



www.owha.on.ca

5155 Spectrum Way
Building # 3
Mississauga, Ontario
L4W 5A1
Tel: (905) 282-9980
Fax: (905) 282-9982

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 17, 2005

ANNOUNCING:

*** TRIBUTE TO WINDSOR WILDCATS INTERMEDIATE BB TEAM**

*** OWHA SENIOR AAA, INTERMEDIATE AA, A, BB, B and C PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The Ontario Women's Hockey Association is pleased to announce details of a very special tribute and also the 2005 OWHA Senior AAA and Intermediate Provincial Championships. Sixty-three teams (63) have qualified to compete in this prestigious event, which takes place February 24, 25, 26 and 27 in Mississauga and Brampton.

TRIBUTE

Everyone in hockey has heard about the Windsor Wildcats tragic bus accident. The team lost its coach, Rick Edwards, Rick's son Brian and a valuable team mother, Cathy Roach. Almost all the survivors were injured, many seriously.

Last year, Rick coached the team to the provincial gold medals and the returning players fondly remember his tears of joy. The team wore their medals to his funeral and the OWHA championship banner was proudly displayed during the service.

In spite of the tragedy, this team is moving on. They are being led by Sheila Edwards, Rick's wife who was injured in the accident and by goalies Kelly Edwards and Erin Roach who each lost a parent. The team's goal this season was to participate in the provincial championships. They will be playing!

The Ontario Women's Hockey Association will be holding a tribute for the team on Thursday, February 24th at the Hershey Centre in Mississauga. There has been an outpouring of support for the team since the accident. Now we want to show them the real live support from their OWHA teammates and from the general public.

PLEASE DO THE FOLLOWING – COME OUT AND SHOW THE TEAM YOUR SUPPORT

Tribute to Windsor Wildcats

followed by

OWHA Provincial Championship Hockey Game

Oakville Ice vs Toronto Aeros

National Women's Team Players include:

Cheryl Pounder, Sami-Jo Small, Jennifer Botterill, Becky Kellar, Therese Brisson

Winning Team advances to Esso National Championship

Thursday, February 24, 2005

7:30 pm

Hershey Centre, Mississauga

OWHA PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Girls and women from all parts of Ontario will vie for gold in the provincial championship. Over 1,500 participants will take part. Senior divisions are open age and Intermediate are 21 and under as of December 31, 2004.

NUMBER OF COMPETING TEAMS BY DIVISION AND CATEGORY

SENIOR AAA	3	INTERMEDIATE AA	20
INTERMEDIATE A	17	INTERMEDIATE BB	5
INTERMEDIATE B	11	INTERMEDIATE C	7

TIME AND PLACE

Thurs Feb 24	Hershey Centre	7:30 pm	Tribute and Senior AAA game
Fri Feb 25	Iceland Mississauga	9 am - 4 pm	Intermediate
Fri Feb 25	South Fletcher, Brampton	9 am – 11 pm	Intermediate
Sat Feb 26	South Fletcher, Brampton	7 am – 11 pm	Intermediate
Sun Feb 27	South Fletcher Brampton	9 am – 6 pm	Intermediate
Sun Feb 27	Iceland, Mississauga	7:15 pm	Senior AAA Gold

SENIOR AAA SCHEDULE

Feb 24 Hershey Centre	7:30 pm	Oakville Ice vs Toronto Aeros
Feb 27 Iceland Mississauga	7:15 pm	Winner vs Brampton Thunder

The gold medalist advances to represent Ontario at the 2005 Esso Women's National Championship in Sarnia, Ontario March 7 – 13th. The silver medalist will advance to the Esso Nationals as the OWHA Host Team. The Toronto Aeros are defending provincial and national champions.

Participating Team Canada Word Champions:

Brampton Thunder:	Gillian Ferrari, Jayna Hefford, Vicky Sunohara
Oakville Ice:	Therese Brisson, Becky Kellar, Kathy McCormack
Toronto Aeros:	Jennifer Botterill, Cheryl Pounder, Sami Jo Small

INTERMEDIATE AA

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
Chatham Jr Outlaws	Durham West Jr Lightning	Aurora Jr Panthers	Bluewater Jr Hawks
Hamilton Jr Hawks Team Flite	London Devillettes	Brampton Jr Thunder	Burlington Barracudas
National Capitals Jr Raiders	Mississauga Jr Chiefs	Cambridge Fury	Etobicoke Dolphins
Stoney Creek Jr Sabres	Oakville Ice	Kanata Ottawa Lady Senators	Sudbury Lady Wolves
Toronto Jr Aeros	Thunder Bay Comets	Markham-Stouffville Jr Stars	Windsor Jr Wildcats

INTERMEDIATE A

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
Bluewater	London Devillettes	Brampton Canadettes	Brantford Icecats
Dundas	North York Storm	Hamilton Hawks	Toronto-Leaside Wildcats
Scarborough Sharks	Sarnia Jr.Lady Sting	Niagara Falls Rapids	Markham-Stouffville Stars
Stoney Creek Sabres	Whitby Wolves	Rideau-St.Lawrence	NCCP Capitals
			Waterloo Ravens

INTERMEDIATE BB

Cornwall Typhoons
Mississauga Chiefs
Ottawa
Stratford Aces
Windsor Wildcats

INTERMEDIATE B

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C
Clarence-Rockland Lightning	Kingston Ice Wolves	Belmont Blazers
Elma-Logan Wildcats	Norfolk Herricanes	Kitchener Rangers
Peterborough Hobies Sports	Owen Sound Ice Hawks	Lindsay Lynx
Plattsville Rage	Parkhill Panthers	

INTERMEDIATE C

Pool A	Pool B
Cambridge Roadrunners	Grafton Titans
Clifford Thunder	Lucan
Kingston C.A.L. Comets	Woodstock Wildcats
Strathroy Storm	

Many participants in the Intermediate and Senior Divisions have played for the

National Under 22 Team	2005 Air Canada Cup Champions
Team Ontario Red	2005 National Under 18 Champions
Team Ontario Blue	2005 National Under 18 sixth place
Various other National and Provincial representative teams	

FREE ADMISSION TO ALL ARENAS

The 2004 Senior AAA and Intermediate Provincial Championship Medal Winners:

Division	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Senior AAA	Toronto Aeros	Oakville Ice	Telus Lightning
Intermediate AA	Bluewater Hawks	London Devilettes	Stoney Creek Sabres
Intermediate A	Brantford Ice Cats	Brampton Canadettes	Ottawa Capitals
Intermediate BB	Sarnia Lady Sting	Whitby Wolves	Peterborough Hobies Sports
Intermediate B	Windsor Wildcats	Parkhill	Lindsay Lynx
Intermediate C	Parry Sound Phantoms	Hastings Stars	Kingston Comets

Please check the OWHA website for general information as well as game schedules
Scores will be updated during the Championship

www.owha.on.ca

For further information:

FRAN RIDER, Executive Director, OWHA
Phone: (905) 282-9980
Cell: (416) 573-5447

PAT NICHOLLS, Vice President, OWHA
Phone: (905) 282-9980
Cell: (416) 571-9198