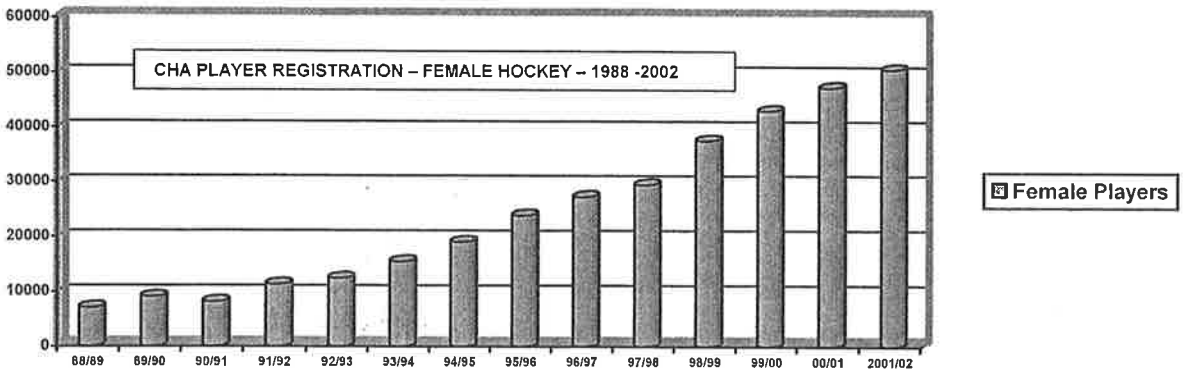


OWHA REGISTRATION – PLAYERS / DIVISION
1992 → 2002

TEAMS	*92/93*	*93/94*	*94/95*	*95/96*	*96/97*	*97/98*	*98/99*	*99-00*	*00-01*	***2001-02***	*+/-*
Competitive	246	308	372	411	435	449	539	590	643	**686**	+43
House League	165	249	321	443	526	644	855	966	1,031	**1,116**	+85
Total Teams	**411**	**557**	**693**	**854**	**964**	**1,093**	**1,394**	**1,556**	**1,674**	**1,802**	**+128**

PLAYERS	*92/93*	*93/94*	*94/95*	*95/96*	*96/97*	*97/98*	*98/99*	*99-00*	*00-01*	***2001-02***	*+/-*
Senior	2485	2798	3122	3704	3880	4058	4295	5506	5,229	**5,336**	+107
Intermediate	446	524	594	939	1367	1615	1710	1885	2,334	**2,625**	+291
Midget	565	644	859	1138	1274	1500	1949	2061	2,153	**2,164**	+11
Bantam	569	819	1110	1326	1324	1859	2372	2861	3,028	**3,283**	+255
Peewee	898	1181	1580	2235	2380	2743	3378	3771	4,461	**5,057**	+596
Atom	798	1124	1371	1679	1687	2665	3091	3461	3,929	**4,274**	+345
Novice /Tyke	551	744	990	1270	---	---	---	---	---	**---**	---
Novice	---	---	---	---	1373	1394	1955	2796	3,122	**3,319**	+197
FUNdamentals/ Initiation Program	---	---	---	---	330	215	364	574	476	**481**	+5
Total Players	**6,333**	**7,848**	**9,626**	**12,296**	**13,635**	**16,049**	**19,114**	**22,915**	**24,732**	**26,539**	**+1,807**

CHA FEMALE HOCKEY REGISTRATION



The Ontario Women's Hockey Association continues to derive its official affiliation to the International Ice Hockey Federation through the Canadian Hockey Association. We are represented at the board level by the Ontario Hockey Federation and are supported by the Ottawa District Hockey Association and the Hockey Northwestern Ontario. The OWHA also has a delegate on the CHA Female Council.

REGISTRATION – WOMEN'S HOCKEY 2001/2002– CHA

Please note that for all Provinces/Territory, with the exception of Ontario, the numbers listed reflect all female players in that province (females playing minor & female hockey). The Ontario numbers are OWHA (female hockey) statistics only.

Province		SR AAA & AA	SR. Other	INT.	MIDGET	BANTAM	PEEWEE	ATOM	NOVICE	I.P.	College & University	High School	TOTAL
BC	PLAYERS	142	2,187	16	294	280	545			1,277	0		**4,741**
	TEAMS	8	141	1	24	23	46			106	0		**349**
ALTA. (1)	PLAYERS	36	1,262	16	1,125	351	806	486	455	407	193		**5,137**
	TEAMS												
SASK. (2)	PLAYERS						2,088				50		**2,138**
	TEAMS						151						**151**
MAN.	PLAYERS		215		539	139	766	622	417	392	20	149	**3,259**
	TEAMS		12		38	11	47	31	10		1	11	**161**
OWHA	PLAYERS	265	4,900	2,625	2,164	3,283	5,057	4,274	3,319	481	171		**26,539**
	TEAMS	15	329	173	143	224	345	294	236	35	8		**1,802**
QUE. (1)	PLAYERS	38	760	988		900		450			190		**3,326**
	TEAMS												
N.B. (1)	PLAYERS		107	3	85	106	183	194	172	154	59	538	**1,601**
	TEAMS												
N.S.	PLAYERS		225		239	252	388	164	344	147			**1,759**
	TEAMS		12		14	12	16						**54**
P.E.I.	PLAYERS		84		220		213	223	65	56			**861**
	TEAMS		6		15		15	16					**52**
NFLD. (1)	PLAYERS		6	440	15	42	85	120	130	75		20	**933**
	TEAMS			24									**24**
Hockey North(1) (3)	PLAYERS		347										**347**
	TEAMS												
TOTALS	**PLAYERS**	**481**	**10,093**	**4,088**	**4,681**	**5,353**	**10,131**	**6,533**	**4,902**	**2,989**	**683**	**707**	**50,641**
	TEAMS	**23**	**500**	**198**	**234**	**270**	**620**	**341**	**246**	**141**	**9**	**11**	**2,593**

(1) Female team numbers not available. Total number of teams were reported under male hockey
(2) Saskatchewan - Female Players combined under PeeWee
Female Teams - Bantam/Midget/Senior (93); PeeWee (25); Atom & Below (33)
(3) Hockey North - Female Players combined under Senior Other

OWHA PLAYER & TEAM DISTRIBUTION *by Division & Category*

CATEGORY	PLAYERS						TEAMS					
COMPETITIVE	**01/02**	00/01	99/00	98/99	97/98	96/97	**01/02**	00/01	99/00	98/99	97/98	96/97
Senior AAA	**99**	112	115	83	88	119	**5**	6	6	5	5	7
Senior AA	**166**	227	260	209	198	223	**10**	15	17	13	12	14
Senior A	**474**	388	423	467	460	526	**30**	26	26	30	29	34
Senior BB	**272**	236	249	263	182	200	**17**	15	16	17	12	13
Senior B	**354**	369	338	275	204	151	**23**	24	22	18	12	9
Senior CC	**—**	---	158	147	199	209	**—**	---	10	10	13	13
Senior C	**384**	448	374	337	318	343	**25**	28	26	26	22	22
Intermediate AA	**342**	223	177	163	103	---	**20**	13	11	10	6	---
Intermediate A	**149**	198	118	214	126	121	**9**	12	7	14	8	7
Intermediate BB *	**225**	198	135	n/a	n/a	187	**14**	12	8	n/a	n/a	12
Intermediate B	**237**	92	149	135	198	n/a	**15**	6	9	10	12	---
Intermediate C	**272**	215	204	141	223	325	**16**	14	13	20	18	22
Midget AA	**373**	390	323	229	235	---	**23**	24	20	16	15	---
Midget A	**257**	138	220	124	90	211	**16**	9	14	8	6	14
Midget BB	**148**	264	154	110	113	90	**9**	17	10	11	7	6
Midget B	**179**	151	150	139	133	117	**12**	9	10	14	9	8
Midget C	**260**	295	286	159	196	263	**18**	20	19	10	13	19
Bantam AA	**272**	231	212	215	198	---	**17**	15	15	14	13	---
Bantam A	**317**	360	278	207	119	312	**21**	23	18	15	8	21
Bantam BB	**453**	391	368	325	294	143	**29**	25	23	22	20	11
Bantam B	**543**	407	283	267	138	188	**36**	28	19	18	9	13
Bantam C	**337**	404	405	323	355	285	**23**	27	26	22	25	21
Peewee AA	**151**	132	125	168	121	---	**10**	9	8	11	8	---
Peewee A	**410**	419	347	379	174	236	**27**	27	22	25	11	16
Peewee BB	**407**	392	266	276	359	342	**26**	25	17	20	23	23
Peewee B	**628**	400	430	342	307	189	**41**	26	29	24	20	13
Peewee C	**524**	536	497	311	319	356	**36**	36	33	23	22	25
Atom AA	**183**	137	90	121	158	---	**12**	9	6	8	11	---
Atom A	**179**	168	195	180	116	214	**12**	11	13	11	7	14
Atom BB	**276**	270	292	213	125	197	**18**	18	19	14	8	13
Atom B	**432**	478	271	245	248	110	**28**	31	18	16	16	8
Atom C	**516**	481	400	338	267	237	**34**	32	31	26	17	17
Novice A	**140**	153	89	108	98	109	**9**	10	6	7	7	8
Novice BB	**179**	150	186	100	93	74	**12**	10	13	10	7	5
Novice B	**264**	120	133	100	120	148	**18**	8	9	7	8	11
Novice C	**222**	348	472	194	149	163	**15**	23	21	14	10	12
SUB TOTAL	**10,624**	9921	9172	7607	6824	6,388	**686**	643	590	539	449	431
NON-COMPETITIVE	**00/01**	00/01	99/00	98/99	97/98	96/97	**00/01**	00/01	99/00	98/99	97/98	96/97
Senior Rec.	**1612**	1415	512	267	997	759	**105**	97	36	19	68	50
Senior HL/University	**1975**	2034	3077	2247	1412	1370	**137**	142	209	181	103	93
Intermediate HL	**1400**	1408	1102	1057	965	734	**99**	94	77	73	65	52
Midget HL	**947**	915	928	1188	733	593	**65**	67	65	77	49	46
Bantam HL	**1361**	1235	1315	1035	755	396	**98**	88	91	71	52	33
Peewee HL	**2937**	2582	2106	1902	1463	1257	**205**	182	151	155	107	96
Atom HL	**2688**	2395	2213	1994	1751	929	**190**	165	154	146	120	77
Novice HL	**2514**	2351	1916	1453	934	879	**182**	165	141	102	64	70
Hockey FUNdamentals (Initiation) Programs	**481**	476	574	364	215	330	**35**	31*	42	31	16	17
SUB TOTAL	**15,915**	14,811	13,743	11,507	9,225	7,247	**1,116**	1,031	966	855	644	534
Grand Total	**26,539**	24,732	22,915	19,114	16,049	13,635	**1,802**	1,674	1,556	1,394	1,093	965

The OWHA currently has 18 centres running the FUNdamentals Program (CHA Initiation Program)

NEW MEMBERSHIP

Seventeen new teams or associations have been approved over the 2001-2002 and none were denied.

