



The Ringer

Finland Claims World Title

Finland defeated Canada 9-3 today to claim the gold at the World Ringette Championships in Stockholm.

The USA defeated Sweden 11-6 to take the bronze.

The World Championships saw teams from Canada, the USA, Finland and Sweden compete in a round-robin tournament beginning November 23 in Stockholm. Finland finished first with an unbeaten record. Canada was second, having defeated the USA and Sweden, but losing to Finland.

Canada and Finland met in the finals of the 2002 World



Championships, played in Edmonton, where Canada emerged the winner, 3-1.

Canada and Finland are the world powers in ringette, and their rivalry reaches back to the early 1990's when world championship play began.

The rise of Finland to world calibre in the 1990's was remarkably fast. In the early 1990's, Canadian provincial teams and even club teams were defeating the Finnish national team. But by the mid-90's, the Finn's could ice a team to match Canada.

While in Sweden, Team Canada took part with the other teams in school clinics and ringette demonstrations designed to promote the game in Sweden.

Etobicoke Ringette Association Inc.

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Coming up:

- ☺ **Lakeshore Santa Claus Parade, Sat., Dec. 4. Gather at 9:30 pm. See page 2 for details.**
- ☺ **Executive meeting Tues., Dec. 14, at 7:30 pm in the West Committee room, Centennial Arena. All are welcome.**
- ☺ **Family Skate and Silent Auction, Sat., Dec. 18 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. All are welcome to join us on the ice. See page 3 for details.**
- ☺ **No house league or Learn-to-skate sessions on Sat., Dec. 25 or Sat., Jan. 1. The program resumes Sat., Jan. 8.**

What was that whistle for?

Question: What game, also invented by a Canadian, is a lot like ringette?

Hint: It is played by kids year-round, but the pros play indoors over the winter season.

Answer: Right, you guessed it. Basketball!

At first glance, it is easy to assume that ringette is a lot like hockey, and of course, there are many similarities. But in some important aspects, ringette is more like

basketball than hockey.

As in basketball, intentional body contact is not permitted in ringette. Like basketball, that doesn't mean the game isn't physical or that there is not some bumping going on. In hockey, it is hard to imagine a situation where the puck-carrier could be called for a charging or boarding penalty (the closest penalty in hockey to illegal body contact). But in ringette, if the ring carrier intentionally skates into a

stationary defender, that is a body contact infraction, just as in basketball, the ball carrier can commit an offensive foul. Therefore, as in basketball, ringette defenders will try to plant themselves in defense of the goal. The defensive triangle in ringette looks a lot like basketball players defending the key.

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Lakeshore Santa Claus Parade December 4

Help Ring-in the Holiday Season

All players are welcome to join us on the Etobicoke Ringette float, to wave and pass out candy canes. Dress warmly and wear your jersey over your coat.

Gather between 9:30 am and 10:00 am at Dwight Ave. and Albani St. (near Lakeshore and Royal York).

PARENT VOLUNTEERS and TEAM LEADERS NEEDED

Call TANYA at (416) 767-2362 for details.

**THANKS TO
MILNE'S LOGISTICS
For providing the float and the horsepower**

Coaching Development

Thanks and congratulations to Beth Pilley and Steve Eckel who gave up a recent weekend to attend a coaching clinic in Richmond Hill and earn their first level technical and practical certification. Beth coaches a Petite/Tween house league team and assists with the Novice Rep team. Steve is a regular contributor in the Sunday house league practice.

Thanks also to Rick Oats and Steve Tower who attended a weekend clinic in Cambridge to earn their Level 2 technical certification. This certification is part of the requirement to coach at the A level. Rick is head coach of the Novice Stingers and Steve coaches a Petite/Tween house league team and assists with the Tween A team. Steve is now fully certified for Level 2, one of only four coaches in ERA with that level of certification.

Future courses

More technical courses will be offered in the future, and sports theory courses are offered frequently. The theory course is "multi-sport", and can be applied toward certification in other sports such as soccer, baseball, basketball, or hockey. If you are interested in coaching certification, contact John Voss at development@etobicoke-ringette.com.

Basketball on ice?

