

Western Region G&T Report

This season saw again the success of a large number of tournaments in Western Region. Unfortunately it also saw the discontinuance of a few – Dorchester, Elora-Fergus

Overall, we had a decrease in the number of player suspensions, with a slight increase in the number of major penalties called, which was expected with the change in officiating's approach.

Of a greater concern, we had a distinct increase in unsportsmanlike and misconduct penalties assessed to bench staff. Once all game sheets are gathered, a summary by association and team will be forwarded to coaching and to the association presidents for review prior to the beginning of next season.

Our region was well represented at AA provincials, A provincials, and the U12 event.

This year saw a change to the AA format, with the addition of a second tier in larger divisions. This has been met with mixed responses.

The feedback for the A provincials was generally good, where the 2-tier divisions were first introduced last year.

The initial concerns with the U12 event included 5 Western region teams in the same division. The divisions were tiered, but in accordance with LTAD, the division names were changed. Our teams in the Cockburn division were actually in the top division and had an good weekend as did most of the rest of our teams at the U12 event. The primary feedback about the event was that the top two divisions should retain the Jacks and McCarthy designation in honour of the founders of our sport. There was not a concern with shuffling the names of the lower divisions.

The Eastern Provincials was expanded to include a second U14AA team and also the Open A division. Both of our U14AA teams, Guelph and Elora-Fergus, won their pools and faced off against each other in their final game. Our Open A "Team Ontario" (Waterloo-Duncan) also brought home the first 18+A Gold with an undefeated weekend and a nail-biter final game against the host team.

A number of our Western Region teams attended Nationals, and we brought home a Gold at U19AA (ON3 - St Clements) and Silver at U16AA (ON1 - London).

The G&T Standing Committee will be meeting April 20-22, 2012 to review the year and look at proposed changes for next season. Items on the agenda include looking at the process for moving teams from A to AA, a review of tournament player substitution rules, and consideration of 18+ A splitting to 2 divisions with the higher division attending AA Provincials.

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G&T Western Region

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