All new teams and associations are reviewed once they pass their one (1) year probation and if necessary, a further one (1) year probation will be issued. This allows the committee to take another look at them, offer assistance if needed and help create a positive atmosphere for the girls.

Every area has their own unique environment. House League hockey is strong in the larger cities; there may be a ratio of 3 House League teams to every 1 competitive or Rep team. Other areas have one or two house league teams who play other house league teams in the area on each other's ice.

One thing we've learned is the girls want to play female hockey regardless of the structure because it is fun! We're also experiencing a competitive edge, as girls want to get the most out of their hockey including the many opportunities now available to them that weren't before.

Thank you to those who contribute input when asked about a new team or group in their area. Without your input it would be impossible to know the impact of a new entry.

Have a good summer and remember to Play Safe!

New Team 2001-2002

Arnprior Aces Sr. C Team
Clarence-Rockland GHA Jr. Assn
Glencoe Ice Cats Jr. Assn
Osgoode Ladies Sat. Nite Live Sr. Rec
Tavistock PW H.L. Team
Wild West Hockey Club Sr. Assn
Blenheim GHA Jr. Assn
Dundas Cyclones Mid A
Kitchener Stars Sr. B
Russell & District Jr. Assn
Thesselon Fem.Hockey Ban C
Woolwich GHA Jr Assn
Brussels GHA Jr. Assn
Emo-Devlin GHA Jr.
Madawaska Jr. Assn
Seaforth Stars GHA Jr
Waterloo GHA Jr.

New Team 2000-2001

Chesswood Lady Bugs Sr. BB
Hastings Int. C Team
Iroquois Falls Jr. Assn.
Lady Marlies Sr. A Team
Leamington W.H.A.
London Sr. BB Team
Madoc Atom C Team
New Liskeard Jr. Assn.
Port Perry Jr. Assn.
Schrieber North Stars Jr. Assn.
Smith Falls Yellowjackets Sr. C. Team
Sundridge Chaos Sr. C. Team
Tilbury Jr. Assn.
Twin Centre Jr. Assn.
Waterloo Jr. Assn.
Waterloo Eagles Sr. A Team
Woolwich Jr. Assn.

New 1999-2000

Ancaster Assn.
Aurora Sr. C Team
N.York Bedfords Sr. C. Team
Caledon WHA
Carleton University
Carlton Place Assn.
Dubreuilville Sr. Rec
Essex County FHA
Fort Erie Lady Hawks Dr.BB
Gloucester Sr. C Team
Humberview Huskies Sr. AA Tm
Mt. Brydges GHA
Ottawa Valley DWHA
Tor. Rainbow Rocketts Sr. C
Sturgeon Falls GHA
St. Charles Assn
Sudbury Vees Sr. BB
Thunder Bay Assn
Vaughan GHA
Western University

It is our hope to assist new groups with the many challenges they face entering a new team in the OWHA. Registration, obtaining ice, sponsorship, tournaments, rules, and etc require much attention. We get questions about all of this and more and hope we can give them the support they need to ice successful teams.

WELCOME TO OUR TEAM

OWHA CERTIFICATION CLINICS

The following list of certification clinics were coordinated through the Ontario Women's Hockey Association in the 2001-2002 season. Our thanks to all local clinic hosts and program instructors for their assistance in delivering these important certification clinics. Special thanks to Diane Boles, OWHA Clinic Coordinator and Cathy Phillips for their great work in organizing the clinics listed below.

NATIONAL COACHING CERTIFICATION PROGRAM (NCCP) CLINICS

CLINIC LOCATION	DATE	NCCP LEVEL
Chatham	Aug 4-6	Intermediate
Durham West	Sept 8-9,22	Intermediate
Leaside	Sept 22-23	Coach
Stoney Creek	Sept 29-30	Coach
Kenora	Sept 29,30	Coach
London	Oct 20-21	Coach
Cornwall	Oct 26-29	Intermediate
Brampton	Nov 17,18	Coach
Oakville	Nov 5-6,11	Coach
Whitby	Nov 24-25	Coach
Mississauga	Dec 8-9	Coach
Whitby	Jan 18,19	Intermediate
Chatham	Jan 18,19	Coach
Thunder Bay	Jan 19,20	Coach
Mississauga	May 11,12	Coach
Hamilton	June 1,2	Intermediate

HOCKEY TRAINER'S CERTIFICATION PROGRAM (HTCP) CLINICS

CLINIC LOCATION	DATE	HTCP LEVEL
North York	Sept 15	1
Hamilton	Sept 29	1
Cornwall	Oct 6	1
Oshawa	Oct 7	1
Toronto-Leaside	Oct 13	1
Gloucester	Oct 14	1
London	Oct 27	1
Whitby	Oct 28	1
Oakville	Nov 3	1
Gloucester	Nov 3	1
Mississauga	Nov 4	1
Cambridge	Nov 10	1
Hamilton – WHL	Nov 17	1
Barrie	Nov 24	1
Brampton Cougars	Nov 25	1
Carleton Place	Dec 01	1
Chatham	Dec 08	1
Thunder Bay	Jan 12	1

CANADIAN HOCKEY OFFICIATING PROGRAM (CHOP) CLINICS

CLINIC LOCATION	DATE(S)	CLINIC TYPE
Etobicoke	Sep 8	Sr level III & above
Etobicoke	Sep 8	Jr level I & II
Peterborough	Sep 8	Sr level III & above
Peterborough	Sep 8	Jr level I & II
Ottawa	Sep 9	Jr level I & II
Ottawa	Sep 9	Sr level III & above
Oshawa GHA	Sep 9	Jr level I & II
Hamilton WHL	Sep 15	Jr level I & II
North York	Sep 15	Jr level I & II
Brampton CGHA	Sep 16	Jr level I & II
Brampton CGHA	Sep 16	Sr level III & above
Aurora	Sep 22	Jr level I & II
Whitby	Sep 23	Jr level I & II
Aurora	Sep 26,28	Sr level III & above
Windsor	Sep 29	Jr level I & II
Aurora	Sep 29	Jr – under age 16
Barrie	Sep 30	Jr level I & II
Mississauga	Sep 30	Jr level I & II
London	Oct 13	Jr level I & II
London	Oct 13	Sr level III & above
Thunder Bay	Oct 20	Jr level I & I I
Hamilton	Oct 28	Jr level I & II
Hamilton	Oct 28	Sr level III & above
Chatham	Nov 17	Jr level I & II

SPEAK OUT! Prevention Services

HOST ASSOCIATION	DATE
North York	Sep 18
Stoney Creek	Sep 28
London	Oct 19
Aurora	Oct 30
Oakville	Nov 1
Niagara Falls	Nov 12
Hamilton	Nov 22
Chatham	Dec 11
Brantford	Dec 11
Lindsay	Dec 17
Mississauga	Jan 9/23
Chatham	Jan 17
Mississauga	Feb 6/20
London	Feb 15
Mississauga	Mar 06

2001 TSN Challenge – Corel Centre & Copps Coliseum

Team Canada challenged Team USA again this season in the exciting TSN Challenge. Two of the three games were held in Ontario (Corel Centre – November 27th and Copps Coliseum – November 30th), and the OWHA had the opportunity, through sponsorship to coordinate special development programs during each event. Information on all activities was promoted through the OWHA web-site, team registration packages, fax &/or email.

Nike Skills Challenge

Information was sent to all teams, in the OWHA team registration package, about this exciting opportunity for Peewee and Atom players to enter a contest to join in a free Nike Skills Session prior to each TSN Challenge game. Emails &/or faxes were also sent to OWHA peewee and atom teams all across Ontario to encourage contest entries.

Thirty-six participants were selected for each session. Over 100 entries were received for the Corel Centre program.

Esso FUN Days

An Esso FUN Days session was also offered in the afternoon prior to each game. Session spaces were on a first come, first served basis. Sponsored by Imperial Oil, each participant received a hockey sweater and FUN on-ice introduction to hockey. In-class FUN activities took place. Thirty-two young girls were introduced to female hockey at each event. All players received two free tickets to the Canada vs USA hockey game.

Our thanks to the volunteer instructors and trainers who assisted us on-ice and off-ice for both the Esso FUN Days and Nike Skills sessions.

Guest Officials

Three Guest Officials were selected to participate in each game. Guest Officials have the opportunity to:

- Observe how top Canadian Officials prepare for a game
- Skate with game officials in on-ice pre-game warm-up
- Participate in game opening ceremonies
- Watch the game with an OWHA CHOP Supervisor to gain valuable pointers on officiating

Each lucky official received two game tickets.

Coach Seminar

The OWHA and CHA teamed up to offer a pre-game coach seminar for both the Kanata and Hamilton events. Guest speakers were Team Canada coaches. The Corel Centre session was cancelled due to insufficient registration. Seventeen participants joined in the Copps Coliseum clinic. Wally Kozak was the guest speaker. Participants enjoyed the Team Canada vs Team USA game immediately following the clinic.

OWHA ONTARIO WOMEN'S HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

TSN

CANADA

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
2002 Esso Women's National Championship

In the 2001-2002 hockey season the Ontario Women's Hockey Association looked forward to the golden opportunity to run CHA/OWHA development programs in Renfrew County during the 2002 Esso Women's National Championship. The area had girls and women's teams developing within the smaller surrounding communities however, in the larger centres Arnprior & Renfrew the sport was having a challenge to grow. A few girls' teams had recently started. The event co-chairs hope that this event will be a springboard for the sport in their towns. An exciting future is ahead for local girls and women who wanted to play this great sport.

The week of March 4th-10th was a very exciting week as all special development programs were met with enthusiasm and success. We had the joy of working with many terrific local volunteers, introducing them to our wonderful sport and watching them discover the "exceptionality" of female hockey. We hope many will become permanent OWHA volunteers, assisting the girls and women in Renfrew County in lacing up their skates to enjoy Canada's National winter sport!

