



TORNADO TIMES

Special Hockey International 2008

by Liz Gazer

The annual SHI Tournament is a time when teams from all over North America and the UK come together in a massive sport & social gathering to conclude the end of another incredible hockey season.

While the Tournament is a time to play for the SHI cup - which by tradition, determines which team will host the playoffs for next year, it is also a time for like-minded friends of SHI to acquaint and reunite all with one single purpose: to celebrate a heartwarming group of very special hockey players, and the sport they all love (and live) to play.

Hosted by friendly competitors the North York Gladiators, not surprisingly this year's tournament delivered on punch with an excitement-filled three days of hockey, socializing and celebration. Teams spanning not one, not two, but three (count 'em - three!) continents came from far and wide to participate at York University's own Canlan Ice Sports Arena, with families and other faithful supporters in tow.

Opening ceremonies began on-ice shortly after 9am Thursday, April 17th, with CityTV's own Mark Dailey in the role of emcee and news cameras from CityTV, Global and CTV each recording news coverage of this inspiring event. Amongst those inter-



viewed for TV news, was Grandravine's own hockey club President, Joe Rizzutto and son Mark, who also plays for the team. Live coverage of the Tornadoes in all their uniformed glory on-ice, aired Thursday night on all three news stations.

An impressive list of dignitaries made attendance for a heartwarming start to the whirlwind of events, including the one and only Don Cherry of Hockey Night in Canada. Cherry, who undoubtedly stole the show, was gracious in attendance and generously took time out of his busy schedule to sign hats, jerseys and more, for a sizable, star-struck mob of fans who

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SAVE THE DATE

- Annual General Meeting
June 8, 2008
- Golf Tournament
July 25, 2008
- Hockey Registration
Sept 27, Oct 4, 2008
- Hockey Starts
October 18, 2008

The Valentine's Dinner and Dance

by Mary Seguin

Fun. Laughter. Music. Prizes. Lisa Rizzuto did it again, providing us all with a fabulous evening to remember. It took hours of work to put together, but together we came, in support of our kids. The 2008 Grandravine Valentine Fundraiser was a resounding success. Players, families, and friends, young and never too old, mingled and enjoyed course after course of fabulous food, dancing the night away. We boogied, swayed and two-stepped hour after hour, all the while hoarding ribbons of tickets in anticipation of winning one of the many prizes. Finally the draws came. Ticket after ticket was

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Grandravine Tornadoes Slide into Minden

by Mary Seguin

In the midst of one of Toronto's many dumpings of snow, an intrepid group of players, coaches, and parents eagerly boarded the bus for a weekend of hockey and fun in Minden. We felt like explorers venturing into undiscovered country. What we discovered was a winter wonderland full of activities, camaraderie, and of course, hockey. We went to support one of our own, John Kellet, who brings his son all the way from Minden to Toronto to play hockey, who now wants to start his own Special Hockey team in Minden.

The challenge was to get there. Snow made the 2-3 hour drive into 5. But who's counting? We were too busy counting the hills our bus driver navigated on the dark and winding road leading to our destination, praying we'd get up the next one. And get there we did. We arrived at Camp Wanakita, our home away from home for the next couple of days. Only one more hurdle—the trek to our cabins carrying our houses on our backs. And we did feel like turtles as we waded through the pristine snow lugging hockey bags, suitcases and bags of blankets and pillows. But we did what we always did. We



helped each other and laughed. We eventually landed in large, clean cabins, and gratefully sank into sleep.

The next morning we awoke to wonder outside, a snow filled wilderness of beauty. A place where cell phones didn't work. We ate in a large dining hall, sang songs before eating, and enjoyed plenty of home cooked food that seemed never ending. That morning we headed out to play hockey at the local arena, taking our lunches with us. The kids were in their element. We got

back to camp in the afternoon and the staff organized activities -broomball, hockey on the lake, and tobogganing. And all we parents had to do was take pictures. The kids had a blast. The staff were fantastic. They even organized an evening program after dinner with an indoor campfire and skits.

And then it was time to leave. Too soon, we boarded the bus, promising to come back next year, and the next, and the next....to make Minden a weekend to remember for all of Grandravine.

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drawn for everything from jelly-beans, gift baskets, cheese boxes, leafs tickets (Go Mark!), DVD players, and even a TV—they just kept coming. Whoops and hollers and groans filled the air as tables and tables of prizes found owners. Everyone went home happy and tired and looking forward to next year. So, a big thank you to Lisa and all the generous donors who made this night a reality in support of a very special group of kids.

Why Can't You Ever Find A Cop?

