

# Nighswander gets his shot at Special Olympics in Korea

Matthew Nighswander is going for gold.

The Stouffville resident is a member of Canada's entry competing in the floor hockey competition at the 2013 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Pyeongchang, Korea.

The competition began Tuesday and is slated to continue until Feb. 5.

A Special Olympics competitor for a decade and recognized as male athlete of the year in 2006, Nighswander was part of the Newmarket Ringers team that received the 2012 Special Olympics Ontario Team of the Year Award and was among 14 players from that squad who earned the right to represent Canada at the games.

Nighswander enjoys other sports and competes in softball, swimming, golf, bocce and five-pin bowling.

He works at Chapter 21, a day program that teaches life skills.

## Stouffville Christian ices tourney title

Stouffville Christian School skated off with the gold medal from a hockey tournament they played host to after defeating Timothy (Barrie) 4-1 in last Thursday's final.

Zachary Roberts propelled Stouffville offence with a pair of goals while Cameron Hough and Mathieu Kovac added singles.

In reaching the final of the five-team event, Stouffville defeated John Knox (Oakville) 5-1 before suffering their lone

loss to Timothy 2-1.

However, Stouffville then rebounded to defeat Beacon (St. Catharines) 6-0 and Rhema (Peterborough) 5-3.

Coached by Greg Roberts, Kelly Shankland, Don Roe, Raymond Hough, Blair Lewis and Dave Burns, other team members included: Michael Creeggan, Charlotte Shankland, Tim Barker, Jadon Smith, Blake Frost, Jordan Lewis, Joshua Holmes, Maddie Li, Liam Kamerman, Abby Roberts, Christina Lucas, Casey Shankland and goalkeeper Ethan Rehel.

Stouffville District Christian's next tournament is scheduled to take place in Barrie Feb. 4.

## Clippers empty-handed at Silver Stick championships

The Stouffville Clippers AA novice and novice AE teams took a trip to St. Clair Shores, Mich. last weekend to compete at the International Silver Stick Championships.

The novice AA entry lost their first game against Belle Tire 4-0 before winning their lone game of the tournament with a 4-1 verdict against the Nickel City Rebels Friday.

The Clippers then concluded the tournament with a 3-2 loss against the Duffield Devils Saturday.

In the win over Nickel City, Beckett Longmuir, Jaiden Katsoras, Connor Little and Brad

Barker each scored once for the Clippers.

Nathan Shears collected two assists while Teo Stoilevski, Aiden Vogen and Sean Pesut each had one.

Noah Pitura played a solid game in goal to help preserve the win.

Against Duffield, Ryder McIntyre and Katsoras each scored once for the Clippers.

Despite winning just one game, Clippers' head coach Glenn Pitura wasn't the least bit disappointed with the effort his club gave.

In fact, he felt it might serve his club well entering the Ontario Minor Hockey Association playoffs.

"The players competed hard and played well. As a coach and a parent that's all you can ask for," he said. "They tried their best but we just came up against some really good teams that were as good or better than us on the weekend."

"We've had a lot of success this season so in some ways it's good for the players to be reminded that losses hurt. Overall, it was very good experience and should help us as we head into the OMHA playoffs against three other really good York Simcoe teams in Newmarket, Richmond Hill and Barrie."

Also competing were the Clippers novice AEs, which lost to the Orangeville Flyers 4-2, Tweed Hawks 4-3 and Blyth/Brussels 3-2.

Logan Palermo scored twice for the Clippers against Orangeville.

Kyle Frost had two helpers and Marwan

Al-Joundi one.

Versus Tweed, Frost scored twice and Holden Boutros added the other marker for the Clippers.

Al-Joundi collected two assists, Palermo and Logan Kimens one each.

In the game against Blyth/Brussels, Sam Currie and Luke Bonellos each recorded one goal and one assist for Stouffville.

## Minor peewees second in Kanata

The Stouffville minor peewee AA Clippers returned from Kanata with the silver medal from the Bell Winter Classic after they were edged by Sudbury 3-2 in Sunday's final.

After with a 1-1 tie against Kanata, the Clippers defeated the Ottawa Silver Seven 4-2, North Bay Trappers 7-0 and New Hampshire 2-1 to reach the final.

Scoring for the Clippers in the tournament were: Michael Hary six goals, one assist; Andrew Levesque two goals, three assists; Mark Assal one goal, three assists; Robert Hume and Chris Leinwand two goals, one assist; Liam MacInnis and Mathieu Kovac one goal, one assist; Aaron Kirkness, Michael Messina and Max Hegenauer two assists; Chris Holman one goal; Jacob Turnery one assist.

Also contributing to the club's run were defencemen Stephen Tulk, Dan Johnson, forward Liam Sitlani and goalkeepers Jacob Butler and Jordan Hyrenwich.



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