The OWHA anticipates great growth in the Renfrew County area for next hockey season. Over 150 girls and women challenged their desire to play hockey in the Esso FUN Days. What a response....what a future!

Over 3,000 school children, teachers and parent volunteers joined in the Esso Schools Program. Again it was proven that education and hockey are a successful team. Educating everyone about female hockey is an on-going task....and a FUN one with Esso's support.

Our thanks to Imperial Oil, Canadian Hockey Association and the Towns of Renfrew and Arnprior for the opportunity to enhance female hockey in Ontario during the 2002 Esso Women's National Championship.

***2002 Esso Women's National Championship* – DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

Esso FUN Days	☺ Special program to introduce new players ("young" & "young-timers") to female hockey. Both on-ice & in-class activities. ☺ **Renfrew** –Monday, March 4 **MA-TE-WAY CENTRE** On-ice & In-class: 7:00pm-9:00pm **101 participants** **Arnprior** –Sunday, Mar 10 **NICK SMITH CENTRE** On-ice 1:00pm-2:00pm In-class 2:15-2:45pm **52 participants**
Guest Officials	☺ All young OWHA registered female officials (CHOP Level 1 & HL – ages 14-16) were offered a chance to join on-ice officials in pre-game preparation & on-ice warm-up for selected games. Contest winners were: Amy Chamberlain – Ottawa, Ontario Natalie Hughes – Bath, Ontario Meghan Mallette – Nepean, Ontario Sarah Mattonen – Newmarket, Ontario Amanda Morra – Pickering, Ontario Jerrica Wood – Windsor, Ontario

Esso Schools Program

☺ The OWHA had the privilege of working again with sponsor Imperial Oil to bring the Esso Schools Program to Ontario during the Esso Women's Nationals.

☺ For the 2002 Esso Women's National Hockey Championship, Renfrew County schools were offered the opportunity through a contest on the new Esso "Shooting for Gold" website www.shootingforgold.com. Shooting for Gold is a *new* educational program that followed Team Canada as they strove for gold in Salt Lake City. Teachers logged on to www.canadianhockey.ca to download this FREE curriculum-based teaching unit for grades 4, 5 and 6. The Shooting for Gold unit follows curriculum guidelines for Ontario, Alberta and Quebec.

☺ Teachers entered the contest for a chance to win the following:

☺ **"OVERTIME" Program** EXTRA SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES, for Students/Staff/Chaperones, at the Nick Smith Centre, Arnprior (March 6) and the Ma-Te-Way Centre, Renfrew (March 7). Participants rotated around the arena through 8 stations. Subjects included History of Female Hockey, Chalk Talk with Coaches, OWHA Hockey Opportunities, Referee's Corner, Zamboni – Arena Operations, Fitness/Training and Goaltending. Students enthusiastically cheered on competing teams as they received **GAME TICKETS** for a game immediately preceding or immediately following the special activities.

☺ **"GAME" Program** GAME TICKETS for students/staff/chaperones for a weekday game at the Nick Smith Centre, Arnprior or the Ma-Te-Way Centre, Renfrew.

☺ **TEAM CANADA PRIZES** All schools registered on the website had an opportunity to win an autographed Team Canada Jersey or Team Canada autographed stick.

PARTICIPANTS

	"GAME" Program	OT Program	Totals
Renfrew	1066	534	1600
Arnprior	1234	519	1753
		Total	**3353**

Coach Seminar

☺ The OWHA hosted a special seminar offered to coaches of girls'/women's hockey & those who may be interested in coaching a girls or women's team. Guest speakers included Olympic Champion Canadian Women's Hockey Team Head Coach **Danielle Sauvageau** and Assistant Coach **Melody Davidson**

Saturday, March 9th **NICK SMITH CENTRE, Arnprior** 10:30am-12:30pm

The seminar was free and included a ticket to the 1pm Semi-Final Game

Skate with the Champions

☺ **FUN** on-ice session was offered to OWHA members giving them a chance to skate with players, coaches, officials participating in the championship. Autograph signings.

☺ **Nick Smith Centre**, Arnprior-Sunday, Mar 10th 12 noon – 1:00pm

Breakfast of Champions

☺ Players from competing teams visited one local school in each community to enjoy a breakfast sponsored by General Mills

☺ Friday, March 8 Queen Elizabeth School, Renfrew
John XXIII School, Arnprior

Street Hockey

☺ After school road hockey games were organized with local youngsters in both Arnprior & Renfrew. Mayor Sandi Heins closed down a street in downtown Renfrew for the friendly competition. Mayor Sandi even joined in the action.

FEEDBACK ON THE 5-OUNCE LIGHTWEIGHT PUCK

- Throughout the year, we encouraged teams to try the lightweight puck
- Our initial feedback indicated that teams were reluctant to try the pucks with one reason being the cost.
- The OWHA purchased pucks for each member of the board of directors to carry and loan to teams to try.
- We continued to have trouble persuading anyone to try the pucks. The general response we faced was, in fact, quite negative. Most people found the idea quite offensive.
- In another attempt to secure input, we circulated a questionnaire at the provincial championship.

Conclusion – Lightweight Puck

- The majority of OWHA members found the concept offensive
- Our conclusion at this time is that there is little interest in the light weight puck.

SURVEY RESULTS

What do you think of the "IDEA" of playing with a lighter puck?
71% said NO,
15% said YES,
14% were uncertain, indifferent or didn't know. In this category, many expressed the desire to have a trial period.

Have you had the opportunity to try the lightweight puck?
68% said NO,
30% said YES,
2% had no answer.

Examples of supportive comments:
Higher shots
Good idea (9)
Good for younger players (18)
Easier to play the puck (4)
Sweet (2)
Somewhat (2)
Easier/faster shots (8)
Changes are good

Examples of non-supportive comments:
Too bouncy (14)
Like the same rules & equipment as men
Stupid idea (15)
We are capable of playing with 6 ounce puck (8)
Sucks (2)
Not a good idea (20)
Unequal
Doesn't matter to me
I think it would take away from the game
Decreases challenge
No need to change (7)
Too light
Strong enough for the normal puck weight (3)
Makes us look weak
Never used it (21)
Less/no control (7)
See nothing wrong with puck we have (10)
No need to use a lighter puck (2)
Girls don't need to be treated differently (5)
Prejudice to have a lighter puck
Like the old puck
It's retarded (4)
Never thought about it
Discriminating
I think it's insulting (2)
More injuries due to increase in speed of shots (2)
It would set us back years (2)
I'm not sure (7)
Heavier puck increase strength (3)
If you play with big girls, use big girl equipment (1)
I think whoever made that assumption needs their head checked
It makes it seem like we're not suppose to play, just give us a ring & call it ringette

CANADIAN HOCKEY ASSOCIATION BACKGROUND AND UPDATE
Lightweight puck (5 ounce)

Status of Light Weight 5oz Puck Field Study for Women's Hockey

Last season a study was completed under the CHA Young Investigator's Program through the University of Manitoba on the use of lightweight pucks for women's hockey. The study suggested that from three pucks tested: 4.5, 5.0 and 5.5 oz, the 5.0 oz puck be best suited for women's hockey ages 10 and up. As this was only one study conducted, it was an approved recommendation last season that the CHA further investigate the use of a 5 oz puck through field-testing. A market 5 oz puck was developed through the CHA licensee throughout Canada. A comprehensive evaluation form targeted at players, coaches, parents and administrators was developed and included with each shipment of ordered pucks.

To date approximately half a dozen orders have been made and only one set of evaluations has been returned to the CHA. Promotion and delivery problems from the manufacturer have been sited as some problems affecting the field study. As a result, the Research Committee feels that making a recommendation out of only one completed set of evaluations does not suffice for the argument supporting the use or non-use of the lightweight puck in women's hockey. Instead, a recommendation to extend the field study into the 2002-2003 season under the same conditions is suggested. It is the position of the Research Committee that we feel confident that we will receive more survey returns at this time next year in order to better assess the use of the light-weight 5 oz puck.

So far, detailed data has been collected from BCAHA (BC Winter Games Female Program) as well as feedback from the OWHA. The following number of people filled out the survey for each of the different group for the BC Winter Games Program:

Player: 130 Parent: 19 Coach: 15

MOTION APPROVED BY CHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

That the 5 oz lightweight puck field-testing project be continued into the 2002-2003 season. Conditions that apply are that the 5oz puck will be ordered through the Canadian Hockey Association and purchased by the user. Secondly, an evaluation form must be completed and submitted to the CHA upon completion of the implementation period.

FEEDBACK ON OWHA WEBSITE FROM APRIL PROVINCIALS

Have you had a chance to visit the website?
62% said NO, 37% said YES, 1% did not reply

The information below was taken from the 69 "yes" applicants of above.

Was the website easy to find?
94% said YES, 6% said NO

How can we improve our site?

Add statistics of all teams (4)
Post game result asap (3)
Classify teams by level instead of division
Add more colours, graphics & pictures (6)
Keep tournament schedule & contact list updated
Show registered teams with links to their sites
More distinctive headings (2)
Make ALL forms friendly to download
Information on Universities and future possibilities (development)
Keep current information (2)
Nothing, it's great!! (7)
No comment/uncertain (34)
Put "click to enter" higher up on introduction page
More links related to specific hockey topics
Remove introduction page to go directly to home page
Remove the photos of the players & teams

Feedback on website from Senior Provincials

18 of 27 (66%) have gone on the website. Most want more current information and quicker updates. Examples of comments:

- encourage local association website and links, more current
- links, list of all teams at all levels, maybe it's already there – don't know?
- On-line suggestion form
- answer e-mails, contact for tournaments coaching/training clinics as well as other opportunities.
- Useful to those in the north, info about tournaments is greatly appreciated, include pictures of winning provincial teams…

INJURY REPORTS

The following charts provide statistics derived from the Canadian Hockey Association Injury Report forms &/or HDCO Injury Report surveys received at the OWHA office in 2001-2002. The "Injury by Division" and "Injury Type" charts include statistics from the two previous seasons for comparison.

