

THE TRIBUNE

Sports & Leisure

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HIGH JUMPING FOR JOY: Cody Bennett has little difficulty in clearing the bar, which was placed at 1.32 metres, during his participation in the inaugural Glad Park Public School Track and Field Meet on Thursday. Bennett was tied for first place with Sean Altman in the Grade 8 boys' competition.

Photo by LORI EMMERSON

Soccer club players asked to meet at Novopharm fields

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Soccer Club (WSSC) is holding its orientations for all players this week at the Novopharm fields.

Players are asked to report to the fields to meet their coaches and pick up uniforms and schedules.

Players under the age of six will gather tonight at 6:30

p.m., players seven and under meet Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., nine and unders are to come out Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Coaches have been issued their player lists and should have been in contact with their players prior to this week.

However, if registered players haven't been contacted they should still come out to

the field on the night appropriate to their age group. Players are asked to seek out WSSC executive members in the case of any infusion that occurs.

The executive will be wearing royal blue shirts.

Practice games begin the week of May 25, with the official schedule to commence the week of June 8.

Lawn bowling ready to begin with open house next week

The Stouffville Lawn Bowling Club is offering a free look-see the week of May 25-29 at its Memorial Park site.

Prospective bowlers of all ages are invited to come on out and give the game a try during the open house week.

The action gets under way at 7 p.m. all four nights. Players must wear soft, low-heeled shoes.

The schedule gets under way the first week of June, with games Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7 p.m. Thursdays will be open nights all season long as newcomers will be welcome to come out on those nights.

The club's executive is back en masse for the 1998 season under the direction of president Paul Muir.

Once again Dons Farthing and Glenda Dunkeld will be the club's media relations officials, responsible for making sure the word of tournament victories both in town and at out of town competitions gets out to the local press for all to read about.

Pitchers forced to make some adjustments



Sports
Notes

Bruce Stapley

With the coming of the 1998 season, it's time to see just what effect the new Canadian Amateur Softball Association (CASA) pitching rule will have on men's and women's softball.

The new rule, which was adopted at the CASA convention last November, says that a pitcher must take a position with both feet firmly on the pitching rubber with the hands separated until the wind up commences.

One step may be taken simultaneous to delivering the ball to the plate, while the pivot foot may push off and drag away from the rubber prior to the non-pivot foot touching the ground.

The toe of the pivot foot must maintain contact with the ground.

Pushing off with the pivot foot from a place other than the rubber is illegal.

Also, raising the foot off the rubber and returning it, creating a rocking motion, is illegal.

DUNKELD WELCOMES RULE CHANGE

Long-time Stouffville men's and women's softball authority Cliff Dunkeld welcomes the move.

He said it was getting to the point where some pitchers could almost shake hands with the batter after releasing the ball.

"I think it will be a lot better," said Cliff, who has logged a combined 16 years on the executives of both the Provincial Women's Softball Association and the Ontario Amateur Softball Association.

"Softball should be more than just a pitchers game."

Cliff said that while umpires have been calling illegal pitches against female pitchers in past years, some of the male chuckers are in for a shock.

But they better get used to it, suggested the former umpire.

Cliff said he hopes all umpires comply.

"They're going to call it in provincial play, so they may as well call it in league play as well."

Frank Hendy, coach of the Claremont Rebels fastpitch team, said his ace pitcher Scott Evans had to make the adjustment in his first game of the season under the new

rule last Tuesday in Aurora.

"He was having a little trouble with his changeup," said Hendy.

However, Evans will be able to revert to the old style while playing for his Lincoln, Nebraska senior men's tournament team south of the border on weekends.

However, Evans' learning curve was rapid as he combined with Paul Koert to throw a no-hitter the following night against the Markham Waxers.

NOMINATIONS WANTED FOR ATHLETE OF WEEK

The Tribune once again extends an open offer to representatives from all local schools, elementary and high school, to send us reports chronicling the successes of your athletes.

Ask any teacher the best way to make a young person feel good about him or herself and they'll tell you that all kids love to see their names in the local paper, especially when they've experienced any kind of success.

Plus, it will be great for them to be able to pull out the scrapbook years down the road and show their kids what they did when they were in school.

It's no coincidence that Stouffville's newest school, Glad Park Public School, has had its programs featured on the pages of the Tribune, both in print and in pictures, so often this academic year.

A little call to our office can go a long way.

And any school that can attract education minister Dave Johnson to its grand opening this Thursday must be good at promoting itself!

So come on teachers, give us a call, blow your students' horns. And don't forget to let us know when you've got a big athletic activity coming up so we can get a picture.

Building up students in their various extra curricular pursuits, whether they be school or non-school related, pays huge dividends.

Just ask Jim Fletcher and co. at Stouffville District Secondary School, who have always made a point of letting the community know what that school's athletes are up to.

With the softball and soccer seasons getting under way, we're also anxiously awaiting reports from rep level team coaches on how their squads are doing.

Win or lose, there is always something good to report.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

TRACY HOCKER



Tracy sprinted to the gold in the Midget Girls 400 metre race at the York Region Athletic Association (YRAA) Track and Field Championships at York University May 11. Her performance gave her a berth in a qualifier for the Ontario Federation of Schools Athletic Association (OFSAA) Championships May 27-28 in Oshawa.

Good luck in Oshawa Tracy!

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