



Ontario Lacrosse Festival
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FESTIVAL MEDIA RELEASE
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KITCHENER-WATERLOO BRAVES END WHITBY WARRIORS 1'S TWO-YEAR CHAMPIONSHIP RUN WITH OVERTIME VICTORY AT NOVICE FINALS

The Whitby Warriors 1 entered the Novice "A" finals as the two time defending champions looking to win a third championship in a row against the Kitchener-Waterloo Braves 1. The Braves on the other hand looked to spoil the party for the Warriors. The game would come down to the very end, as overtime was needed to crown the champion. Whitby started their title defense strong by taking a 2-1 lead in the first period with goals from Jack Dean and Robert White. Brendan Gerber's goal got Kitchener-Waterloo within one towards the end of the period. In the second period the Warriors lead increased to 5-3 with goals from Easton McCafferty, Aiden Fera, and Jack Van Volsen. Brayden Strumpf and Evan Wallace would keep Kitchener-Waterloo in the game going into the third period. In the third period the Braves would mount the comeback with three straight goals from Treyton Weinstein (2 goals), and Jake Patterson to take a 6-5 lead. Brayden Brown would tie the game for Whitby to force overtime. Brayden Strumpf scored first in overtime for Kitchener-Waterloo to take a 7-6 lead. Easton McCafferty would score his second goal of the game to tie the game again at 7-7. Kitchener-Waterloo captain Cole Hunsberger would score the game-winner as the Braves ended the two-year reign by Whitby to become Novice "A" champions with an 8-7 score.

In the Novice "B" final the Kahnawake Mohawks returned to the championship for the third straight year after winning in 2014 and losing in 2015. They took on the Northumberland Nemesis who looked to give the Mohawks their second straight championship loss. Both teams exchanged goals in the first period with Beckett Ewart scoring for Northumberland and Owen Rice scoring for Kahnawake. Rice would score again in the second period to put the Mohawks up 2-1 going into the third period. In the third period the Nemesis would power ahead of the Mohawks. Kahnawake would score six goals in the third period from Brody Partidge (3 goals), Kaleb Tatarek (2 goals), and Logan Giroux. Shakononhkwatshun Rice scored twice for Kahnawake but it wouldn't be enough for the Mohawks. Northumberland would win the Novice "B" championship with a 7-4 win.

The Novice "C" final was a high scoring affair between the Uxbridge Enforcers and the Cornwall Celtics. In the first period Uxbridge took a 3-2 lead with goals from Reese Walker, Parker Stanway, and Kian McGuigan. Keenan Quenneville and Kieran O'Connell would score goals for Cornwall. In the second period



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Cornwall would take control of the game by scoring seven unanswered goals from Kieran O'Connell, Sydney Benoit, Keenan Quenneville (2 goals), and Maxim Tessier (2 goals) to take a 9-3 lead. Despite five goals in the third period for Uxbridge from Aiden Kukay (3 goals), Josh Avery, and Kurt Acton, they couldn't catch up to Cornwall. Keenan Quenneville would score his third goal of the game and Ross McMaster would also score to give the Celtics the 11-8 win and the Novice "C" championship.

The Novice "D" championship saw the Kitchener-Waterloo Braves 2 take on the Gloucester Griffins. The Braves got off to a hot start in the first period scoring four unanswered goals from Kaden Vanoordt, Brett Verutis (2 goals), and Braiden Wilton. The Griffins would try to chip away at the lead with a goal from Cameron Maunder in the second period and a goal from Rowan Toner in the third period. But Kitchener-Waterloo would hang on to the 4-2 win to become Novice "D" champions.

The Novice "E" final had the Peterborough Lakers 3 go up against the Halton Hills Bulldogs 2 for the championship. The Lakers would score first with a goal from Nolan Mason but the Bulldogs would take a 2-1 lead thanks to Liam McKendrick and Sorin Nygren. Peterborough would retake the lead with two more goals from Mason in the second period to complete the hat trick. In the third period Halton Hills would tie the game 3-3 with a second goal from Liam McKendrick. But Peterborough would take the lead for good, as Colby Wood would score the game winner to make the game 4-3 to give the Lakers the Novice "E" championship.

In the Novice F final the Six Nations Warriors 3 faced off against the North Perth Outlaws. The Outlaws would jump out to a 3-0 lead in the first period with two goals from Blake Elzinga and a goal from Nathan Romphf. In the second period Oliver Sawchuk's goal would give the Outlaws a 4-0 lead going into the third period. In the third period Six Nations tried to get back into the game with goals from Kobe Jacobs and Rory Thomas. But Blake Elzinga's third and fourth goals of the game would seal the 6-2 win for North Perth along with the Novice "F" championship.

For complete Festival schedules and results, visit www.ontariolacrossefestival.com

For more Festival information, please contact:

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