Reported Injuries – by Division

DIVISION	COMPETITIVE			HOUSE LEAGUE			2001-02
Year	99-00	00-01	**01-02**	99-00	00-01	**01-02**	**TOTALS**
Novice	0	3	**2**	2	2	**3**	**5**
Atom	6	7	**10**	3	3	**1**	**11**
Peewee	21	23	**18**	4	10	**4**	**22**
Bantam	17	26	**18**	0	8	**4**	**22**
Midget	18	27	**16**	2	0	**2**	**18**
Intermediate	6	12	**24**	3	8	**1**	**25**
Senior	16	27	**35**	12	19	**11**	**46**
Officials (On-Ice)	3	2	**0**	0	0	**0**	**0**
TOTALS	87	127	**123**	26	50	**26**	**149**

Reported Injuries – by Injury Type

INJURY TYPE	QTY			INJURY TYPE	QTY		
	2001-02	2000-01	1999-00		**2001-02**	2000-01	1999-00
Abdominal	**0**	0	1	Teeth	**3**	2	1
Chin	**0**	1	1	Ankle	**4**	4	0
Ear	**0**	0	1	Hand/Finger	**4**	3	2
Finger	**0**	1	1	Hip	**5**	2	2
Jaw	**0**	1	1	Shin	**5**	0	0
Leg	**0**	28	20	Thigh	**5**	0	0
Mouth	**0**	7	2	Collarbone	**6**	3	1
Pelvis	**0**	1	0	Elbow	**6**	2	0
Spine	**0**	1	0	Wrist	**9**	10	1
Tailbone	**0**	0	1	Foot	**10**	22	13
Thumb	**0**	2	3	Back	**14**	27	29
Chest	**1**	8	0	Shoulder	**18**	24	9
Arm	**2**	13	14	Knee	**23**	11	7
Ribs	**2**	9	1	Neck	**31**	31	27
Face	**3**	8	2	Head	**33**	42	24

Reported Injuries by Month

	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April
2001-2002	**2%**	**16%**	**16%**	**15%**	**24%**	**15%**	**9%**	**3%**
2000-2001	4%	16%	22%	18%	18%	11%	8%	3%

DISCIPLINE REPORT

Summary for the Year

1. Of all suspensions checking from behind was called the most with 220 of the 934 suspensions or 24%.
2. Abusive Language is the next highest at 12% with 107 suspensions called.
3. The Central East Region received the most suspensions with 22% (209 of the 934). The next highest Region is Eastern with 166 or 18% followed closely by the Central Region with 155 or 17%.
4. The Bantam level received the most suspensions with 294 out of 934 suspensions or 31%. The next highest level was Midget with 177 and Intermediate with 176 which represents 19% each.
5. The level/category with the most suspensions is the Midget AA level which received 77 out of 934 suspensions or 8%. The next highest is the Intermediate AA with 73 and the Bantam AA level with 70. These also represent 8% of all suspensions.
6. The Novice level received 8 suspensions, with the Novice A level receiving the most with 4 or 50%.
7. The Atom level received 39 suspensions, 13 or 33% of which were at the Atom AA level. The Central Region received the most suspensions at this level with 12 or 31%.
8. The Peewee level received 130 suspensions or 19% of all suspensions. The Peewee AA level received 39 of the 130 Peewee suspensions or 30%. The Central East Region received the most number of suspensions at the PW level with 50 of the 130 or 39%.
9. In the Bantam category, the suspensions were fairly evenly spread out between both the levels and the regions. The Bantam AA level received the most suspensions with 24% or 70 out of 293 suspensions. The Central East Region has the most suspensions at this level with 71 or 24% of all Bantam suspensions.
10. The Midget AA level is the worst offender in the Midget category with 77 out of 177 suspensions or 44%. The Central Region has the highest number of suspensions in this category with 41 or 23%.
11. The Intermediate AA level has the most suspensions at this level with 73 out of 176 or 42%. The Western Region leads the way with suspensions at this level with 48 of the 176 or 27%.
12. The Senior level received 103 suspensions or 11% of all suspensions. The highest number of suspensions at the Senior level go to the Senior House League with 24% or 25 out of 103 suspensions. The Metro Toronto Region has received the highest number of Senior level suspensions with 24 or 23%.

Comparison of Suspensions to this period last year

There has been an increase of 18% in the number of suspensions handed out this year compared to last year. Last year there were 795 suspensions compared to 934 this year. Significant increases and decreases can be seen in the following areas:

Suspension Type	2001-02	00-01	+/-
Disputing a Call	77	60	28% increase
Abusive Language	107	94	12% increase
Fighting	58	53	Slight increase
Check from Behind	220	239	8% decrease
Body Checking	66	48	38% increase
Travesty of Game	31	19	63% increase

The 2001-2002 OWHA's Provincial Championships were held on two different weekends. A questionnaire was distributed to participants at the bantam age levels and up. We are pleased to share the results.

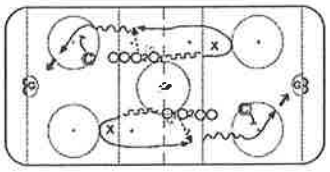
REPORT ON SURVEY

OWHA PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS – BANTAM THROUGH SENIOR

A survey was distributed to the teams at the beginning of the Championship. The questions focused on the issues of the "No Centre Red Line" and the "New 5-ounce Lightweight Puck".

The "percentages" and "comments" were collected from 215 surveys that were submitted. The "comments" sections will not have percentages as many did not answer and some provided more than one comment. Please be aware that the choice of words used in the comment portion reflect the comments expressed by the participants.

FEEDBACK ON THE CENTRE RED LINE



- The OWHA competitive teams at the bantam competitive level and higher played the 2001-2002 season without the center red line for offside passes.
- We circulated a questionnaire to the teams at those level who were competing in the provincial championships.

Conclusion – Centre Red Line

- Our conclusion is that the participants prefer playing without the center red line.
- There is a proposal to be discussed at the OWHA AGM to remove the center line from all levels of female hockey in Ontario

SURVEY RESULTS

Do you like playing without the red line?

90% said YES, 7% said NO, 3% were INDIFFERENT

Examples of supportive comments:

Longer hard passes (23)
Better offensive passes (16)
Less whistles (20)
Like the no 2 lines
More cherry picking (4)
Easier to stop long shots
Easier to score goals
Different strategies, pulls defence off the blueline (5)
Faster game (74)
Opens up game (32)
Better break-outs (8)
More break-aways (12)
More efficient
Easier & more fun (2)
More exciting
More passing (1)

Examples of non-supportive comments:

Not very good
Reduces passes in neutral zone
Hard positionally
Forwards neglect defensive game
Hard to cover cherry pickers (7)
Harder on penalty kills
More skating (2)

Indifferent/no change (21) many in this category were goalies.

Would you like to see the red line back?

87% said NO, 6.5% said YES, 6.5% were INDIFFERENT

Canadian Hockey Association Decision Regarding the Centre Red Line

The red line will be removed for all Esso Women's Nationals and Central Canadian Championship for the 2002-2003 Season.

PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP REVIEW COMMITTEE

Report to the Ontario Women's Hockey Association Membership and Board of Directors
as per direction at the 2001 OWHA AGM.

Chairperson: Denise Marjerrison Secretary: Elizabeth Stein
Members: Martha Branigan, John Chandler, Ray Payette, Rick Villeneuve, Brian Walker

Thank you to everyone who took time to complete and return the provincial questionnaire. Your comments provided an insight into the opinions and concerns of the membership. It is important to note that these questionnaires served as a reference guide as some areas and divisions differed in numbers and opinions.

Participation, excellence and regional representation are the cornerstones upon which the Provincial Championships are structured. It is important to note that the current structure is well supported. The results seem to indicate that there is a lack of understanding regarding the selection process. The current process allows regions with a comparatively greater number of teams in a particular division and category representation reflecting their team numbers. (For example, one region may have no representation while another has 2 or 3 teams participating in provincials.) This enables maximum participation in each level of play while giving fair representation to those regions with multiple teams.

During the meetings of the provincial championship review committee, discussions included the pros and cons of the following:

- Realignment of the regions
- Floating regional boundaries
- Setting a participation target of division and category
- Changing the qualifying format to mirror softball or basketball, or to a seasonal ranking model
- Timing, site and size

Another area discussed was the role of districts within the regions. The committee recommended to the OWHA Board of Directors and Membership that they consider eliminating districts as in Rule 2 B 7(a), which states, "District Playdowns, which must be completed by February 15th, will precede all Regional Playdowns, where applicable. District Playdowns for Senior AAA, AA, A, and BB teams, which must be completed by January 1st, will precede all Regional Playdowns, where applicable." For example, last year, Metro Toronto eliminated their districts to enable all teams in the region to playdown together, thereby allowing no team an advantage of resting while other teams played the district series before advancing to the final playdown games.

The committee recommends that the OWHA consider a pilot study for Regional Playdowns. We would like to encourage a designated host community to facilitate playdowns on a specific weekend. The weekend could vary by division and category, but would bring teams together for a tournament style playdown, thereby enhancing the visibility of Playdowns and Provincials.

In order for the membership to have a better understanding of the philosophy and procedures involved with running the provincials, the committee developed the following mission statement:

> The OWHA Provincial Championship is an annual competition to determine a Champion in each Division and Category and to provide an opportunity for each Region in the province to have representation.

It is our recommendation that the Board includes the above statement in the OWHA Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and Rules Book. In addition, provisos should be developed to clarify the procedures used when organizing the provincials.

As a provincially unified body our challenges are diverse. We strive to base decisions on inclusion and an awareness of the unique status of our organization. Valuable information was generated for consideration when planning future change. I would like to thank all Committee members for their time and contributions in assisting the OWHA in reviewing this important event.

Thanks to John Chandler for the countless hours he spent reviewing the responses and analyzing the data to produce the following graphs

TOURNAMENTS

A total of 151 tournaments were OWHA sanctioned for the 2001-2002 season.

