



Thunder Bay Queens Showcase Weekend

Presented by Winning Streak Charters

Dec. 11–13; Fort William First Nation Arena: Game Updates

Friday's games (Dec. 11)

Game No. 1: Bantam A – Air Bravo Queens 2 Nipigon Selects 0

Recap – The Thunder Bay Air Bravo Queens began the organization's annual Showcase Weekend on the right note defeating the Nipigon Selects 2-0 in a closely contested game at Fort William First Nation Arena. Suzanne Tempelman notched the game-winner for the Queens six minutes into the game while Amanda Cain added some insurance with a minute and half to go in the contest.

Game No. 2: Midget AA – Sportop Queens 5 APHA Rangers 0

Recap – The second game of the Showcase Weekend resulted in another shutout for the Queens as the Sportop midget AA side blanked the Assiniboine Park Rangers from Winnipeg by a score of 5-0. Thunder Bay would take control early on with three goals just four minutes apart by Kaitlyn Tougas, Micheal Cava and Haleigh Croves, who connected on a power play tally. Brittany Zuback would get into the act for the local side with the lone marker of the second period while Tougas converted on the power play for second of the game in the final frame concluded the scoring. Cava would also chip in with a pair of assists as would Michaela Coulter.

Game No. 3: Bantam A – Taranis Contracting Peewee Queens 5 Thunder Bay Fury 2

Recap – A three-goal third period and a hat-trick by Samantha Isbell was the difference as the Taranis Contracting peewee Queens got by the Fury 5-2. Summer Spence gave the Fury the early lead only to see Allison Pages and Isbell put the Queens up a goal after the opening period. Jessica Korchak leveled the score for the Fury in the middle frame only to see Danielle Veneruzzo pot the eventual game-winner early in the final stanza for the Queens. Isbell would add some insurance for the peewees tallying twice to complete her three-goal performance. Megan Joseph-Seeley was the winning goaltender out lasting Rebecca Williams in the Fury net.

Game No. 4: Midget A – Winning Streak Charters Bantam AA Queens 7 Marathon Wolverines 1

Recap – Brownwyn Bolduc tallied twice and Sydney Isbell recorded the win helping the Winning Streak bantam AA Queens win their opener at the midget A division of the Queens Showcase. Thunder Bay jumped out to big first period lead scoring five times, including Bolduc's pair, while Michelle Carlson, Kaley Tienhaara and Drue Ahola had the others. Stephanie St. Amand had an early second period marker for the Wolverines to get them on the board, but the Queens put two more past Claudia Pelletier in the Marathon net on efforts by Marielle Orr and Cassandra Curtis to round out the scoring.

Game No. 5: Midget AA – Pembina Trail Twins 2 Sault Ste. Marie Wildcats 1

Recap – In the first all out of town march-up at the Queens Showcase Weekend we saw Pembina Trail Twins rally from a one-goal deficit entering the final frame to edge Sault Ste. Marie. Only one puck found the back of the net during the first two periods of action and that came off the stick of the Wildcats' Jessica Grisdale during an early power play. Pembina would knot the score 32 seconds into the third as Alex Hebert struck during a Twins' man advantage opportunity. Jessica Kaminsky fired the winner for the team from Manitoba with 9:45 to go. Brinn Gillrie out dueled Amanda Alexander in the Sault Ste. Marie net to register the victory for Pembina.

Game No. 6: Bantam A – Fort Frances 3 Air Bravo Queens 2

Recap – Shelby Rea's goal with just over a minute to play lifted Fort Frances to a narrow 3-2 triumph over the Air Bravo bantam A Queens. Emily Armstrong, her team's game MVP winner, gave Thunder Bay an early lead with the only marker of the opening stanza while Shilo Beck tied it for the Fort marking the middle frame's only tally. The final period saw Beck, who garnered match MVP laurels for her side, give Fort Frances their first lead with eight minutes remaining, but Serena Daniels tied it a few minutes later setting the stage for Rea's late-game heroics. Calie Clendenning was the winning goaltender while Jayde Turcotte suffered the setback.

Game No. 7: Midget AA – Minnesota Crunch 2 Sportop Queens 0

Recap – The Minnesota Crunch rode the solid shutout netminding of Brianna Schulz to blank the home town Sportop Queens 2-0.

Carly Kuhbander beat Thunder Bay starter Amanda Makela at 3:58 of the first period with the only goal the Crunch would need.

Both goaltenders would shut the door the rest of the way keeping the respective offences at bay before Erin Shamley iced it with an empty-netter in the game's final minute.

With the victory Minnesota starts off 1-0 at the three-day event while the Queens dip to 1-1.

Schulz would earn game star honours for her club while Riley Cronk was recognized for the Queens.

