

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS: Seniors Spartans unbeaten in eight years of York Region action

Streaks on line for Stouffville rugby teams today

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Stouffville District Secondary School's Spartans senior and junior boys' rugby teams hope to keep a good thing going when they take to the pitch at Fletcher's Field in Markham today.

Both entries hope to keep their string of consecutive York Region Athletic Association tier one titles intact.

The Spartan seniors will be aiming for their fourth straight YRAA title and seventh in the last eight years.

The Spartan juniors, meanwhile, will be setting their sights on a three-peat.

But to continue their dynasty, Spartan senior boys' head coach Jamie Hewitt and junior coach Rob Edmondson acknowledge it won't be an easy task.

First off, both clubs will have to win their respective semifinal matches.

The juniors, who finished the regular season in second place in the East Division with a 3-1-0 record, will play Dr. J.M. Denison Huskies (Newmarket), occupants of first place in the West with a 4-0-0 mark, at 11 a.m.

A win by the juniors would enable them to advance to the final at 2 p.m. to face the winner of the other semifinal between the Bill Crothers Colts (Unionville) and Dr. G.W. Williams Wildcats (Aurora).

The seniors, who finished first in the East with a 3-0-1 record, will battle St. Theresa of Lisieux (Richmond Hill), second-place finishers in the West Division at 2-1-1, at noon.

The victor will play Dr. G.W. Williams or Huron Heights (Newmarket) for the title

at 3 p.m.

"To get to the final we have to win our semifinal game and we have a tough game," Edmondson said.

"Denison is a big and athletic team that scores a lot. I think they're the team to beat," he said.

"When our guys are focused they're all right. We need to find a way to score points."

As for the seniors, Hewitt warned his club can't look past St. Theresa of Lisieux, whom he described as a team that's well coached.

"It's not like we'll walk right to the final," he said.

Having not lost a game in the YRAA over the last eight years at the senior level, Hewitt acknowledged there have been occasions when he sensed his club felt the pressure of what it inherited.

"There's been a couple of times this year when I noticed when our guys weren't fully ready to go. I don't think they want to be the team that breaks the streak of not having lost a York Region game over the last eight years," he said. "With the success we've had, everybody's been gunning for us as well."

For the seniors to reach the final and possibly add another title to their portfolio, Hewitt said they have to go out and just execute the system they've been taught.

"When we play our system we're a pretty good team," he said. "When we play bad, though, we've been bad. There's no middle ground with us."

"Hopefully we got our one bad game out of our system earlier this year against Huron Heights (that ended in a 12-12 tie). I think that was a wake-up call for us."

Yustin sixth at CJGA Junior Worlds event

Matt Yustin of Gormley finished in a two-way tie for sixth place at the recent CJGA Junior Worlds Qualifier at Rolling Hills Golf Club.

Entered in the Junior Linkster Boys 11-13 grouping, Yustin was an 11-over par 73 in the 18-hole event.



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*Source: Public Sector Salary Disclosure 2010 (disclosure for 2009)

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