Lack of coach cancels field hockey team at SDSS

## Rugby proves popular at high school

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School is now in session for the 2013-14 academic year at Stouffville District Secondary School.

So, too, is the athletic season as the Spartans have been conducting practices for their varsity teams that will be competing in the York Region Athletic Association fall campaign.

Jamie Hewitt, Spartans' physical education head, said the school will field teams in a variety of sports after declarations were made Friday.

New this fall for boys and girls will be seven-aside rugby, a new sanctioned sport offered this fall on the YRAA calendar.

With the Spartans being a traditional powerhouse in the spring 15-aside version of the sport and participating in the fall sevens version that wasn't sanctioned in past years, Hewitt revealed they will field two senior boys' sevens teams — one to compete in the YRAA tier one and another in tier two.

In addition, they will have one junior boys squad to play in tier one and one bantam Grade 9 team that will compete as a junior tier two squad.

Hewitt will direct the two senior boys' entries, while Rob Edmondson will handle the junior team and Steve

Crummey, the bantams.

The seven's game will be new for the girls as the Spartans will field two senior squads - one of which will compete in tier one and another in tier two.

Coaching the girls' teams will be Tara LaBar and Janice Monk, who directed the Spartans varsity team to the 15-aside tier two YRAA title last year.

## **BASKETBALL, CROSS-COUNTRY**

The reason for the two entries in senior boys and girls, Hewitt explained, was due to the nature of the sport which, as its name suggests, allows just seven players on the field at once.

Combined with that was the enthusiasm for the sport as evidenced by the large number of students who attended fall rugby auditions.

With the numbers that came out, Hewitt added they could easily have fielded more teams at the junior level.

"With the boys we had around 25 seniors come out and there were 30 girls who came out." he said. "We also had 20 Grade 10 boys and 30 Grade 9s, we could easily have had two Grade 10 and two Grade 9 teams because we had so many players come out.

"But the YRAA rules said you can only have one team from each school

enter a team in one division."

Among other varsity sports teams the Spartans will enter this fall include a senior and junior boys' volleyball teams.

Steve Jimmo will coach the senior squad and newcomer Christina Davis, the juniors.

A cross-country team for boys and girls will be directed by Bill Creesor, while Lisa DeVos will coach the golf team.

The senior girls' basketball team will be coached by Sharon MacFarlane, while lack Hammond handles the junior girls' contingent.

The one sport that will be noticeably absent will be a girls' field hockey team.

Hewitt said the major stumbling block was due to the absence of a coach who could commit full time to the sport.

While the various teams have been holding auditions and practices, Hewitt noted the schedules for each of the sports will be unveiled during a YRAA fall preseason meeting Tuesday.

"We're rocking and rolling again for another year," he said of the school teams preparing for another season of competition.

## Peewee players serving as waiters

Fielding a minor hockey team can be costly.

To help defray some costs for the upcoming Ontario Minor Hockey Association season, the Stouffville minor peewee AE Clippers will conduct two fundraising events.

The first is scheduled to take place at Boston Pizza Oct. 1. From 5 to 8 p.m., the players will trade in their skates for aprons to take on the role as servers at the eatery.

Each player will wear their jersey and will be joining forces with an existing server to volunteer and help out where they can. At the same time, the team will raffle off a pair of tickets for a Toronto Maple Leafs' game.

The second event to be held at Sgt. Peppers Bar and Grill, the Clippers minor peewee AE Pub Night Fundraising event Nov. 9. The evening features a band, door prizes, 50/50 draw and food.

## Lawn bowlers earn honours in tournaments

The Stouffville Lawn Bowling Club played host to a couple of inter-club tournaments and are in the midst of gearing up for its annual in-club championships.

At the Dundee Wealth Management Tournament, the club's mixed pairs entry of Sandra and George Iwasiw were two-game winners. Eleven clubs took to the greens.

At the Barthau Jewellers Tournament, the club's entry of Helen and Kathi Culley won second high three-game.

The club will hold its traditional men's pairs fowl starting at 9:30 a.m. today. Players will enjoy a turkey dinner at lunch at Stouffville Creek Retirement Residence.

Sept. 21, the semifinalist teams of the club's Monday and Wednesday Night Leagues will play for championships in the trebels and pairs categories starting at 9 a.m.

The club championship ladies and men's singles contests will take place Sept. 24 starting at 9 a.m.

In concluding the 2013 season, the club will host its annual banquet and awards night at Stouffville's Royal Canadian Legion Oct. 1.

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