Game No. 8: Bantam A – Dryden 8 Thunder Bay Fury 1

Recap – Dryden jumped out to a 3-0 first period lead and never looked back cruising to victory over the Fury. Ashley Kropelin scored four times and set up another earning her side's game MVP honour to pace Dryden. They got other markers from Marina Wintle, Syd Bruetsch, Abby Bartlett and Amy Doudiet while Heather Madussi was the winning goaltender.

Jessica Korchak had the lone goal for the Fury who saw Cassandra Neri named their club's player of the game award recipient.

Day 1 recap – A total of eight games were played on opening day with all but two of the 15 participating teams seeing action on day one.

The final pair of competing clubs, the Ontario Power Generation Queens and the Marquette Iron Rangers, are both in the midget A division and will see their first taste of game action as part of 13 match-ups that will be contested Saturday on day two of the Queens Showcase Weekend.

Action gets underway at 9 a.m. back at Fort William First Nation Arena in the bantam A division when Dryden takes on the Taranis Contracting peewee Queens, who are playing up a level this weekend.

Saturday's games (Dec. 12)

Game No. 9: Bantam A – Taranis Contracting Queens 2 Dryden 2

Recap – The first tie of the Queens Showcase saw the peewee Queens and Dryden battle to a 2-2 draw. Sam Kosik gave Dryden the early lead with a marker in the opening frame, which they would hold until the third period when Sara Smith tied things up for Thunder Bay.

Kristin Martin gave the Queens a brief lead with 10:29 to go only to see Syd Bruetsch knot the score a few minutes later.

Brooke Basaraba of Thunder Bay and Heather Madussi of Dryden were the respective goaltenders.

Game No. 10: Midget AA – Pembina Trail Twins 0 APHA Rangers 0

Recap – The two Manitoba-based teams battled to a hard-fought 0-0 tie with neither team managing to put one past the opposing netminder.

Game No. 11: Midget AA – Sportop Queens 4 Sault Ste. Marie Wildcats 0

Recap – Michela Cava and Kaitlyn Tougas had three points apiece to help lead the Sportop Queens past the Wildcats.

Cava tallied twice and set-up another while Tougas scored a goal and dished out two helpers.

Jana Henry notched the other marker for Thunder Bay.

Game No. 12: Bantam A – Nipigon 4 Fort Frances 1

Recap – Sam Strassburger had two goals to help lift Nipigon past Fort Frances 4-1.

Mayson Foulds and Jamie Sabourin also notched markers for Nipigon while Taylor Welbourne picked up the win in net.

Shilo Beck had the lone tally for the Fort and Calie Clendenning allowed only three goals in a losing cause while the fourth was scored into an empty net late in the game.

Game No. 13: Midget A – Winning Streak Queens 3 Marquette Iron Rangers 0

Recap – Sydney Horst secured the shutout to help the bantam AA Queens improve to 2-0 in midget A division play with the victory over the Iron Rangers.

Brownwyn Bolduc, Farrah Nicholl and Azia Vass scored the goals for Thunder Bay while Bolduc, Dru Ahola and Jessica Gazzola picked up assists.

Carley Maanika was in net for Marquette in their first game of the weekend.

Game No. 14: Midget A – OPG Queens 9 Marathon North Shore Wolverines 0

Recap – It was all Thunder Bay in this one as Danna Fullum and Megan Stajkowski led the way with two goals apiece while Karly Vis had a big game of her own registering four assists. Bree Hollinsworth, Allyssa Westerback, Gabrielle Erickson, Jessie Kitt and Hayley Kitt supplied singles tallies.

Game No. 15: Midget AA – Minnesota Crunch 4 APHA Rangers 2

Recap – Rachel Hennessy had a goal and two assists helping lead the Crunch to victory. She opened the scoring four minutes into the contest only to see Aly Robinson pot the game's next two markers for the Rangers to give them the lead.

Alex Hedlund would tie it with 10:58 left before Minnesota game MVP Hennessy fired the game-winner with just 51 seconds remaining. Carly Kuhbander would add some insurance in the contest's waning moments. Rangers' netminder Julie Le Blanc was chosen her club's game star.

Game No. 16: Bantam A – Air Bravo Queens 3 Dryden 1

Recap – Thunder Bay got goals from Serena Daniels, Sabrina Aiello, and Taylor Basaraba as they improved their record to 2-1.

Liv Carter had the lone Dryden marker while netminder Heather Madussi was chosen as he club's game star winner. Basaraba picked up the honour for the Queens.

Game No. 17: Bantam A – Fort Frances 4 Taranis Contracting Queens 4

Recap – Eight different goal scorers combined to give their respective sides the tie in this one.

Fort Frances got power play markers from Hailey Clendenning, Shelby Rea and Jessica Robinson while Sarah Milling scored at even strength.

Whitney Scott, Sara Smith, Samantha Isbell and Danielle Veneruzzo all tallied for Thunder Bay.