OWHA Sanctioned COMPETITIVE Tournaments – Locations

- AURORA
- BARRIE
- BEATRICE AEROS
- BELLEVILLE
- BELMONT
- BRAMPTON (Canadettes)
- BRAMPTON (Cougars)
- BRANTFORD
- BROCKVILLE
- BROCKVILLE
- BURLINGTON
- CAMBRIDGE
- CHATHAM
- CLARENCE/ROCKLAND
- CLEARVIEW
- CLIFFORD
- COBOURG
- COBOURG
- COCHRANE
- COLBOURNE
- COLD CREEK
- COLD WATER
- CORNWALL
- DUBREUILVILLE
- DUNNVILLE
- DURHAM WEST
- ELMA LOGAN
- EXETER
- EXETER
- GLOUCESTER
- GLOUCESTER-CUMBERLAND
- GUELPH
- HALTON HILLS
- HAMILTON GH
- HEARST
- HEARST
- HUNTSVILLE
- IROQUOIS FALLS
- KANATA
- KEMPTVILLE
- KINGSTON COMETS
- KINGSTON
- KITCHENER
- LONDON
- LONDON (Devilettes)
- MANITOUWADGE
- MISSISSAUGA
- MITCHELL
- NAPANEE
- NEPEAN
- NEWTONBROOK
- NIAGARA FALLS
- NORFOLK
- NORTH BAY
- NORTH YORK STORM
- OAKVILLE
- ORANGEVILLE
- ORILLIA
- OSHAWA (GHA)
- OTTAWA (NCCP)
- OTTAWA VALLEY
- OTTAWA
- PARRY SOUND
- PERTH
- PETERBOROUGH (PGHA)
- PETERBOROUGH
- PORT HOPE
- PORT HOPE
- RIDEAU ST. LAWRENCE
- SARNIA STARFIRES
- SARNIA SILVERSTICK
- SAUGEEN MAITLAND
- SAUGEEN SHORES
- SAULT STE MARIE
- SCARBOROUGH
- SMITHS FALLS
- STONEY CREEK
- STOUFFVILLE-MARKHAM
- STRATFORD
- ST. THOMAS
- SUDBURY
- TIVERTON
- TORONTO-LEASIDE
- TORONTO (I. BREAKERS)
- WALKERTON
- WHITBY
- WILLOWDALE
- WINDSOR ROSE CITY
- WINDSOR
- WINGHAM
- WOODSTOCK

Sincere congratulations to all participants.
These tournaments have brought championships, new friendships and many positive memories.

Sincere thanks to the many volunteers who have worked long hours to provide opportunities for so many.
Please know your contributions are sincerely appreciated.

OWHA Sanctioned HOUSE LEAGUE Tournaments – Locations

BARRIE
BELMONT
BRAMPTON CANADETTES
BRAMPTON (COUGARS)
BROCKVILLE
BURLINGTON
CAMBRIDGE
CLARENCE-ROCKLAND
CLARINGTON
CLIFFORD
CLIFFORD
COCHRANE
COLDWATER
CORNWALL
DUBREUILVILLE
EMBRUN
EXETER
FORT FRANCES
GEORGINA
GLOUCESTER
GLOUCESTER/CUMBERLAND
HALTON HILLS
HAMILTON GHA
HAMILTON WHA
HEARST
HEARST
HONEYWOOD
KANATA
KEMPTVILLE
KINGSTON
LAKE OF THE WOODS
LONDON
LONDON DEVILETTES
MARATHON
MT. BRYDGES
MT. BRYDGES
NEPEAN
NORTH YORK STORM
NIPIGON
NORFOLK
NORTH BAY
OAKVILLE
OSHAWA GHA
OTTAWA VALLEY
OWHA NORTH. CHAMPS
PERTH
PICTON
SAULT STE MARIE
SCHREIBER
SMITHS FALLS
STONEY CREEK
STRATFORD
STRATHROY
SUDBURY
THEDFORD
THUNDER BAY
TIVERTON
TORONTO
TWIN CENTRE
WHITBY
WOODSTOCK

The Ontario Women's Hockey Association was pleased to work with **The Starlight Children's Foundation** in running its 1st Annual **"Play For Wishes" Tournament** March 22nd to 24th at Beatrice Ice Gardens in North York. There were three women's divisions and a celebrity game. Our special thanks to Geraldine Heaney, Angela James, Cheryl Pounder and Nathalie Rivard for participating in this worthwhile cause.

ONTARIO WOMEN'S HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

2001-2002 PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONS

Division	Category	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Senior	AAA	Beatrice Aeros	Brampton Thunder	Mississauga Ice Bears
Senior	AA	Peterborough SRI Seniors	Sarnia Starfires	Sault Ste Marie Wildcats
Senior	A	Waterloo Eagles	Thunder Bay Thrashers	Pure Aces of London
Senior	BB	Brampton Cougars	Peterborough Twoheys	Mississauga Wolves
Senior	B	Cobourg Eagle.Ca	Belmont	Stoney Creek Sabres
Senior	C	White River Wildcats	Thamesford Wolves	Newtonbrook Panthers
Intermediate	AA	Mississauga Jr. Chiefs	Scarborough (Tor. Sting)	London Jr. Stangs
Intermediate	A	Thunder Bay Comets	London Devilettes	Cambridge Rivulettes
Intermediate	BB	Burlington Barracudas	North Bay Ice Boltz	Honeywood Hurricanes
Intermediate	B	London Devilettes	Kapuskasing Kapjags	Peterborough Hobie's Sport
Intermediate	C	Mount Forest	Forest Panthers	Belmore Blizzard
Midget	AA	Durham West Lightning	Brampton Canadettes	Sudbury Wolves
Midget	A	Perth Blue Wings	Scarborough Sharks	Whitby Wolves
Midget	BB	Orangeville Tigers	Clarington J&M Tire Flames	WalkertonCapitals
Midget	B	Kingston Kodiaks	Brussells Bulletts	Cambridge Roadrunners
Midget	C	Kanata Rangers	North Bay Hilltop Variety	Cornwall Typhoons
Bantam	AA	Chatham Outlaws	Ottawa NCCP Capitals	London Devilettes
Bantam	A	Etobicoke Dolphins	Rideau St. Lawrence Thunder	Thunder Bay Lightning
Bantam	BB	London Devilettes	Sudbury Hawks	Oakville Hornets
Bantam	B	Norfolk Hericanes	Elma Logan Wildcats	Cold Creek Comets
Bantam	C	Nipigon Elks	Brockville Angels	Cochrane Foxes
Peewee	AA	Durham West Lightning	Mississauga Chiefs	North York Storm
Peewee	A	Oakville Hornets	Vaughan Flames	Whitby Wolves
Peewee	BB	Sarnia Starfires	Cobourg	Kingston Comets
Peewee	B	Bluewater Hawks	Kincardine IGA Thunder	Smith Falls Cubs
Peewee	C	Brockville Angels	Teeswater	Nipigon Elks
Atom	AA	Durham West	Brampton Canadettes	Aurora Panthers
Atom	A	Guelph Thunder	Stouffville Stars	Vaughan Flames
Atom	BB	Halton Hills Twisters	Oshawa Panthers	Peterborough Ice Kats
Atom	B	Cambridge Roadrunners	Stratford Aces	Nipissing Copier Cats
Atom	C	Peterborough Ice Kats	Madoc Cooper Wild Kids	Woodstock Wildcats
Novice	A	Mississauga Chiefs	Aurora Panthers	Durham West Lightning
Novice	BB	Guelph Thunder	Kingston Comets	Woodstock Wildcats
Novice	B	Waterloo Ravens	Ilderton Jets	Barrie Sharks
Novice	C	Stouffville Stars	Stratford Aces	Brantford Ice Cats

CONGRATULATIONS!

TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS

Air Canada Kiosk

The Toronto Maple Leafs are very committed to the development and health of amateur hockey in Ontario and Canada. The organization is a strong supporter of the Ontario Women's Hockey Association and the values our players and volunteers bring to the sport.

This past season we had numerous opportunities to promote our sport during the Toronto Maple Leaf's home games. OWHA displays were set up in the Ontario Centre of Excellence kiosk, located on the main concourse level at the Air Canada Centre. OWHA volunteers were on hand to distribute promotional information about girls and women's hockey in Ontario. Many fans stopped by to talk women's hockey. Many girls and women left the booth thinking about the challenge of playing hockey.

Our sincere thanks to Ken Dryden, Al Quance of the Toronto Maple Leafs and Jim Ricci of the Ontario Centre of Excellence for this terrific opportunity to promote our sport to the Toronto Maple Leaf fans.

Toronto Maple Leafs – Atom Skills-First Challenge

Through the early hockey season OWHA Atom coaches challenged their players in the Toronto Maple Leafs Skills Challenge in their local rinks. A number of OWHA Atom players qualified for the final Skills-First Challenge day at the Air Canada Centre on January 20th. The young girls were run through a series of skills drills to determine the finalists. Scores were recorded for backward and forward skating, agility, puck control and accuracy.

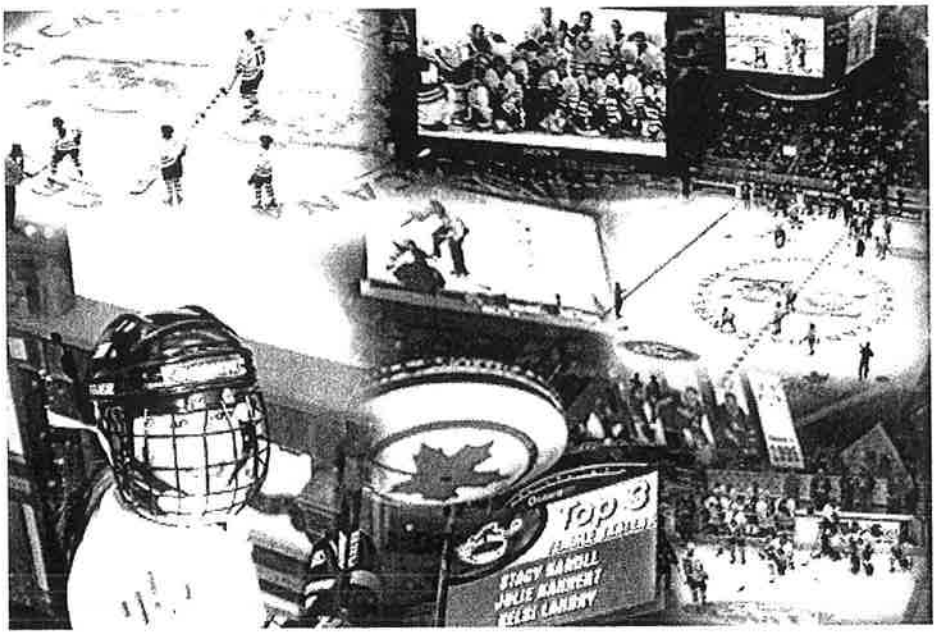
For more information on the program, please download the Skills First Challenge booklet at:

http://www.mapleleafs.com/pdf/SkillsFirstChallenge.pdf

Congratulations to the following OWHA players on their strong showing:

Kelsi Landry	Whitby Wolves (Silver Medal-Skater)	Danielle McNeil	Etobicoke Dolphins
Julie Kahnert	Oakville Hornets (Bronze Medal-Skater)	Jami Otter	Whitby Wolves
Becky Call	Saugeen Shores (Gold Medal-Goalie)	Kelly Roefs	Thamesford Atom Girls
Mieke Wendorff	Etobicoke Dolphins (Silver Medal-Goalie)	Morgan Sims	Oakville Hornets
Kathleen Boyd	Etobicoke Dolphins	Nicole Wright	Thamesford Atom Girls

Top finishers Becky Call, Mieke Wendorff, Kelsi Landry and Julie Kahnert (pictured below) were rewarded with a chance of a lifetime – skating for over 2 hours with the Leafs during the TML Skills competition.



