

OMHA classification changes may affect Acton and Milton

Georgetown minor hockey rep teams will remain in the "AA" classification, but there's a possibility teams representing Milton and Acton will find themselves in new categories this winter, as a result of OMHA population guide changes.

OMHA secretary-manager Vern McCallum confirmed to this paper last week that the association will have 10 different population classifications this season, instead of eight. The "AAA" category will still be for centres of more than 35,000. Changes have been made in categories from "AA" down

The "AA" classification, in which Georgetown teams compete, previously for towns of 10,000-35,000, has been narrowed slightly to 15,000-35,000. The "A" category, in which both Milton and Acton teams competed last season, has been widened to include centres of 7,000-15,000, instead of 5,000-10,000.

Very important to Acton is the creation of a new "BB" classification for centres of 5000-7000. Acton was bumped up from "B" to "A" only two years ago when the town's population went over the 5000 mark. Now Acton could conceivably be dropped back to

"BB". That, however, will depend on how fast its population increases.

There's a better than average chance that Milton will be bumped up to "AA"; even though the "A" classification limit has been extended to 15,000. The OMHA office lists Milton's population as 18,431.

Below "BB", the remaining OMHA classifications will be: "B" - 3000-5000, "C" - 2000-3000, "D" - 1000-2000, "E" - 1000-1400, "F" - 600-1000 and "G" - under 600.

McCallum said he feels the classification changes will give a lot more boys a fair

chance to be part of a championship team. "It will keep that many more boys playing longer," he suggested.

He emphasized, however, that population will still be used only as a rule of thumb in classifying teams.

As a result of the changes, each of the classifications will include only about 25 towns. In the past, some classifications had well over 30 towns and many playoff series had to be jammed into a week or less in order to have championships declared in time for arena closings in mid-April.

Free Press Sports Page

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Peace proves experience important on the courts

The consistently fine play of Gerry Peace and Doreen Thomson and a courageous display of endurance by Marilyn Serjeantson highlighted the first annual Halton Hills Tennis Association tournament, which wound up in Georgetown Sunday.

Peace, a crafty veteran of the courts, who possesses amazing stamina for his age, 52, beat 19 year old Don Gibson 6-3, 7-6 to win the mens singles championship. He also teamed up with Tom Brotherton to defeat brothers-in-law, Peter Marks of Acton and Bernie Kent of Georgetown 6-4, 6-1 in the mens doubles final.

Doreen Thomson won the ladies singles title 6-2, 3-6, 6-2

over Marilyn Serjeantson, then teamed up with Marilyn to defeat Kay King and Linda Rice 7-5, 6-2 for the ladies doubles championship.

Mrs. Serjeantson had enough endurance left to join husband Ed for the final of the mixed doubles, although they lost 6-1, 6-2 to the husband-wife combo of Bernie and Pauline Kent.

Stacey Hurley, who was selected to play in the Ontario championships, was the youth star of the tournament. She defeated Cheryl Kelly 6-3, 6-1 for the girls 14 and under singles championship, then joined Cheryl to whip Cathy Nolan and Pam Brabant in the girls 14 and under doubles final.

Equally successful in the boys division was Mike Mitchell, who beat Andy Lenz 6-1, 6-1 in the final of the boys 12 and under singles final.

Mitchell and Lenz topped Ken Kavanagh and Scott Hibbard of Acton 6-1, 6-2 in the doubles final.

Grand Richardson won the singles crown in the boys 14 and under division 6-0, 6-1 under Dave Munroe. In the doubles final, Hob Ripley and Wayne Richardson defeated John Lehman and Curtis Marcell 7-5, 7-6.

Brian Hayward of Georgetown, a goalie with the Marlboro midgets during the hockey season, was singles champion in the boys 16 and under division. He blanked

Acton's Gord Bruce 6-0, 6-0. Dave Bew beat Paul McCracken 6-1, 6-2 to win the boys 18 and under singles title.

The doubles championship for boys 18 and under went to Paul McCracken and Brian Hayward, who defeated

Grant Richardson and Dave Bew 6-1, 6-2.

There were a total of 117 entries in the first annual tournament in 13 different categories. A total of 60 players from Georgetown and 19 from Acton took part. In all, 104 matches were played.



CATERING CAPTAIN RAY GRAHAM, (second right) is congratulated by Way-Jay Sales president Jim Robertson on Acton's win in the Glen last weekend. Acton team manager Ed

Wood (right) admires the Way-Jay Trophy as tournament organizer Glen Cooper (left) looks on.

Glen industrial tournament

Georgetown spectators as Acton beats Milton

Halton Hills Catering, representing the Acton men's recreational softball league, were surprise winners of the Way Jay Sales Trophy and \$100 first prize money in the industrial softball tournament held at the Glen ball park on the weekend.

The Acton team outslugged Fobert Real Estate from the Milton industrial league 12-7 in the final Sunday night. The Milton club picked up second prize money of \$75, donated by DRG Stationery.

The caterers doubled the score 4-2 on Georgetown's A&W Bears in the first round, then qualified for the final with a 3-0 shutout victory over the DRG Stationery team, which finished first in the Georgetown Industrial Fastball League regular season.