(Continued from page 1)

You will also see the attacking team setting up picks in the offensive zone. Since a player is entitled to the ground she stands on, a stationary player can block an opponent who is trying to move to a new position. However, if a player who is not in position to play the ring or is ineligible to play the ring, moves to actively block an opponent from playing the ring, that is interference.

Some examples:

- 1) Two opponents are side-by-side and fighting over a loose ring at their feet. One knocks the other's stick away from the ring with her stick, then stabs the ring. No infraction.
- 2) The red team shoots the ring across two blue lines, making a red player ineligible to play the ring until it has been played by the blue team. A red player hovers over the

ring (since she can't touch it), and just as the blue player goes to stab it, the red player knocks her stick away and takes the ring. The red player is guilty of interference. She was ineligible to play the ring, yet she prevented the other team from playing it.

- 3) The yellow team has a free pass. On the whistle, a yellow player tries to skate into the free pass circle to make the pass, but a red player stands in her way. As a result, yellow does not get the pass off in time. No penalty. However, if the red player moves to block the yellow player from entering the circle, the red player will be called for interference (this penalty was called in a recent Petite-Tween house league game).

Buzz: Stinger Rep Report

Novice

The Novice Stingers are solidly in second place in the Intermediate division, with a record of 3 wins and 2 losses, two points behind league-leading Mississauga. Our Stingers are a young team, and we are working hard on developing our team play and positional responsibilities.

Petite

The Petites have a 2-3 record at this point in the season, good for 4th place in the Southern Region Petite B loop. The Petites have games in hand against all of the teams ahead of them. On the Nov. 12-14 weekend, the team participated in their first tournament of the season, in London, skating to a record of 1-2. They travel next to the St. Catharines tournament on Dec 4-5.

Tween A

Our Tween Stingers are currently fourth in the eight-team Tween A Division of the Central Ontario Ringette League (CORL), just one point back of 3rd place Hamilton. Etobicoke has a game in hand, and plays Hamilton on

Nov. 28 at Long Branch, with 3rd place on the line.

The weekend of Dec. 4-5 sees the Tweens in their first tournament, in Waterloo, where they will face Richmond Hill, Elora-Fergus, and St. Catharines.

Junior

The Stingers have earned a 2-2 record and hold down third place in the six-team Junior B division of the Southern Region league.

Open A

Five games into the season, the Open A Stingers are tied for fifth in their nine team division in CORL. However, there is a real log jam, as the top 7 teams sit within 3 points of one another. The team will also participate in the Waterloo tournament, Dec 4-5.

Support the Stingers

Our rep teams play home games on Saturday night at 9:15 after house league games at Centennial, and Sunday afternoon before the house league practice at Long Branch. Even if you don't play rep, why not come out to cheer and see some fast, exciting ringette action!



The First Annual ERA Silent Auction

Coming this February, a silent auction of great items to raise funds for ERA. Donations of auction items are being accepted.

Contact **Brian Lalonde** (brian_lalonde@yahoo.com) or

Doug Smith (president@etobicoke-ringette.com).

Watch the Ringer and the web site for more info

Rep FUNd-Raising

The great things about playing rep are that you get more games, and you get to go to tournaments. But game ice and tournaments cost money, and fundraising is an important way to offset part of the cost of all that fun.

Support the Novice/Petite Raffle

The Novice and Petite rep teams have assembled an impressive raffle, with prizes ranging from gift certificates for meals at great family restaurants, to Raptors tickets, to a nostalgic Coca-Cola cooler. Tickets are \$2 ea, 3 of \$5 and 5 for \$7.

Cookie Dough

This year, the Tween and Open teams have been selling frozen cookie dough and muffin dough as a fundraising venture. Thanks to all who were out there selling, and thanks to you if you bought some. The orders are arriving for distribution on Nov. 27.

House League Highlights

Fun ringette action continues in the house league. By this point in the season, new players are more comfortable with the rules of the game, and the games take on more flow and faster action.

What is really noticeable is the improvement in skating ability among the new players. Those who regularly attend the house league practice and the Tuesday power skating session are showing significantly better skating

skills. Congratulations, players, your hard work is paying off!

