

GAME REPORT
WINNIPEG WOMEN'S HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY LEAGUE ALL-STAR DAY
BLUE VETS vs. GRAY VETS
January 17, 2016

After a rousing rendition of O Canada by Bryn Miles including the familiar "TRUE NORTH!" shout out, the Blue vs Gray Vets game started with energetic play on both sides until an evenly matched game was broken open by Blue #10, Tracie Leost who fired a shot high to the glove side. Gray goaltender #33 Ally Kropp got a piece of the puck, but not enough; 1-0 Blue. The Blue squad took advantage of the early momentum switch to exert almost constant pressure on the Grays led in particular by Blue #8, Courtney Kruse, who had several excellent chances all of which were turned aside by Ally. The first period ended with no further damage done. Shots on goal in the first, Blue 8, Gray 3.

In the second, Blue continued to dominate in the early going with many shot attempts missed or blocked. Courtney had a particularly good chance, but Ally made the save and froze the puck. On the next play, Blue #16, Nicole Vandermeulen, controlled the puck in the corner and made a nice pass to Blue #2, Hannah Astrope. Her slap shot at the point was turned aside by the left pad of Ally. Ally's next challenge was a breakaway at the hands of #5, Sara Deibert, but she was equal to the challenge and made the save. On the next play, Courtney went for a skate carving a neat semi-circle in the Gray zone before firing a hard shot which Ally turned aside. Gray cleared, but soon Blue was back, led by Sara who fed the puck to Nicole in the slot, but the pass failed to click. Gray responded led by #3, Maddie Borgfjord. On a partial break, she made a neat move, but the Blue goaltender, #31 Hannah Dornian, made the save. Then the Blue team took a penalty with #6, Emily Dreyer, sent to the box for 2 minutes for holding. On the Gray power play, #10, Reilli Howden, had a nice chance in the slot, but her shot was blocked and Blue cleared. #6, Cami Daenick, picked up the puck and made a nice end-to-end rush for the Grays, but she was checked off the puck at the last moment. Back a full strength, momentum stayed with the Grays as the period came to an end, but the score remained unchanged 1-0 Blue. Shots on goal in the second, Blue 9, Gray 3.

In the third, the Blue squad came out strong again with shots from #14, Nicole Ryan-Lauzon, which Ally stopped but couldn't find the puck. This led to a scramble, but eventually, Ally was able to pounce on the puck and get the whistle. Gray cleared the zone, but then a nice clearing pass for the Blues sent Nicole away 3 on 1. Her shot was stopped by Ally, but the rebound came back to Nicole for another shot and another save. Gray responded with Reilli sent away 2 on 1 with #12, Kristen Maslyk, shadowing her. Using her teammate as a decoy, Reilli fired a hard shot just wide. On the next play, Nicole picked up a loose puck in the neutral zone and skated in down left wing. Her shot was blocked, but she picked up the rebound and skated behind the net for a wraparound attempt. There was space between Ally's skate and the post, but the puck slid through the crease. No damage done. On the next play, Emily skated end-to-end for the Blues with a shot, which Ally stopped, but again lost sight of the puck as Emily skated in; Ally squeezed her pads at the last moment. Then Courtney made another rush for the Blues with #14, Morgan Miller, stoutly defending all the way. Courtney cut in on goal with Morgan hauling her down and Ally made the easy save. No call. This play seemed to energize the Grays who mounted sustained pressure as the Blues struggled to clear. Finally, as the dangerous line of Courtney, Tracie and #14, Nicole Ryan-Lauzon, took to the ice, the play moved to the Gray zone with a number of shots from Courtney. The Grays responded with a rush led by Kristen. Her shot was stopped by the Blue goalie, but the rebound went right on to the stick of #11, Emma Leipsic. Emma had half the net open for an instant, but a diving Hannah

maintained the score at 1-0. Still, the Grays pressed with a huge slap shot from #13, Katie McCartney. The Blue goaltender made the save and the rebound ricocheted off the glass.

With time winding down, the Gray team strove mightily for the equalizer. Reilli blocked a shot in the defensive zone and was away two on one with Kristen to her right. This time Reilli elected to pass, but the puck was knocked away at the last moment. In a desperate move, Gray Head Coach, Greg Mason, pulled his goalie and sent six attackers into the Blue zone. With 21.1 seconds, he had the face off that he wanted in the offensive zone, but Blue was able to clear. With the last seconds winding down, Kristen fought through a check at the blue line and skated in. Her hard wrist shot was gloved by Hannah as the final buzzer went to seal a thrilling 1-0 Blue victory. Shots on goal in the third, Blue 12 for a three period total of 29; Gray 3 for a three period total of 9.

Third Star for the Blue team was Tracie Leost with the winning goal; Second Star for the Gray team was Ally Kropp with an outstanding demonstration of goal tending; and First Star for the Blue team was Courtney Kruse who had been an offensive threat since the opening puck dropped.