

# Teaming up early in the season can help get your game in shape

By Cory Gentes  
Special to The IFP

Canadian golf was served well this past weekend when Roger Sloan finished in a tie for third at the El Bosque Mexico Championship on the Web.com Tour.

Sloan was one of four Canadians that finished in the top 30 at the development tour event south of the border. On the PGA Tour the pros played a two-man team event, which was a switch from the usual individual stroke-play format played last year.

The number-one comment from the players was that the event was FUN and they loved the team competition, which gave the week a Ryder Cup type feel.

When Mother Nature co-operates and we can get out to play some golf, mixing up the formats you play can really add some excitement to those early season rounds.

Playing partners is a fun format whether it is the more difficult alternate shot, a two-person better ball or a fun partners scramble where you let it all hang out.

These formats let you change things up

a little bit by taking shots from spots maybe you don't normally hit, but also take away some of the stress of keeping score while we are getting our games in shape.



For the juniors, it is always fun to play a scramble early in the season. You can have two foursomes of juniors go out and get into the game in a less intimidating way.

If the family is out for the first round of the year maybe play a scramble with some minimum shot restrictions so you must use everyone's drive a certain number of times or the last shot played doesn't get to play from the next spot.

Mix it up and make it fun! Remember to play from the right tee boxes for your age or skill level to make the game more enjoyable.

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**TEAM OF THE WEEK:** Georgetown District High School's junior badminton team won both the A and B flights at the recent Halton championships hosted by the Rebels. As well, Georgetown's senior Rebels sent seven athletes to the Golden Horseshoe Athletic Conference tournament and four of those the mixed doubles team of Bryn de Chastelain and Katie Abrams, along with the girls doubles duo of Sarah Reid and Melanie Vanco qualified for the OFSAA championships this week in Pain Court, located near Chatham. Junior Rebel team members (front, from left) are: Adam Vanco, Jayden Moran. Middle row: Tomas Wharton, Melissa Green, Tanis Drover. Back row: Coach Claire Snelling, Chris Bowen, Alicia Morey, Lauren McLeannan, Vanessa Wilson, Amanda Marshall, Steven Abrams, Blake Armstrong, Davis Young, Erin Young, Maddie Hickingbottom, coach Darren Mansfield, Quoc Tran, Li Na Chen.

Submitted photo

## Bulldogs edge Excels in opener

With several affiliate players in the lineup, the Halton Hills Bulldogs hung on to beat the host Brampton Excelsiors Saturday 12-11 in their Ontario Jr. B Lacrosse League season opener.

The Bulldogs trailed 6-4 after the opening frame and let a 10-7 third-period lead disappear, but Mason Wright's fourth goal on the evening with just over five minutes to play in regulation proved to be the clincher.







John Vezina and Cam Downey contribut-

ed hat tricks, while rookie Zack Kearney had two goals and two assists.

Halton Hills was missing a few eligible returnees such as Cory Highfield, Cody Menzies, Campbell Parker, Chris Boushy and Theo Dol due to school commitments.

Coming up next for the Bulldogs is a trip to Oakville Friday to take on the Buzz, followed by their home opener Saturday against the Newmarket Saints at 7:30 p.m. HHMLA Family Fun Night is set for May 13.

### ATHLETES of the month

Acton High School	Christ the King	G.D.H.S
 MADISON DEMPSTER	 AVERY FENTON	 KYLIE SWAIN
 CAMPBELL ELLIS	 ALICIA & ADAM	 JR BADMINTON TEAM

Madison Dempster s o r o r s u n n o n s p  
 r o n n s n r r n n r f s r n s p o r n s p u  
 Avery Fenton h n o n i s n o n o r s T h r s n p s x 0 0 e n o r u  
 r s s o o n n s s p p o r n n o r n o r p r s o n s n u  
 Kylie Swain h u r s o r i n r f i r o r o s n y t 0 t x r s f i r s n  
 s u r s s o r o n u l h r x y s n s o r r n n n r s n o n s o r s p u  
 Campbell Ellis h s i n s s o n x 0 t 0 o r o r r n n o n s o r u p n  
 r s n r p s o r s s n n n r n o o n s o s o r n r n u  
 Alicia Morey & Adam Vanco h u n o n i s o s s p o r s n  
 n u l h o r r n p s u s r s m n o o s  
 r o n o p n o n p o n s p u  
 Jr. Badminton Team - o n r o n s o n n n o n s o r o n f l u

## Ontario playdowns here in September

Continued from page 37  
 Minor peewee is the largest division in the HHMBA and we had about 60 players try out this year.

As part of the festivities, a vendors village will be set up at the Fairgrounds and at a yet-to-be-determined site.

Dezeeuw noted that approximately 14 of the 24 teams will stay in hotels in north Mississauga but the tournament committee is working with the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce and the Farmers Market to provide visitors with between-game activity options.

## Free baseball skills event Saturday

The Halton Hills Minor Baseball Association will host the MLB Pitch, Hit and Run competition this Saturday (May 6) at Prospect Park in Acton and it's free to sign up.

The event runs from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and is open to players aged 7-14 yrs. (as of July).

Players will participate in three simple skills events to create individual scores after: a timed base-running drill; a measured (by distance and accuracy) hitting drill; and a

scored (for accuracy) pitching drill.

There are four age categories: 7-8, 9-10, 11-12 and 13-14.

There is no division by gender, although there are two divisions as split between baseball and softball. Winners from the local event can progress to regional, national and the MLB championship stages.

For more information on registration contact [ross.baker@hhmba.ca](mailto:ross.baker@hhmba.ca)



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