POOL A STANDINGS

	W	L	T	Pts
North York	2	0	1	5
Mississauga	1	1	1	3
Belleville	0	1	2	2
NCCP	0	1	2	2

POOL B STANDINGS

	W	L	T	Pts
Sudbury	3	0	0	6
Sarnia	1	1	1	3
Willowdale	1	2	0	2
Hamilton	0	2	1	1

March 8-10, 2002
OWHA Midget AA

Date	#	Time	Pool/Type	Home		Visitor	
Friday	1	8:00 a.m.	A	Sudbury	5	Hamilton	2
Friday	2	9:30 a.m.	A	Sarnia	6	Willowdale	2
Friday	3	11:00 a.m.	B	Belleville	2	Mississauga	2
Friday	4	12:30 p.m.	B	North York	1	NCCP	1
Friday	5	2:00 p.m.	A	Willowdale	0	Sudbury	4
Friday	6	3:30 p.m.	A	Sarnia	5	Hamilton	5
Friday	7	5:00 p.m.	B	NCCP	2	Mississauga	5
Friday	8	6:30 p.m.	B	North York	2	Belleville	0
Saturday	9	7:30 a.m.	A	Hamilton	2	Willowdale	5
Saturday	10	9:00 a.m.	A	Sudbury	4	Sarnia	0
Saturday	11	10:30 a.m.	B	Belleville	1	NCCP	1
Saturday	12	12:00 p.m.	B	Mississauga	0	North York	1
Saturday	13	3:00 p.m.	Qtr	Sudbury	0	NCCP	1
Saturday	14	4:30 p.m.	Qtr	Sarnia	1	Belleville	3
Saturday	15	6:00 p.m.	Qtr	Mississauga	3	Willowdale	0
Saturday	16	7:30 p.m.	Qtr	North York	2	Hamilton	1
Sunday	17	8:00 a.m.	Semi	NCCP	2	Mississauga	0
Sunday	18	10:00 a.m.	Semi	North York		Belleville	
Sunday	19	2:00 p.m.	**Bronze**	**Mississauga**	2	North York	3
Sunday	20	4:00 p.m.	**Gold**	**NCCP**	2	**Belleville**	**1**

We had twenty-one Midget AA teams competing in playdowns across the province for the opportunity to compete at the 2002 Ontario Winter Games in Guelph. The event took place from March 8th to 10th and was an outstanding success. We were able to send many of our top referees to this event, so that they could gain high performance event experience. We would like to thank them and their supervisors for a job well done. The teams enjoyed the unique format of the event, and the chance to see other sports top levels competing for top honours. We would like to thank all teams for making the games so exciting, and a pleasure to watch. We would also like to congratulate the winning teams, Ottawa NCCP, the Gold, Belleville the Silver, and North York the Bronze.

Ontario

CENTRAL CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP

CHAMPIONNAT DU CENTRE DU CANADA
26-27-28 Avril 2002
Aréna de Ste-Julie

#	DATE	HEURE	CLASSE	VISITEUR		VS	LOCAL	
1	vendredi 26 avril	15h30	3	Survivor	0	VS	Pasta Express	4
2		16h45	2	Resto Beyrouth Cite	4	VS	Source du Sport	1
3		18h00	1	Jofa	2	VS	Globules	2
		19h15		Cérémonies d'ouverture				
4		19h30	3	Peterborough Twoheys	1	VS	Brampton Cougars	4
5		20h45	2	Waterloo Eagles	2	VS	Thunder Bay Thrashers	0
6		22h00	1	Sarnia Starfires	2	VS	Peterborough SRI	3

#	DATE	HEURE		VISITEUR		VS	LOCAL	
7	Samedi 27 avril	8h00	3	Pasta Express	0	VS	Brampton Cougars	2
8		9h15	2	Resto Beyrouth Cite	4	VS	Waterloo Eagles	2
9		10h30	1	Sarnia Starfires	2	VS	Globules	2
10		11h45	3	Peterborough Twoheys	6	VS	Survivor	1
11		13h00	2	Thunder Bay Thrashers	1	VS	Source du Sport	2
12		14h15	1	Jofa	3	VS	Peterborough SRI	2
13		16h00	3	Survivor	0	VS	Brampton Cougars	3
14		17h15	2	Resto Beyrouth Cite	1	VS	Thunder Bay Thrashers	1
15		18h30	1	Globules	4	VS	Peterborough SRI	1
16		19h45	3	Pasta Express	3	VS	Peterborough Twoheys	1
17		21h00	2	Waterloo Eagles	1	VS	Source du Sport	0
18		22h15	1	Jofa	2	VS	Sarnia Starfires	4

#	DATE	HEURE	CLASSE	VISITEUR		VS	LOCAL	
19	Dimanche 28 avril	8h00	3	Peterborough Twoheys	4	VS	Survivor	3
20		9h15	2	Source du Sport	0	VS	Thunder Bay Thrashers	3
21		10h30	1	Jofa	3	VS	Peterborough SRI	0
22		11h45	3	Pasta Express	1	VS	Brampton Cougars	4
23		13h00	2	Waterloo Eagles	0	VS	Resto Beyrouth Café	5
24		14h15	1	Sarnia Starfires	4	VS	Globules	3

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL TEAMS!

	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
Level 1	SARNIA STARFIRES	GLOBULES, Quebec	JOFA, Quebec
Level 2	RESTO BEYROUTH CAFÉ, Quebec	WATERLOO EAGLES	THUNDER BAY THRASHERS
Level 3	BRAMPTON COUGARS	PASTA EXPRESS, Quebec	PETERBOROUGH TWOHEYS

The Ontario Women's Hockey Association thanks Hockey Quebec for hosting this year's championship. The organization and warm hospitality were greatly appreciated.
The OWHA will be hosting next year's championship with the tentative dates April 25-27, 2003. We would appreciate hearing from any members interested in helping.
Hockey Quebec will be hosting the following season with tentative dates April 23-25, 2004.

2002 Esso Women's National Hockey Championship
Renfrew and Arnprior, Ontario
March 6 – 10, 2002

2001-2002 CHAMPIONS

GOLD	Team Quebec
SILVER	Team Ontario, Beatrice Aeros
BRONZE	Host Ontario Team, Brampton Thunder

AWARD WINNERS

Most Valuable Player	Kim St Pierre (Quebec)
Most Sportsmanlike	Lisa Marie Breton (Quebec)
Top Goaltender	Kendra Fisher (Ontario)
Top Defence	Cheryl Pounder (Ontario)
Top Forward	Dominique Rancour (Quebec)
Sportsmanlike Team	Team Nova Scotia

We congratulate all of the teams who participated in the Esso Women's National Championship. The participation of our Olympic Champions was a real highlight. The teams thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to welcome them home and share in their success. As always, they showed tremendous class. Danielle Sauvageau and Melody Davidson graciously took time to inspire the participants at the Coaching Seminar and to share their experience with those they met.

The players on Team Quebec and Teams Ontario faced an endless line of autograph seekers and interviews. In spite of their grueling schedules over the past year, they always had time to show their medals, pose for a picture or give a word of encouragement to a fellow athlete. Their incredible character shone as they showed their respect and admiration for their colleagues. The Olympians continually reminded the media and others present that they were not the only ones worthy of note – all their team-mates and members of all teams deserved attention and credit for their skills. We thank these very exceptional role models.

Special thanks to Lori Dupuis, Jayna Hefford and Vicky Sunohara who stopped at the hospital on their way to play in the Bronze medal game to bring strength and support to a seriously ill cancer patient.

Special thanks to Mayor Sandy Heins and Co-Chair Glen Goslin of Renfrew , Mayor Len Shean and Co-Chair Glenn Arthur of Arnprior and the many exceptional volunteers. The "Valley" Hospitality and warmth will be remembered for many years to come!

POOL A	POOL B
ALBERTA	QUEBEC
BRITISH COLUMBIA	ONTARIO (Beatrice Aeros)
SASKATCHEWAN	NOVA SCOTIA
NEWFOUNDLAND	MANITOBA
PEI	HOST (Brampton Thunder)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2002

ON 3	Host 1
MB 0	QC 4
SK 2	BC 2
AB 5	PEI 2
MB 2	NS 3
PEI 2	SK 3
NF 0	BC 4
QC 0	ON 0

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2002

AB 10	NF 1
BC 0	PEI 2
ON 11	MB 0
Host 7	NS 0
NF 0	SK 1
QC 3	Host 0
NS 0	ON 7
BC 0	AB 6

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 2002

PEI 1	NF 0
Host 8	MB 0
NS 0	QC 5
SK 0	AB 4
Host 6	SK 1
PEI 0	ON 8

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2002

MB 3	NF1
BC 1	NS 3
SK 0	PEI 1
Host 0	QC 3
ON 9	AB 1

SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2002

Host 5	BRONZE	AB 1	
QC 1	GOLD	ON 0	SILVER

2002 Women's Winter Olympics

Throughout the 2001-202 season, the National Women's Team played a total of 19 games against International teams. The team record was 11 wins and 8 losses.
The OWHA hosted the Hamilton and Ottawa games. In addition, an Ontario select team was chosen to play against Team Finland in preparation for the Olympics. Following are the game results for Team Canada and Team OWHA.

