

2012 OASA Select Provincial Championships

Division	Mite	Squirt	Peewee	Bantam	Midget
Host	Richmond Hill	Woodbridge	Georgian Bay	Kitchener Waterloo	Georgian Bay
# of Teams	8	16	8	7	7
Gold	Topham Park	Georgian Bay	Smiths Falls	Sydenham	Georgian Bay
Silver	Bramalea	Stone Mills	Topham Park	Bramalea	Unionville
Bronze	Stouffville	Micksburg	Orleans	St Catharines	Topham Park
4th	Woodbridge	Stouffville	Cambridge	Georgian Bay	Bramalea
Host Contact	Bob Kearse	Louie Calvitto	Keith Chapman	Gilles Butcher	Barb Maw

A total of 46 Select teams representing associations from 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. Year over year only 1 division increased in numbers. Mites went from 9 to 8 teams; Squirts went from 14 to 16 teams; Peewee from 9 to 8; Bantam from 9 to 7; and Midgets from 8 to 7. All told we went from 49 down to 46 teams. Thank you again to the 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 – Richmond Hill, August 11 & 12, 2012

One of the large challenges for the 2012 OASA/ Richmond Hill mite select tournament on Saturday August 11, 2012 was Mother Nature's desire to have a rainy weekend. Steady rain on Saturday morning ahead of the coach meeting necessitated the first re-shuffling of the schedule and reducing available diamonds as a result of the extremely wet conditions.

Credit goes to the coaches, players and parents for the 8 teams that saw three of the planned 4 diamonds get games underway by 11 am to try and complete as much of the round robin play as possible on Saturday August 11th. By mid afternoon, with the determined efforts of the teams, umpires and the tournament committee working the diamonds, approximately half the round robin games had been completed, but that would be it for the day as the diamonds had become unplayable with the regular downpours of heavy rain. Three of the eight teams advised in the afternoon that they would unfortunately be unable to return for the planned rain date (Sunday August 12, 2012) to complete the scheduled round robin games. A further re-schedule was completed by the tournament committee that resulted in two additional round robin games being required for Sunday morning, followed by the championship and consolation games.

Following the Sunday morning round robin games, a close tie break resulted in Bramalea making it through to the Championship game to face Topham Park. For the consolation game, Stouffville prevailed from their final round robin game to face Woodbridge.

Topham Park continued its strong play from the round robin games, having a particularly strong final game and prevailed in the Championship game over Bramalea to collect the gold medal. In the Consolation game, it was a tight game and Stouffville narrowly prevailed over Woodbridge to collect the bronze medal.

Cambridge, Pickering/Scarborough, Goulding Park and host Richmond Hill rounded out the 8 teams that participated on the weekend.

Bob Kearse
Richmond Hill Minor Softball Association, Select Director

Squirt – Woodbridge, August 18, 2012

Woodbridge played host to 16 Squirt teams from across the province on a sunny day.

Georgian Bay prevailed in the championship game with an 11 – 1 victory over the squad from Stone Mills.

In the consolation game Micksburg defeated Stouffville by a score of 12 – 3 to take home the bronze. Teams from Cambridge (2), Orleans, Bracebridge, Unionville, Osgoode, Richmond Hill, Belleville, Scarborough, Grimsby, Woodbridge and Topham Park also took part.

Louie Calvitto

Woodbridge Warriors Softball Association

Peewee – Georgian Bay, August 18, 2012

8 Peewee Select teams converged on the villages of Victoria Harbour & Port McNicoll on August 18th to participate in the Provincial tournament hosted by the Georgian Bay Minor Softball League. There were 3 teams from the Ottawa region as well as 3 from the GTA along with Cambridge and GBMSL participating. The teams were placed in 2 pools of 4 with the top 2 teams crossing over after a round robin and the winners of those games going into the Championship game. The losing teams participated in the Consolation Finals. The weather was probably one of the nicest ball weekends this year temperature wise with no rain in the forecast. The pool play saw Cambridge on top in the A pool with Orleans sitting in 2nd place. In the B pool Smiths Falls was undefeated with GBMSL and Topham Park competing in a do or die game to move on. Topham Park came out triumphant and captured the 2nd place position. In crossover play Cambridge face Topham while Orleans took on Smiths Falls. There was no question the calibre of ball was excellent and the games flip flopped back and forth until the end when a winner could be declared. Topham Park and Smiths Falls came out on top and moved to the 2012 Championship game in what would be a nail biter from the beginning to the end. Topham took an early lead and held it into the middle of the game when Smiths Falls bats started to find the holes in the field and the runs started to accumulate. Topham never gave up the battle and fought hard but just couldn't come back and in the end Smiths Falls came out victorious as the 2012 Select OASA Peewee Champions. In the Consolation Final Orleans triumphed over Cambridge to take home the bronze medal. Bramalea, Stittsville, Stouffville as well as the host Georgian Bay teams also participated.

All of the games throughout the day were competitive and sportsmanship was better than I've ever seen in our two parks. All of the teams participated in the opening ceremonies and a real sense of camaraderie could be felt throughout the day. Without question Peewee ball is alive and well in Ontario and it's great to see our future is in good hands as we watch these young athletes move up through the divisions.

Keith Chapman

GBMSL

Bantam – Kitchener Waterloo, August 18, 2012

The Bantam Select Provincials saw 7 teams travel to Kitchener Waterloo and for the first time in 3 years of Select Provincials there the final games were able to be completed, as Mother Nature provided sunny skies and nice warm weather all day long.

At the end of the day in the championship game Sydenham took home the gold with an 8 – 2 victory over Bramalea.

The consolation game saw St Catharines come out on top of Georgian Bay with a 4 – 3 win to earn the bronze.

Topham Park, Stittsville and the host Kitchener Waterloo rounded out the participating teams.

Gilles Butcher

Kitchener Waterloo Minor Boys Softball Association

Midget – Georgian Bay, August 18, 2012

7 teams made the trip to Minesing, just north of Barrie, for the Midget Boys Select Provincials.

The championship game saw the host Georgian Bay Rattlers come out victorious and take the gold over the Unionville Spartans squad with a 9 to 2 victory.

Topham Park defeated Bramalea 11 to 4 in the consolation to take home the bronze.

St Catharines, Stittsville and Kitchener Waterloo were the other teams that took part.

Barb Maw

Georgian Bay

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