



MEDIA RELEASE

EASTERN ONTARIO PROVINCIALS SINGLES TITLES DECLARED

Women's Copper Division Singles:

Catherine Royer from Rouyn-Noranda, Quebec proved to be the heroine of the division as she progressed through the tournament undefeated. Catherine opened the weekend with a 3-0 win over Michelle Wilding from Sault Ste. Marie and continued her trek as she defeated two more Sault Ste. Marie natives, Pat Emery and Laura Phillips both with a score of 3-1. Her journey did not stop there; she continued her streak as she gained fame against Toronto's Nina Lucier in a tight 3-2 match and sent Lucier to the 'B' side and advanced to the finals.

Sault Ste. Marie's Shara Young lost her first match in a 3-1 loss against Lucier and was pushed to the 'B' side of the bracket where she was forced to battle it out against her hometown rival, Angela Zappacosta (3-2), Sudbury's Kim Brewer (3-0) and back home to Sault Ste. Marie's Pat Emery (3-1) and then swept through North Bay's Heidi Thibert (3-2) and Toronto's Cindy Collier (3-2) providing her with another shot at Nina Lucier in the semi-finals.

Lucier proved to be a challenge as she defeated Young 3-2 in the semi-finals and earned another shot at Royer in the final.s In the end, it was Royer who emerged as champion defeating Lucier 3-1 in the Women's Copper Division. Finishing third place was Shara Young.

Copper Division Singles:

Jamie Frey from Stratford, Ontario advanced to the finals undefeated. In his quest for the title, Jamie bounced back and forth facing many skilled players from the north. Frey defeated North Bay's Zander McMillan and Zane Aguonia, Sault Ste. Marie's Jamie Lamon followed by North Bay's Robert Mack and then Sault Ste. Marie's Greg McMaster. In the quarter finals, Frey defeated Shannon Allhusen from North Bay, knocking her into the 'B' side of the bracket with a score of 4-2.

Allhusen wasted no time going head to head in the semi-finals in a close match against Sault Ste. Marie's Syl Skalecki. Allhusen showed Skalecki who owned the table in a 4-3 win and advanced to the finals and a second chance at Frey. Frey was on fire and only required the first set to be declared the champ after 4-2 triumph over Alhusen.

Bronze Division Singles:

Rouyn-Noranda, Quebec's Serge Laliberté advanced to the finals after a long battle across the "B" side. His journey to the finals began as he defeated Darryl Doherty from North Bay, however, the competition got tough when Cal Conway from Sault Ste. Marie

pushed Laliberté to the “B” side where he turned on the heat and defeated Willis Derry from Sault Ste. Marie, Jason Bliss from North Bay and Eric Theriault from Sudbury which advanced him to the finals bracket.

It was in the finals that Serge Laliberté squared off against Perry Reid from North Bay, defeating him in the first set and forcing him to play a second set to claim the title. It was here that Laliberté emerged with the Bronze Championship title.

Silver Division Singles:

In the strongest division, it was Rouyn-Noranda, Quebec’s Michel Desroches who secured the championship title by defeating Sudbury’s Jean Morissette in two sets.

To get to the finals, Deroches worked his way across the winner’s side undefeated as he showcased his skills against in a tight 5-4 match against Frank Servant from Sudbury. Morissette did not know what hit him when Deroches sent him packing to the ‘B’ side with a 5-1 win. Desroches then carried on to defeat Sudbury’s Steve Butkevich (5-2) and Serge Ruel (5-1).

Ruel went head to head with Morissette to see who would battle Deroches for the top gun title. In a hard fought battle, Morissette showed Ruel who was boss and emerged the winner (5-2), providing him with another shot at Deroches in the finals.

In the finals, Morissette showed Deroches what he was made of in a 5-0 annihilation to force a sudden death match. Deroches was unscathed by this loss and claimed the championship title defeating Morissette in a tight 5-3 match.

Senior Division Singles:

These seasoned players are a force to be reckoned with. Shawn Gustafson from North Bay, Ontario proved to be the top dog, claiming the title defeating North Bay, Ontario’s John Murphy.

On his journey to the top, Gustafson worked his way through the winners side undefeated, pushing many skilled players such as Sudbury’s Jim Hendry (4-0) and fellow North Bay rival, Larry Hubley (4-3), to the loser side. Gustafson then battled it out with Murphy, sending him to the ‘B’ side with a 4-2 win to face North Bay’s Jim Couchie. In a tough match, Couchie and Murphy went head to head, but in the end, it was Murphy who proved he was finals material as he beat Couchie 4-2.

Gustafson did not waste any time getting to business as he defeated Murphy 4-0 thus deserving him the appellation “Senior Singles Champion”.