October 3,5,6 2001 – in BC vs Sweden
Team Canada won all 3 games 10-0, 7-0 and 10-0

October 16-29, 2001 – in USA vs USA

Salt Lake City	USA 4	CAN 1
San Jose	USA 4	CAN 1

November 2-5, 2001 – 3 Nations Cup

CAN 5	SWE 0
CAN 7	FIN 4
CAN 5	SWE 1
CAN 5	FIN 2

November 27-30,2001 – TSN Challenge

Ottawa	USA 5	CAN 2
Montreal	USA 4	CAN 3
Hamilton	USA 1	CAN 0

December 18-22, 2001 – Newfoundland Tour

St. John's	CAN 6	RUS 0
Gander	CAN 8	RUS 1
Cornerbrook	CAN 8	RUS 1
Grand Falls	CAN 6	RUS 1

January 4-8, 2002 – in USA vs USA

Chicago	USA 3	CAN 1
Detroit	USA 7	CAN 2
Vancouver	USA 3	CAN 2

February 1 and 3, 2002 – OWHA vs Finland

Brampton	OWHA 2	FIN 10
Mississauga	OWHA 1	FIN 7

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR OFFICIALS

Jacqui Palm
Sue Cassidy
Julie Bissonnette

CONTRIBUTORS TO OUR PROUD PAST AND BRIGHT FUTURE

World Champions and Olympic Medallists 1987-2001

Amanda Benoit-Wark	Cathy Phillips
Correne Bredin	Kim Manderville (Ratushny)
Heather Ginzel	Lesley Reddon
Marianne O'Mara (Grnak)	Brenda Richard*
Andria Hunter	Nathalie Rivard
Teresa Hutchinson	Sue Scherer
Angela James	Laura Schuler
Kathy McCormack	Marion Coveny
Dawn McGuire	Joanne Repei
France Montour	Sharon Sanderson
Karen Nystrom	Helen Lickers
Margot Page (Verlaan)	Diana Fowlie
Sandi Boyd	Janet Stone
Kelly Weaver	Colleen Kohen
Jodi Reid	Mo Van de Ven
Tracy Eatough	Pat White
Lois Cole	Norma Landry
Dayna Dann	*deceased

Many thanks to all players who contributed and continue to develop women's ice hockey in Ontario, Canada and the rest of this world. Your passion for this game is shared through thousands of young athletes who are now enjoying the opportunities that you have created. The Olympic gold is no longer a dream but a reality!

SALT LAKE 2002

SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

GROUP A	GROUP B
CAN	USA
SWE	FIN
RUS	CHN
KAZ	GER

Monday – February 11, 2002
CAN 7 KAZ 0
SWE 3 RUS 2

Tuesday – February 12, 2002
USA 10 GER 0
FIN 4 CHN 0

Wednesday – February 13, 2002
RUS 0 *CAN 7*
SWE 7 KAZ 0

Thursday – February 14, 2002
FIN 3 GER 1
CHN 1 USA 12

Friday – February 15, 2002
KAZ 1 RUS 1

Saturday – February 16, 2002
USA 5 FIN 0
GER 5 CHN 5
CAN 11 SWE 0

Sunday – February 17, 2002
RUS 4 CHN 1
GER 4 KAZ 0

Tuesday – February 19, 2002
CAN 7 FIN 3
CHN 2 KAZ 1
USA 4 SWE 0
RUS 5 GER 0

Thursday – February 21, 2002
FIN 1 SWE 2
CAN 3 USA 2

2002 OLYMPIC TEAM

GOALTENDERS
32 Charline Labonte
1 Sami Jo Small
33 Kim St-Pierre

DEFENCE
6 Therese Brisson
73 Isabelle Chartrand
91 Geraldine Heany
4 Becky Kellar
11 Cheryl Pounder
5 Colleen Sostorics

FORWARDS
23 Dana Antal
24 Kelly Bechard
17 Jennifer Botteril
77 Cassie Campbell
12 Lori Dupuis
15 Danielle Goyette
16 Jayna Hefford
13 Caroline Ouellette
7 Cherie Piper
25 Tammy Lee Shewchuk
61 Vicky Sunohara
22 Hayley Wickenheiser

PERSONNEL
Head coach: Daniele Sauvageau
Ass. Coach: Melody Davidson
Ass. Coach: Wally Kozak
Ass. Coach: Karen Hughes
Manager: Gaetan Robitaille
Video: Ryan Jankowski
Goalie Coach: David Jamieson
Team Doctor: Suzanne Leclerc
Therapist: Doug Stacey
Massage therapist: Mavis Wahl
Equipment Mgr: Robin McDonald
Psych.: Dr. Kimberly Amirault
Media Relation: Andre Brin

CONGRATULATIONS!

Women's Hockey will be featured, for the fourth time, at the 2003 Canada Winter Games. One Ontario Women's Hockey Association select team will represent Ontario in this national competition held every four years.

The 2003 event is scheduled for March 2nd – 8th in Bathurst-Campbellton, New Brunswick.

The selection process will consist of a series of player evaluation camps across Ontario.

The OWHA Canada Winter Games organizing committee are currently finalizing camp schedules. If your association would like information on hosting a camp, please check the OWHA website www.owha.on.ca or contact the OWHA office:

Email: info@owha.on.ca Fax 905-282-9982.

The player application and coaching application deadlines have passed. There are still a few Evaluator positions available. To obtain an application form, please check the OWHA website or contact the OWHA office.

POOLS and SEEDING OF TEAMS

POOL A	POOL B
Ontario (1)	Quebec (2)
Saskatchewan (4)	Alberta (3)
British Columbia (5)	Nova Scotia (6)
Newfoundland (8)	Manitoba (7)
Prince Edward Island (9)	New Brunswick (10)

OWHA

ONTARIO WOMEN'S HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Trivia: *Jayna Hefford was Captain of Team Ontario 1995 – the gold medal winners. Jayna went on to score the winning goal for Team Canada in the championship game at the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympics!*

CANADIAN HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Esso Women's Nationals

March 12-16, 2003, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.
March 3-7, 2004, Sherwood Park, Alberta (tentative)

Risk and Safety Management

Beginning September 2002 all helmets must have ear protection in place. The removal of ear protection voids the CSA certification of a helmet. This rule will be enforced beginning next September.

Discussion and concern around Facility Agreement and Rink Rental Agreements containing the hold harmless clause continues. It is important that teams, associations and leagues are very clear on what they are signing and if uncomfortable or uncertain of the full meaning of the contract that it is not signed.

The Safety Requires Teamwork book will once again be distributed for the 2002-2003 season. This document provides information on the CHA Insurance Program, equipment fitting, concussions and harassment and abuse prevention and recognition.

The application of stickers to helmets has been very much in the public eye over the last few months. There are certain adhesives that will affect the integrity of the helmet and therefore these stickers should not be applied. There are adhesives that are acceptable but the problem stems from the fact that when the stickers are applied there is no way to identify them as being acceptable and therefore policing becomes impossible. The CHA has been in communication with the manufacturer and the CSA to try and formulate a solution to this issue and will keep you informed as these discussions progress. It is also important that the stickers that are affixed to the helmet when purchased such as the CSA sticker not be removed.

Speak Out!

Requirement for 2002-2003 Season

Definition of "Teams" for registration purposes. A group of team officials, at least one of whom must be a coach, **with all coaches meeting OWHA certification and Speak Out requirements, and one of whom must be qualified in the CHA Safety Program**, and a group of not less that 15 registered players, at least two of whom must be goaltenders, who are qualified in one Division and category under CHA regulations governing age, and other regulations up to the maximum number provided by CHA regulations. (Does not apply to Senior Recreational Teams & some Senior Teams that do not compete in national championship competition.

Checking to the Head – NEW RULE 2002-2003 season

A Minor and a Misconduct penalty, or a Major and Game Misconduct penalty, at the discretion of the Referee, based on the degree of violence of impact, shall be assessed to any player who checks an opponent to the head area in any manner. A Match penalty could also be assessed under this rule. If a player is injured, a Major and Game Misconduct penalty, or a Match penalty must be assessed. Note: Referees are instructed not to substitute other penalties when a player is Checked to the Head with significant impact.

Rationale: To provide further protection to players specific to the prevention of concussions which is an ongoing problem and concern in the CHA. To provide Game Officials with a more clear and concise rule concerning this aspect of player protection. Referees will be instructed to call this penalty when moderate to severe impact with the Check to the Head has occurred. Mild impact would be called under the other appropriate rules. e.g. Roughing, High-Sticking, Elbowing.

CANADA

PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT - REMOVAL OF EAR GUARDS FROM HOCKEY HELMETS

By September 1, 2002, all leagues should have received this info and ensure their teams have complied. Full enforcement of this rule will start as of this date.

It has become apparent that in the 2000 – 2001 season, many players, especially at the Junior and Senior level, but also in other levels of hockey, were modifying their helmets by removing the earpieces. Since 1984, the CSA has required that helmets have no ear openings bigger than 38 mm (1.5 inches), or if they do, that an earpiece exist to provide additional protection.

Players, coaches, officials, administrators and parents are reminded that Canadian Hockey playing rule 24 (b) - Protective Equipment - states that "While on the ice, all players, including goaltenders, shall wear a CSA approved hockey helmet, to which a CSA approved facial protector must be securely attached and not altered in any way. Any alteration to a CSA approved helmet or facial protector automatically destroys the certification." Removal of earpieces is considered an alteration of the CSA approved helmet.

Coaches and safety people / trainers are instructed to ensure that their players do not remove earpieces or alter their helmets in any fashion. If the earpieces have been removed, they must be replaced or the helmet can not be used. Not only does the removal of earpieces cause a safety concern but also insurance coverage could be at risk if the equipment has been altered and an injury sustained as a result.

Officials should watch for infractions in pre-game warm-ups, and if it is clear that a player is playing with an altered helmet, advise the coach and player that if the player appears in the game with the earpieces removed from a helmet that came from the factory with such earpieces, they will be penalized for use of illegal equipment, without exception or warning as per Rule 24 (e) which reads as follows:

> *(e) If the Referee's attention is drawn to the possibility that a facial protector or helmet may not be certified (CSA approved), or if the Referee observes that a facial protector or helmet may not be certified, and should that piece of equipment in effect turn out not to be certified, the Referee shall assess a Minor penalty and at the same time order that illegal piece of equipment removed from the game.*
>
> *(Note 1): The Referee is empowered to make the call without his attention being drawn by an opposing player or team official, through the Captain.*

If there is some question as to whether the helmet has been altered, the Referee shall report the infraction on the official game report to the President.

Please note that it is expected that coaches and safety people / trainers will look after ensuring their players are using helmets that comply to the above CHA standards. For the officials, this is not an optional or judgement call, and the onus to ensure players comply with the rules in this area falls on the coaches.

Executive Directors are asked to forward this safety concern to coaches, trainers, safety people and administrators within the Branch to give this message the widest circulation possible.

CLARIFICATION ON OWHA'S RULES AND REGULATIONS REGARDING AGE CHANGE

Please be advised of the following clarification of age changes for the 2002 – 2003 season.

The age category change comes one year after the motion was tabled at the CHA's 2000 Annual General Meeting, when the CHA membership requested more time to review, examine and gather feedback from constituents across the country on the proposal.

