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FESTIVAL MEDIA RELEASE
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BRITISH COLUMBIA WINS THIRD STRAIGHT MIDGET GIRLS TITLE.

British Columbia defended its Midget Girls Box Lacrosse National Championship title for the third year in a row, defeating Team Ontario in a 6-2 showdown.

B.C. sailed through the preliminary round, going 5-1-0. The only game they tied was a 2-2 battle against fellow finalists, Ontario.

Ontario fell just behind B.C. in the standings, losing the first match-up between the two teams 6-1.

B.C. played a strong game both defensively and offensively, shutting out Team Ontario until the last period of play.

Keeley O'Neill struck first for B.C. at the 10:12 mark, and Megan Kinna finished the first period off with another goal to give them the 2-0 lead.

The second period remained silent until the last minute of play in which O'Neill scored her second goal of the game. Nicole Pahnke poked a shot in with eight seconds left in the period to extend B.C.'s lead to 4-0.

Ontario broke through the strong B.C. defense in the third period, with two goals by Kristine Webber and Paige Rynne.

Nadine Stewart scored her seventh of the tournament at the 11:55 mark in the third period, and Carly Spagnuolo cushioned B.C.'s lead with another goal to take the championship title, 6-2.

Alberta and Nova Scotia faced off in the bronze medal match-up, having placed third and fourth respectively in their pool.

Alberta finished the round robin with a 2-0-4 record, while Nova Scotia finished with six straight losses.

Alberta's Baeleigh Ellement scored the game's first goal in the first period, and continued her hot shooting at the end of the period to put her team up 2-0.

In the second period, Julia Porter picked up where her teammate left off, logging her seventh goal of the tournament with an assist from Ally Bymac and Paige Dairon.

Ellement scored her third goal of the game at the 2:37 mark in the second period, and Bymac cushioned Alberta's lead with a goal of her own, putting them up 5-0 going into the final period.

MacKenzie Faulkner broke into the game for Nova Scotia with a goal early in the third period, but Porter's second goal of the game solidified Alberta's 6-1 championship win.

Paige Darion represented Alberta's pick for the 2014 Midget Girls National All-Star Team, after an impressive defensive tournament performance to help keep her team's goals against average at 3.286.

British Columbia selected Bianca Santucci, who finished tied for third on the tournament's total points list with four goals and seven assists.

Nova Scotia's Captain, Libby Falkenham, was selected for the All-Star Team, having lead her team in points, along with teammate Karah Fleet, with two goals and one assist for the tournament.

Katy De Snoo was chosen from Ontario, after an impressive performance with three goals and five assists to help her team win their silver medal.

British Columbia's Bianca Ballarin was chosen as the All-Star goalie of the tournament, after an impressive defensive showing for a goals against average of 1.714.

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