Everyone is invited to lace up the blades take part in the **Family Skate,**

December 18 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

(The Learn-to-Skate takes place as usual on December 18, but why not stay on the ice for a family skate?). The last house league games are December 11, and the house league games resume on January 8, 2005.



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37 Years of Ringette in Etobicoke.

Saturday, Dec. 11, 9:15 pm vs Oshawa at Centennial Arena

Sunday, Dec. 12, 8:30 am at Oshawa (Children's Arena)

Monday, Dec. 13, 7:00 pm vs Richmond Hill 2 at Long Branch Arena

Saturday, Dec. 18, 11:00 am at Richmond Hill 1 (Ray Twinney)

Sunday, Dec. 19, 10:30 am at Ajax (ACC)

Monday, Dec. 20, 7:00 pm practice at Long Branch Arena

Junior B

Coach:

John Hibbit (416) 259-2940

Sunday, Nov. 28, 1:00 pm at Paris (Burford)

Monday, Nov. 29, 7:00 pm practice at Long Branch Arena

Saturday, Dec. 4, 9:15 pm vs Jordan at Centennial Arena

Sunday, Dec. 5, 1:45 pm vs Jordan at Long Branch Arena.

Monday, Dec. 6, 7:00 pm practice at Long Branch Arena

Sunday, Dec. 12, 1:45 pm vs Ayr at Long Branch Arena

Sunday, Dec. 12, 8:00 pm at Hamilton (Lawfield)

Sunday, Dec. 19, 4:30 pm at Ayr (North Dumfries)

Monday, Dec. 20, 7:00 pm practice at Long Branch Arena

Open A

Coach:

Samantha Allen-Hanna (416) 521-9540

Saturday, Nov. 27, 9:15 pm vs Waterloo at Centennial Arena

Sunday, Nov. 28, 7:00 pm at Waterloo (Albert McCormick)

December 3-5, Waterloo tournament.

Sunday, Dec. 12, 2:45 pm vs Whitby at Long Branch Arena

Friday, Dec. 17, 9:30 pm at Jordan

Saturday, Dec. 18, 9:15 pm vs Mississauga at Centennial Arena

Rep Games and Practices

Up-to-date schedules and links to arena maps are always available at etobicoke-ringette.com.

For information about games, call your coach or manager.



Novice

Coach:

Rick Oats (416) 767-2362

Sunday, Nov. 28, 5:00 pm at Hamilton (Lawfield)

Monday, Nov. 29, 5:30 pm practice at Long Branch Arena

Sunday, Dec. 5, 2:45 pm vs Guelph (exhibition) at Long Branch Arena.

Monday, Dec. 6, 5:30 pm practice at Long Branch Arena

Sunday, Dec. 12, 10:15 am at Mississauga (Iceland)

Monday, Dec. 13, 5:30 pm practice at Long Branch Arena

Sunday, Dec. 19, 2:45 pm vs Cambridge at Long Branch Arena.

Monday, Dec. 20, 5:30 pm practice at Long Branch Arena

Petite B

Coach:

Dan Davies (416) 626-8855

Sunday, Nov. 28, 2:45 pm vs Burlington at Long Branch Arena

Monday, Nov. 29, 5:30 pm practice at Long Branch Arena

December 3-5, St. Catharines Tournament.

Monday, Dec. 6, 5:30 pm practice at Long Branch Arena

Saturday, Dec. 12, 9:00 am at Cambridge (Hespeler)

Monday, Dec. 13, 5:30 pm practice at Long Branch Arena

Saturday, Dec. 18, 1:00 pm at Caledonia (HCCC)

Saturday, Dec. 18, 8:10 pm vs Hamilton at Centennial Arena

Sunday, Dec. 19, 1:45 pm vs Burlington at Long Branch Arena.

Monday, Dec. 20, 5:30 pm practice at Long Branch Arena

Tween A

Coach:

Samantha Allen-Hanna (416) 521-9540

Sunday, Nov. 28, 1:45 pm vs Hamilton at Long Branch Arena

Monday, Nov. 29, 7:00 pm practice at Long Branch Arena

December 3-5, Waterloo tournament.

Monday, Dec. 6, 7:00 pm practice at Long Branch Arena