

Second Annual ValuMart Atom Rep Winter Classic Tournament hosted at the Jus Jordan Arena

Over the weekend of February 8, 9 & 10 the Iroquois Falls Minor Hockey Association along with the ValuMart Atom Eskimos team hosted their second annual Atom Rep Winter Classic Tournament at the Jus Jordan Arena. While there were only four teams that attended this years event the hosts made sure that everyone participating had a weekend to remember; between the games on the ice, ministick battles off the ice, skills competition, spaghetti dinner, snack bags and stick handling balls provided to all visiting teams thanks to the generosity of our event sponsors and our ValuMart Eskimos.

Every game throughout the weekend was exciting to watch, with some great comebacks and many exciting finishes. In the end the Winter Classic Cup went to the South Porcupine Jr Gold Kings after winning the Championship game with a score of 2-0 against our own Iroquois Falls ValuMart Eskimos finishing with Silver. Consolation Championship went to the Cochrane Knights after defeating the Timmins Northstars.

Through out the weekend the organizers took notes on all the players in order to decide the winners of their top player awards. The decision came down to the very last game with the TOP GOALIE award going to #31 Bailey Bois (Iroquois Falls ValuMart Eskimos), TOP FORWARD award going to #37 Dre Wheesk (South Porcupine Jr Gold Kings) and TOP DEFENSE award going to #51 Caleb Lavoie (South Porcupine Jr Gold Kings).

It was truly amazing to see how each team played their hardest every game and the great sportsmanship shown by all.

Aside from the championship games the major highlight of the weekend was a skills competition hosted by IFMHA's Skills Director Taylor Moore and the Iroquois Falls ValuMart Eskimos Atom team. Designed to give every player participating in the tournament a chance to compete at their best skill. With Competitions including Fastest Skater Elimination Races, Shoot Outs testing both the goalies stopping prowess and the shooters scoring ability, Shooting Accuracy, Hardest Shot, and Team Relay Elimination Races everyone had a chance to show off their skills on the ice. Winners of the events were rewarded with Tim Hortons gift cards.

Fastest Skater

Winner - #7 Zachary Robinson (Iroquois Falls ValuMart Eskimos)

Finalist - #88 Nathan Boucher (South Porcupine Jr Gold Kings)

Shoot Outs

Goalie - #29 Jaret Fenton-Chypyha (South Porcupine Jr Gold Kings)

Shooter - #8 Samuel Poliquin (Iroquois Falls ValuMart Eskimos)

Shooting Accuracy

Winner - #14 Callum MacLean : 4 targets in 18.2 seconds (Iroquois Falls ValuMart Eskimos)

Runner up - #17 Liam Kapashesit : 4 targets in 30.1 seconds (Cochrane Knights)

Hardest Shot

Right Handed - #7 Zachary Robinson (Iroquois Falls ValuMart Eskimos)

Left Handed - #51 Caleb Lavoie (South Porcupine Jr Gold Kings)

Team Relay

Winners - #71 Henry Klooster, #66 Paxton Morden, #88 Nathan Boucher (South Porcupine Jr Gold Kings)

Finalists - #4 Kiera Hamel, #14 Callum MacLean, #8 Samuel Poliquin (Iroquois Falls ValuMart Atom Eskimos)

It has been a busy, yet very rewarding season so far for both the players and parents of the ValuMart Atom Eskimos as they finished hosting their first tournament they look forward to hosting the NOHA Tournament of Champions before heading to Hearst for their season ending NEOHA Playdowns. Everyone should be very proud of the results this season both on and off the ice. Kudos to all for making these events possible for our young players and the community as a whole with their efforts to keep the IGLOO busy all season with these top notch events! Keep up the good work and good luck in the NOHA and NEOHA finals.

IFMHA and the ValuMart Atom Eskimos would like to thank all the volunteers, organizers, coaches, referees, timekeepers, players, parents and most of all our event sponsors for helping make the weekend a huge success and of course we can't forget the Iroquois Falls Recreation Department for keeping the arena in tiptop condition and running smoothly for all our events.



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