The change, as approved by the Canadian Hockey Association Board of Directors, means that the age categories in female hockey will be as follows for the start of the 2002-2003 season:

	NEW – effective start of 2002-03 season current age groupings	**Will expire end of 2001-2002 season**
Intermediate	21 & under	20 & under
Midget	17 & under	17 & under
Bantam	14 & under	15 & under
PeeWee	12 & under	13 & under
Atom	10 & under	11 & under
Novice	8 & under	9 & under
FUNdamentals	Open Age	Open Age
Senior Recreational	20 & over	20 & over
Masters	35 & over	35 & over

The OWHA age determination date for all divisions is December 31st.

OWHA - NEW INITIATIVES - Fair Play Evenings.

There are suspensions in place to deal with individual situations that occur within hockey. Occasionally, the actions of individual teams, on and/or off the ice, have come to our attention. Some may have had a number of different players suspended. Some have had an unusual number of penalty minutes. When we looked at the situations, there appeared to be numerous factors influencing their behaviour.
The OWHA set up and ran four pilot projects this year called, "Fair Play Evening". All players, team staff and parents had to attend the session, which ran for about 3 ½ hours. The agenda was somewhat customized to the specific situation, but basically consisted of: 1) Welcome & Introductions 2) Background/Purpose of evening 3) Parent Video 4) Verbal Abuse Segment from Speak Out! 5) Video on Checking From Behind 6) Question and Answer Period.
The response to these evenings has been quite good. We are continuing to evaluate and revise the process. Our current plan is to package the material to facilitate delivery by individual teams, associations and leagues as required.

ICE CHIPS

Individual Stories

The biggest highlight of any season continues to be the individual stories of girls and women of all ages who gain enjoyment and positive life skills through their participation in hockey. There have been countless examples throughout the season. We site one example of a teen-aged girl from Stratford. Last winter, she had an accident and lost part of both feet when she fell beneath a train. One of her very first comments to her father from the hospital bed was her future in hockey – would she ever play again? Her determination and love of the game helped her overcome the pain and challenges. She returned to hockey this season as a valuable team member and an inspiration to others facing similar hardships.

Teamwork

We see examples every day of teamwork – line combinations, team systems, team building, etc. The Ontario Women's Hockey Association sees an even greater example on a regular basis as players and organizers demonstrate their understanding of the big picture. Hockey is a game – it is a game for all people. Members of the OWHA know the meaning of winning and they truly know the meaning of hardships and uphill struggles. The recent Olympic victory is one that all players, staff, volunteers, parents and supporters truly share. The participation in the Olympics of female hockey is a tribute to those past and present who worked so hard to fine-tune their skills and to build the game universally so girls and women in all countries could benefit.

Provincial Championships

The Ontario Women's Hockey Association season culminated with our 2002 Provincial Championships held in Brampton, Mississauga and Oakville from April 12th to 14th. Three hundred and forty-eight teams, representing girls and women from across the province competed to crown provincial champions from Novice to Senior.

The Senior AAA, AA, A and BB provincial championships were held in February. Teams competed for the medals and also for the opportunity to advance to either the Esso Senior National Championship or to the Central Canadian Cup.

The competition was absolutely outstanding, featuring exceptional athletes in all divisions with many overtime games. Even greater was the atmosphere of celebration and support. The focus on positive Values and fair play that predominated throughout the events is a tribute to the players, team staff and volunteers who work tirelessly throughout the season to balance high performance competition with positive life skills. The individual acts of sportsmanship that came so naturally and sincerely gave us far more champions than simply the medal winners.

New Liskeard

Congratulations to the New Liskeard Canadian Tire Atom Girls House League Team who received the Bill Paterson Trophy at the Bell Canada Cup held in Ottawa. This prestigious award is presented to the team that demonstrates fair play and sportsmanship by recording the fewest penalty minutes during round robin play.

Sault Ste Marie

Thanks to Sault Ste. Marie hosting the Midget AA Regional Ontario Winter Games Playdowns.

National Women's Hockey League

Congratulations to the Beatrice Aeros on winning the NWHL championship in a close game against Brampton Thunder before an appreciative full house at the Brampton Sports and Entertainment Centre.

Gloucester Women's Hockey
Gloucester Women's Hockey Association spends $23,300.00 to Promote Women's Hockey Thanks to a grant Awarded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation.
Gloucester Women's Hockey notes the presentation of a Nike/CAAWS MVP Grant being awarded to Jennifer Runciman a player on the Gloucester Women's Hockey Association team Moon Shine a competitive A team. We are proud to acknowledge this award and Jennifer's commitment to hockey and participation in sports.

Thunder Bay Thrashers
Thunder Bay Thrashers Senior A team were ambassadors for their community and the OWHA in their pursuit of the bronze medal at the Central Canadian Championships held in Montreal in April.

First Annual Northern Regional House League Championship
Atom, Peewee and Midget teams from northern communities came together to meet and compete at the first annual Regional House League Championship held in Thunder Bay in March. Plans are underway to expand this event for next season. Thanks go to committee members, Phil Salatino, Lorne Krisko and Shirlee Bayda-Clace.

RECATEGORIZATION
As female hockey continues to grow across the Province of Ontario we are finding that the task of trying to align the teams to be a very onerous job. Many, many hours are put in by the categorizing committee, attending tournaments, reviewing Form A's to identify the teams that are out of line and should be moved up to a higher category.
An example of the time spent by this committee in trying to align the team is the Atom division where, 6 ½ hours was spent going over this division alone. In December and January, we moved over 150 teams and the end result was that they were moved to exactly where they should be. Of those that appealed the decision of the committee, won their appeal and were moved back. Statistics have proven that the original move was correct in most cases. This system works quite well and is being evaluated on a regular basis in an attempt to provide fair opportunities as much as possible.
We need our teams and associations to take responsibility; if a team needs to be moved up, move them. It is unrealistic to think that 7 Regional Directors can police this province.
We invite, no, encourage teams to give us feedback if a team is in the wrong category. We had some input last year and it was very useful to us when we met in December and January to review the teams.
We have had several discussions amongst ourselves and with some of our members as to whether or not there was another way to do this. There is no definitive answer.
We would like to thank those who supplied us with input and hope that if there is some information that will help us make these decisions, that that information will be supplied.

REMEMBERING OUR SPECIAL FRIENDS
Our thoughts and prayers are with the many members of our team who have lost family and friends during the past year. Remembering:
Ross Mallory, Stoney Creek
Tina Hedges, Cambridge
Brian Carkner, Kanata
Bob MacKinnon, Oakville
Wendy Sittler, East Amherst
Melissa Bateman, Mississauga

ONTARIO WOMEN'S HOCKEY ASSOCIATION 2001-2002

This was a season of success.
It has also been a season to reflect on the true Values of sport, friendship and life.

We saw that all too clearly in a September none of us will ever forget.
At that time, the Ontario Women's Hockey Association sent a message of condolence carrying our thoughts and prayers to USA Hockey.
We sincerely care about these friends and teammates in sport.

Success can be measured in many ways – the scoreboard is one but, when we step back and look around, there are far more important wins and losses in life.
Many victories have actually come during "losing" games, tournaments and seasons.

How has your season been?
How many young girls have gained self-confidence as they learned new skills?
How many players and team members have shared the camaraderie of a weekend tournament?
How many positive memories will you look back in the coming years?

Perhaps we should ask our players and ourselves to list the many times we have seen positive examples of our Values within our sport:

Fair Play
Fun
Excellence
Good Citizenship
Integrity and Honesty
Equity

We would love to hear from you and publish these positive experiences on our web site.

Please email or fax examples of these Values so we can share them.

www.owha.on.ca
info@owha.on.ca

Join in the FUN!

ONTARIO WOMEN'S HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

TSN
CHALLENGE
Team USA
vs
Team CANADA

Congratulations
HALIFAX
on winning the bid for the
2004 World Championship!

HAMILTON
THANKS for your support!

CHOICE HOTELS

ROGERS AT&T
WIRELESS

Discover Communications

Goodyear
"Drive for Gold"

www.owha.on.ca

OLYMPIC CHAMPIONS

CANADA

CONGRATULATIONS

WHA

ONTARIO WOMEN'S HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Clinics, Officiating & Administration: Dedicated to Female Hockey

WOMEN IN ONTARIO have thrived in a separate, unique hockey environment. The OWHA invites women to celebrate the game of hockey, in a manner consistent with the Canadian Hockey Association's rules and guidance. In this system women deserve and get as much prime ice time as other groups. The OWHA has carefully ensured that its infrastructure is solid and able to handle the phenomenal growth of the sport in Ontario.

Part of what makes this infrastructure unique is female referees and coaching staffs. OWHA female referees and linesmen have officiated at provincial, national and international competitions (including the 1998 and 2002 Olympics). Over five thousand male and female volunteers not only activate the day-to-day operations of our teams, but also run the world's most advanced developmental, coaching and officiating clinics for women. OWHA volunteers also run over 120 sanctioned tournaments each year.

OWHA PLAYING OPPORTUNITIES

- Hockey FUNdamentals (CHA Initiation Program)
- Ontario Winter Games
- House League Hockey
- Canada Winter Games
- Competitive Leagues
- "Under 18" National Championship
- Exhibition Games
- Senior Women's National Championship
- Tournaments (provincial & international)
- World Championship
- Provincial Championships
- Olympics

QUOTABLE

Female hockey under the OWHA is the most significant hockey growth area in the country. The OWHA is the model for female hockey in this country...

Len Sheedy
President, Rideau St Lawrence Thunder Girls Hockey

DID YOU KNOW?

71% of recently surveyed Ontario women hockey players did not approve of the idea of switching to a lighter puck. The survey was commissioned because some thought the traditional puck was too heavy for women players.

MISSION STATEMENT

Through a provincially unified, collective voice, the OWHA promotes, provides and develops opportunities for girls and women to play female hockey in Ontario.

VALUES

- FAIR PLAY
- FUN
- EXCELLENCE
- GOOD CITIZENSHIP
- INTEGRITY AND HONESTY
- EQUITY

A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

By the time the 2006 Winter Olympics are held in Turin, Italy, the OWHA goals are:

- More than 50% of the Canadian Women's team developed in the OWHA
- More than 35,000 women and girls playing hockey across Ontario
- To introduce the game of hockey to more girls than in any other region in the world
- Continue to contribute to the growth and developpment of hockey across Canada and throughout the world

DID YOU KNOW?

OWHA players range in age from 4 to 84 years of age

4 — 84

ONTARIO WOMEN'S HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

OWHA
5155 Spectrum Way
Unit #3, Mississauga
ON L4W 5A1
Phone: (905) 282-9980

Share this news with other women's hockey supporters and log on to www.owha.on.ca to join our community.