The answer is because they're often playing hockey with the Tornadoes. Members of Toronto's finest from 31 division made several appearances on Saturday mornings this year. Thanks guys, for your incredible support.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS AND CONGRATULATIONS

Seguin, Eric	April 7	Inwood, Ryan	May 29	Hillier, Sean	June 16	Lohr, Ben	July 26
Hird, Ryan	April 12	Tam, Martin	May 15	Rizzuto, Lisa	June 21	Jolly, Michael	July 29
Elbe, Eddie	April 14	Rizzuto, Mark	May 22	Bhandal, Sunny	June 26	Vanier, Jeffrey	Aug 2
Batt, Bob	April 15	Kilipouris, Steven	May 23	Cheung, Tony	July 5	Selarka, Mehul	Aug 7
Mogford, Jonathan	April 17	Hollowell, Jason	May 25	Marrella, Robert	July 7	Yu-Seto, Henry	Aug 7
Nagle, Todd	April 18	Free, Eric	May 24	Hamza, Mohamed	July 7	Shchukovsky, Yonathan	Aug 13
Rizzuto, Joe	April 25	Morgillo, Stefania	May 28	Santos, Gilbert	July 8	Leah, David (new)	Aug 15
Furlong, John	April 26	Reid, Colin	June 11	Liotta, Mark	July 15	Hefford, Gordon	Aug 15
Santos, Joaquim	April 26	Parisien, Frank	June 12	Ross, Kirk	July 17	Evola, Frank	Aug 18
Pivato, Peter	April 27	Cleland, Norman	June 14	Cleland, David	July 25	Buffan, Stephanie	Aug 21

Announcements

4th Annual Golf Tournament

Please mark your calendar for this special fundraising event on Friday, July 25, 2008. This year it will again be held at Cardinal Golf Club. The cost of the Golf Package is \$175 and includes 18 holes of golf, lunch, 2 drink tickets, shotgun start at 12:30, power golf cart, dinner and prize presentation. Or, if you prefer not to golf, you may have dinner only for \$75. Any sponsors are greatly appreciated and can help us by donating items, sponsoring a hole, or sponsoring a golf cart, and of course enjoy a wonderful day of golf. For more information or obtaining registration forms, please contact:

Mathew Ciccotelli, mciccotelli@sympatico.ca
416-723-1629

Carmelina Corvinelli, carmelinac@rogers.com
416-527-6741

Sherry Basta, sherrybasta@rogers.com
416-786-6643.

Soccer

The Grandravine Kickers soccer team starts their season on Monday, April 28th at the Astra Sportsplex, which is located on Rutherford Rd. just east of Jane St. The Kickers practice from 7 - 8 pm. The cost is \$50.00. For more information, please contact:

Mathew Ciccotelli 416-723-1629

Softball

If you would like to play softball the Grandravine Wolves will be playing their games on the diamonds next to Grandravine Arena as usual this year. For more information about registration please contact: JAY WHALEY- whale1@sympatico.ca
647-272-1925

Annual General Meeting

Sunday June 8, 2008 at 1:00 PM.
Grandravine Arena, 23 Grandravine Dr.

Hockey Registration

Saturday Sept. 27, 2008 10:00AM - 1:00PM
Saturday Oct. 4, 2008 10:00AM - 1:00PM
Grandravine Arena, 23 Grandravine Dr.
Registration Fee for 08/09: \$150



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made their way out to the red carpet following opening ceremonies.

Then, our own Tornadoes took the ice by storm at Thursday's kick-off game vs. the Guelph Giants where enthusiasm and spirit were the name of the game. Day two, every Tornado player came out a winner one more time - first taking on the Don Mills Diamonds first, followed by a face-off against the Durham Dragons. Day three began with the much-anticipated coaches game where Canada played (and won!) against their US challengers. Throughout this fast-paced last game of the year, the energy of the crowd was tangible as friends came together from all over to cheer on their respective country (and coaches, now players), all in good, loud fun.

As always the tournament ended with a bang when 1500 SHI team players, staff, volunteers, family and friends enjoyed a fabulous semi-formal dinner and dance at the Riviera Parquet banquet & convention centre. Every player walked away a winner as medals were handed out for tournament participation, followed by a well-deserved celebration of music and dancing that lasted well into the wee hours. And they can't wait to do it all again next year. Frankly, either can I.

Thank you to all who took time off from school, work and other commitments to participate in and support this year's SHI Tournament. Thank you too, for another incredible year of SHI Hockey at Grandravine - we wish you

Grandravine Special Program

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