



PROUDLY PRESENTS



Tournament Recap



2009 MidgetAAACanada.com Cup: Tournament Recap

Where:

Windsor Family Credit Union
Centre, Windsor, Ontario

When:

December 27th-31st, 2009

Canadian Teams:

Windsor Jr. Spitfires
London Jr. Knights
Toronto Young Nationals
Markham Majors
Mississauga Rebels
Sault Ste. Marie North Stars
Guelph Jr. Storm
Peterborough Petes
Brantford 99ers
Eastern Ontario Wild
Chatham Kent Cyclones
North Central Predators
Kapusksing Flyers
Belle River Canadiens

American Teams:

Dallas Ice Jets
Texas Tornado
Lansing Capitals
Alaska Wolves
Orange County Hockey Club
Pittsburgh Predators
Pittsburgh Viper-Stars
Mahoning Valley Phantoms
Chesterfield Falcons
Summit Plastics

The 2009 MidgetAAACanada.com Cup was the tournament's sophomore year where many of North America's brightest Midget Major hockey talent battled for a chance at minor hockey immortality.

An ecliptic display of talent from 24 teams traveling from all around North America flooded the ice at the state of the art WFCU center as with their goal to have their names engraved on the tournament's prestigious MidgetAAACanada.com Trophy Cup.



Tournament play began on the morning of December 27th where the 2008 MidgetAAACanada.com Cup Champions, Alliance London Jr. Knights christened the event by taking on the GTHL's Markham Majors from Toronto.

Not only were there great teams competing in the tournament, but the match ups were awesome.

We saw great Canadian battles like the Windsor vs Guelph, Mississauga vs. Sault Ste. Marie and TO Young Nats vs Peterborough. On the US side some feature games included Lansing vs Alaska and Dallas vs Pittsburgh among others as they played for national pride.

Or how about when Orange County Hockey Club came back to score seven goals in the third period to beat the Mississauga Rebels?

That led to the grand daddy of them all as the London Jr. Knights made it back to defend their title against the Dallas Ice Jets.

In round robin play, Dallas edged out London by one goal with a 5-4 victory, so we knew we were in store for something special and we weren't disappointed.

One thing is for sure, everyone was at the edge of their seats as both teams left nothing on the ice as Dallas managed to score a late third period goal to make it 4-3 and win the Gold medal and awesome championship rings courtesy of our Premier Sponsor Jostens.

Tournament Award Winners:

Tournament MVP:

Scott Moyer
Dallas Ice Jets

Offensive MVP:

Zachary Pizzey
Dallas Ice Jets

Defensive MVP:

Scott Browning
Dallas Ice Jets

Goaltending MVP:

Michael Santaguida
Toronto Young Nationals

Inspirational Player:

Andrew Cooke
North Central Predators

MidgetAAACanada.com Tournament Awards Banquet:

Our tournament awards banquet is graciously hosted by CBC personality Tony Doucette in an evening that runs a close second to the actual hockey being played on the ice because we get to soak up the true essence of the fabric of minor hockey.

We get the opportunity to not only honour the players and teams, but also the families, friends and supporters of this game that we're so passionate about.

Nothing gives us more joy than to meet new people, make new friends and build on friendships that have come from our love of the game.

Each year we recognize five special players in the following categories:

- Tournament MVP – Overall
- Tournament MVP – Offense
- Tournament MVP – Defense
- Tournament MVP – Goaltending
- Inspirational Player

The icing on the cake is having NHL Sr. Executive Vice President Jim Gregory at our banquet. Mr. Gregory made a very inspirational speech, one that will surely be remembered by all in attendance.

He invited all of the team's coaches to sit up on the stage while he shook each one's hand and recognized them for their dedication. Then he posed for pictures with the MVP winners and made himself available and accessible to all. What a treat!



Stanley Cup Champion
OHL Windsor Spitfires
Owner/GM/VP
Warren Rychel



NHL Senior VP, Jim Gregory with Jake's House spokeswoman, Voula

Tournament Hosts:

Hockey Canada
Alliance Hockey
Windsor AAA Zone
Windsor Minor Hockey
Association
Windsor Mayor Eddie Francis
The City of Windsor
OHL Spitfires
Windsor Jr. Spitfires

Major Tournament Sponsors:

OHL Windsor Spitfires
Printer Cartridge Canada
Westmont Hospitality Group
Josten's
Pellerin's Photography

NHL Sponsors:

Detroit Red Wings
Los Angeles Kings
San Jose Sharks
New Jersey devils
Florida Panthers

Other Tournament Sponsors:

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Perani's
Harrow Sports
Victory Ford
Private financial Group

MidgetAAACanada.com Charity of Choice



Additional Highlights:

NHL Sr. Executive Vice President Jim Gregory:

(A special note from CEO Rick Virag and COO Brad Belland)

To say that we are proud to have Jim Gregory supporting our tournament, are just mere words which are not enough to say thank you. For those of you who have ever had the privilege of meeting Mr. Gregory, you will know these words to be true.

Mr. Gregory has supported our efforts since day one of our inaugural tournament when he drove down from Toronto to meet everyone, make inspirational dressing room speeches to our All Stars, drop the ceremonial puck at our All Star Game, and so much more.

Then after a massive heart attack just 10 months earlier, the fact that he got back in his car to show his support again for our 2009 tourney four days after his wife had a surgery is incomprehensible.

Again he greeted our players, coaches, families and fans, dropped ceremonial pucks, gave speeches to our All Stars and at our awards banquet. What an unbelievable man!

If there is one person that we can truly mentor ourselves after when it comes to humility, humanity, community, passion and dedication to life and the sport of hockey, Mr. Gregory epitomizes that distinction.

Thank you Jim for all of your support! You are a true gentleman.

All Star Game: Our annual MidgetAAACanada.com All-Star Game is played in honor of our "Official Charity of Choice", Jake's House Charity for children with autism, and the Jim Gregory Friendship Tournament in association with SHI (Special Hockey International).

In honor of his generous gesture and also for the great work that the "NHL Endorsed Jim Gregory Friendship Hockey Tournament" does as part of Special Hockey International (to support special needs children), all participants of the our MidgetAAACanada.com Cup Skills Competition and All Star Game wear the Official Jim Gregory Friendship Tournament uniforms.