Fobert Real Estate defeated Rapid Print of Georgetown 4-3 in the first round and topped cross-town rival Milton Stags 6-1 in the semi-final.

The Acton club lined out 17 base hits and scored in every inning but the second in their championship game win Shortstop Gord Stanbridge led the way with four hits in five trips to the plate, two

doubles, a single and a triple. Jim Cole, Chris Tennant and Wally Holinski had three base hits each, John Dunn and Art Lee two each, Don Archibald, Terry Masales and Ray Graham one apiece. Lefty Art Lee was the winning pitcher.

Larry Campbell, the Fobert leadoff batter was four for five. Hugh Marshall and Jeff O'Brien each hit safely twice for the runners-up.

Mark Grenke hurled Fobert to a 9-1 win over Streetsville in an abbreviated five inning semi-final. The realtors scored seven of their nine runs in the fifth inning. Against the Stags, the Fobert team collected nine base hits, including a three run homer by Doug McLaughlin. Randy Coulson was the winning pitcher over Eddie Dunn.

In the first round, Fobert won 4-3 in 10 innings over Rapid Print on singles by Randy Coulson, Ed McLend and Hugh Marshall. Doug McLaughlin also had a single and a triple in that game. Rapid Print scored all their runs in the seventh, when Keith Fendley doubled, Ray See and Wayne Davison hit back to back triples and Bob Fendley singled.

In the early 60s, tossed a three-batter and fanned eight, as Acton won 4-2 over A&W in the first round. One of the hits Daley gave up was a two run homer by Bill Kirby. Ray Graham was the hitting hero of that game for Acton. He had two singles and two doubles in four at bats. Don Archibald, another veteran of the old Firefighter nines, singled twice and tripled once. Daley helped his own cause with three singles.

In their semi-final game, Acton scored all three runs in the third when Archibald walked, Terry Masales singled, Art Lee tripled and Gord Stanbridge hit a sacrifice fly. Lee limited the DRG squad to just six hits in picking up the win. Ken Kidd and Brian Beaumont each had two of those satellites.

Milton Stags downed Georgetown Whalers, league leaders in the Mississauga Softball League, 4-2 in a first round game. Stags came from behind a 2-1 deficit with three runs in the bottom of the sixth. Eddie Dunn, the winning pitcher, had 13 strikeouts. North led the Stags offensive with three singles in three trips to the plate. Wayne Houle smacked a triple to drive in the two Whaler runs.

Streetsville beat Perk's Barber Shop of Georgetown 7-5. Norval edged Erin 2-1 behind Norm Topping's

pitching and Bill Campbell unloaded a two run homer and drove in two more runs with a double to help DRG top Mount Albert 6-0.

Norval lost 1-0 to Streetsville in the second round. Heavy rains Saturday caused several games to be postponed until Sunday.

Sabres ink Chapman as first 1976 player

Acton Junior B Sabres signed forward Dave Chapman as the team's first player this year. Chapman, R/R 2 Hockeywood, played six games last season with the then Junior C Sabres. He scored five goals and assisted on seven in the Ontario Hockey Association's (OHA) Junior C-D loop.

Service: Georgetown Gems and Milton Flyers of the Junior B central division saw Chapman's services early last year. Sabre secretary Bill Campbell said the team is close to signing additional players.

The team is down to 27 players, he said Tuesday. "We're at the point where we can anticipate cuts from other teams," he said.

Request: The OHA granted a Sabre request this summer to change from a C to a B status club. Sabres will be playing against Milton, Georgetown, Burlington, Oakville, Streetsville, Brampton and Dixie.

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Both double-H teams go in AMSA finals

Halton Hills Electric and Halton Hills Catering head into the Acton Men's Softball Association playoffs since both eliminated their semifinal foes two straight.

The final is to be a best of two games out of three series which starts Monday. Next game is Wednesday and if necessary a third and deciding game will be next Sunday. All games start at 7 p.m. in the park.

Catering slipped it to Van's Welding 25-18 after the Electricians shook Station Hotel 20-5.

Van's led Catering 4-3 after the first inning of the nine-inning game.

Station Hotelers managed to keep a lead through the first two frames against the Electricians.

Catering's Jim James let loose two home runs while Bev Baker connected for five hits. James also had a pair of other runs. Terry Masales blasted four runs while Bill Routledge and Ray Graham put wood to leather three times.

Catering hurler Ken Pilgrim and Terry Cole fetched a pair of runs each and singles came from Jim Whittall and Steve Curtis.

Runs: Ed Hillier put back-to-back home runs together for Van's and added another run to lead the team in homers for the game. Rick Coia and Vince Thornton also connected for single home runs. Coe added another run while Thornton put two more in. Larry Kistner and W. Jones also had

three runs each while Chris Tennant had two.

Single Van's runs came off the bats of Brian Canary and Neil McKinnon.

In the Electric-Station contest Wally Holinski combined three runs with a home run to lead the Electricians. Jim Cole and Bob Jarrett also collected four runs for the winners.

Henry Toebes and Kenny Owens put together two runs each for Van's while Steve Steeves, pitcher Frank Daley, Hugh Forbes and Lyle Preuter got single runs each.

Station Hotel replied twice with John Dunn and once from Brent McEachern. Ron Jarrett and Don Archibald

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