

2011 OASA Select Provincial Championships

Division	Mite	Squirt	Peewee	Bantam	Midget
Host	Woodbridge	Richmond Hill	Kitchener Waterloo	Goulding Park	Georgian Bay
# of Teams	9	14	9	9	8
Gold	Caledonia	Kitchener Waterloo		Georgian Bay	Georgian Bay
Silver	Topham Park	Georgian Bay	Bramalea / Orleans	Stittsville Majors	Unionville
Bronze	Georgian Bay	Topham Park	Smith Falls	Topham Park	Georgian Bay Bantams
4th	Richmond Hill	Port Perry	Bradford	Unionville	Cambridge
Host Contact	Louie Calvitto	Bob Kearse	Gilles Butcher	Zubin Mistry	Keith Chapman
OASA Rep	Randy Bridge	Brad Thomson	Bruce Young	Bruce Young	Dave Northern

A total of 49 Select teams representing associations from as far away as the Ottawa Valley in the east, Georgian Bay in the north, the Niagara Peninsula in the south and Kitchener Waterloo in the west participated in Select Provincial Championships this year. 3 of the 5 divisions saw lower numbers of team's year over year and 2 stayed flat. Mites went from 12 to 9 teams; Squirts stayed at 14; Peewee from 12 to 9; Bantam from 10 to 9; and Midgets stayed at 8. All told we went from 56 down to 49 teams. Thank you to the 5 associations that stepped forward and hosted each tournament. As always, you represented not only yourselves but the sport very well. Thank you to the OASA and its reps for their participation and support provided in putting on these championships each year. Below are updates on each championship tournament.

Mite – Woodbridge, August 20, 2011

A total of 9 teams from across the province participated in the Mite Boys Select Provincials in Woodbridge. The semi finals saw Caledonia and Topham Park emerge victorious over Georgian Bay and Richmond Hill to set up the championship and consolation game matchups.

In the championship game Caledonia emerged victorious over the squad from Topham Park to take home the honour of 2011 champion.

Georgian Bay defeated Richmond Hill to take the bronze.

Woodbridge once again proved to be a good host as all teams were complimentary of the organization and calibre of officiating throughout the day. Thanks to Louie Calvitto and the Woodbridge Warriors for all of their efforts to make the day run so smoothly.

Squirt – Richmond Hill, August 6, 2011

Richmond Hill Minor Softball Association (RHMSA) played host to the fourteen (14) team Squirt Provincial Select championship at the multi diamond Richmond Green Complex, one of the softball and baseball venues for the 2014 Pan American Games.

There was some very good ball played through the day and I can say by the faces of the Kitchener Waterloo and Georgian Bay players lined up on Diamond #6 at 9:15p.m. Saturday night, they really left it all out there! Congratulations to all the teams, but particularly the four finalists - K-W, Georgian Bay, Topham Park and Port Perry - that played through 5 games during the course of the day! Thanks to everyone for the decorum displayed between the white lines and in the dugouts and to the Blue Crew for doing a fine job of officiating the games.

Congratulations to the tournament MVPs -Jamie Houston - Kitchener Waterloo and Brad Hartin - Stone Mills - for some fine pitching and timely hitting through the day.

To OASA - on behalf of John Moustakis, Director Softball & co-tournament convenor, thanks once again for your support of select ball and in lending a hand with the Richmond Hill tournament committee for an enjoyable day of ball.

Bob Kearse
Richmond Hill Minor Softball Association, Select Director

Peewee – Kitchener Waterloo, August 20, 2011

Nine (9) teams travelled to Kitchener Waterloo to participate in the Peewee Select Provincial championships. In a repeat of the 2010 Peewee championships in Kitchener Waterloo, once again the fate of the tournament fell into the hands of Mother Nature at the end of the day.

All of the games leading up to the championship and consolation were completed. The championship game had Bramalea facing off against Orleans. The consolation had Smith Falls facing off against Bradford. Just as the games were about to begin the skies opened up and rain and lightning took over. Gilles Butcher the host convenor tried to coordinate a mutually convenient date in a neutral location for Bramalea and Orleans to play out the championship game. Unfortunately he was unsuccessful and accordingly the decision was to award Bramalea and Orleans co-finalist silver medals. In the consolation Smith Falls was declared the victor to take home the bronze.

Bantam – Goulding Park, August 13, 2011

The day was just perfect to play ball, sunny all day and there was some great competition. Georgian Bay won the championship, in what was definitely the best game of the tournament. Both teams played hard and the excitement was felt all around. Georgian Bay came in to the top of the 7th inning down by 2 runs to Stittsville Majors. They rallied with 3 runs to take a 1 run lead into the bottom of the 7th. Georgian Bay then shut the door down in the bottom of the 7th, only allowing 1 hit, thus prevailing as champs that day by a 6 – 5 margin.

In the consolation game Topham Park defeated Unionville by a 5 – 3 margin to take the bronze.

Throughout the day the competition was definitely intense, there were several strong teams entered in this tournament. The crowd was loud and supportive of their teams and the players put on a good show for all the fans.

Overall feedback from the teams was that they were pleased with the flow of games, the tournament setup and especially the umpiring (North York Umpires Association) which provided umpires for the tournament.

With nine (9) teams entered in the tournament, we went with a wild card round after the round robin (1st round). Six (6) teams entered into the wild card round, playing just one game and the team with the overall best record throughout the round robin and the wild card game would move on. The eventual winner of the wild card round was Georgian Bay by a better run differential. Yes, Georgian Bay, the team that eventually went on to win the championship!!!!

For the organizers, it was great to see a wild card team win it all that day. It proves that you don't always have to win your division in order to be successful in a tournament. Georgian Bay proved it this day.

Zubin Mistry
Goulding Park Minor Softball

Midget – Georgian Bay, August 20, 2011

There were eight (8) teams that made the trip to Midhurst, Ontario for the Midget Boys Select Provincial championship.

Well we made it to approximately 6 p.m. and finished the semi-finals, a couple of rain delays but pretty decent weather right up to that point. Just as we were heading onto the field for the finals the skies opened and after a look at someone's radar on their phone we decided there was no sense continuing. The Georgian Bay Bantams and Cambridge were on the Consolation side and they were each willing to settle with a bronze medal each, Cambridge said they not be able to return in the morning so they chose with a hand shake to give the consolation championship to the GBMSL Bantams and they took the consolation finalist medals.

On the Championship side Georgian Bay and Unionville were undefeated for the day. Unionville agreed to come back up Sunday morning at 10 a.m. and play the championship game. So Sunday morning saw more rain but we did get it in and the sun was shining for the presentations. Georgian Bay took the Championship and Unionville the finalist spot. The final score was 14 – 4.

The GBMSL website has been updated with photos and such which you can take a look at, <http://gbmsl.com/Midget%20Select%202011.htm>

We had a great day overall, another great weekend, everyone seemed to leave in a happy mode.

Keith Chapman
Georgian Bay Rattlers

The Select program continues to provide an opportunity for house league players and teams to compete at the next level up against teams from other associations in weekend tournaments throughout the summer. The Provincial Championships in August each year are typically the high point of the year for these players and offer teams an opportunity to see some of the best ball for their age group that they'll see all year. The support of the OASA in these Provincial Championships helps bridge the grass roots house league programs with rep programs. If you are interested in finding out more about Select ball please feel free to contact myself or check out the Ontario Select Softball Tournament Association website at www.ossta.org for tournament listings and contact information for boys, girls and coed teams.

Dave Northern
OASA Select Division Convenor
dave.northern@sympatico.ca