Game No. 18: Midget AA – Sportop Queens 5 Pembina Trail Twins 2

Recap – Thunder Bay improved to 3-1 in round robin play with the three-goal victory over Pembina.

Courtney Tougas was the offensive sparkplug for the Queens striking twice and doling out a pair of assists.

Jana Henry, Kaitlyn Tougas and Kaitlyn Quarrell also found the back of the net for the Sportop AA midgets.

Cass Falk and Kristine Goldhawk were the goal scorers for the Twins.

Game No. 19: Bantam A – Nipigon 5 Thunder Bay Fury 3

Recap – It was all Sam Strassburger in this one as the Nipigon forward scored four times and set-up the other helping her side get past the Fury 5-3.

Jamie Sabourin notched the other marker while Tayler Welbourne was the winning goaltender.

Jessica Korchak tallied twice for the Fury and Whitney Sandberg added a single.

Emma Lockyer suffered the loss in net.

Game No. 20: Midget A – OPG Queens 2 Marquette Iron Rangers 1

Recap – Lizzi Vanderwey's midway through the third period proved to be the winner as the OPG Queens edged Marquette 2-1.

Bree Hollinsworth had the other Thunder Bay marker while Megan Stajkowski chipped in with a pair of assists.

Sierra Rusinek provided the long marker for the Iron Rangers.

Carlie picked up the win between the pipes for the Queens while Carley Maanika suffered the close loss.

Game No. 21: Midget AA – Minnesota Crunch 2 Sault Ste. Marie Wildcats 2

Recap – The final game of the day saw the Crunch and Wildcats play to a hard-fought 2-2 draw.

The Crunch jumped out to a 2-0 lead after one period on goals by Carly Kuhbander and Mandy Stetson getting pucks past Sault Ste. Marie goalkeeper Amanda Alexander.

The Cats bounced back in the middle frame with two markers of their own by Renae Vanbuskirk and Jasmine Roy.

Neither team could provide anymore more offence thanks to Alexander in the Sault net and Crunch netminder Brianna Schulz.

The tie also guarantees the Thunder Bay Sportop Queens a berth in Sunday's final in the AA midget division.

Minnesota can join them in the title game with a win or a tie Sunday morning as they take on the Pembina Trail

Twins, who too can earn a shot at the crown with a victory over the Crunch Sunday morning at 9 a.m.



Sunday's games (Dec. 13)

Game No. 22: Midget AA – Minnesota Crunch 6 Pembina Trail Twins 2

Recap – The Crunch punched their ticket to Sunday afternoon's final vs. the Sportop Queens with a convincing victory over Pembina.

Rachel Hennessy led the way offensively for Minnesota notching a hat-trick while Mandy Stetson, Alie Dorn and Alex Hedlund supplied singles. Steph Boemer picked up the win in net for the Crunch and Dorn was named her club's game MVP award recipient.

Sarah Alcock had both goals for the Twins and earned the game star award for her side.

Sam Goodbrandson suffered the loss in goal for Pembina.

Game No. 23: Midget AA – APHA Rangers 4 Sault Ste. Marie Wildcats 0

Recap – Megan Litchfield scored three times to lead the Rangers offensively and Amanda Pushka registered the shutout.

APHA player-of-the-game Halie Friesen notched the other goal for her side.

Amanda Alexander started and suffered the loss for the Wildcats while Jamie Orlando was recognized by being chosen as game MVP for Sault Ste. Marie.

Game No. 24: Midget A – OPG Queens 1 Marquette Iron Rangers 1

Recap – A closely contested battle saw Thunder Bay and their opponents from Michigan play to a draw.

Carly Ross scored for the Queens on an assist by Carly Vis.

Carlie Pennock started in goal for the local side and was rewarded with her performance with game star laurels.

Marlowe Pentecost had the lone Iron Rangers tally and earned game MVP honours for her side.

Carley Maanika was in net for Marquette.

Game No. 25: Midget A – Winning Streak Queens 7 Marathon North Shore Wolverines 0

Recap – Five period goals by the Queens blew the game open as Sydney Horst posted the shutout.

Jessica Gazzola tallied twice for the Queens while single markers came off the sticks of Cassandra Curtis, Brooke Fogolin, Farrah Nicholl, Kaley Tienhaara and Miranda Mellerup.

Game No. 26: Bantam A Final – Taranis Contracting Peewee Queens 1 Air Bravo Bantam A Queens 0

Recap – A late power play marker by Samantha Isbell was the only goal of the game as the peewee Queens edged their bantam A counterparts by a 1-0 score in the title contest.

Danielle Veneruzzo, who set-up the game-winner for the peewees, picked up the player of the game award for the Taranis Contracting Queens while Emily Armstrong was recognized for the Air Bravo bantams.

Brooke Basaraba recorded the shutout for the peewee side while Jayde Turcotte suffered the tough, late-game defeat in net for the bantam A Queens.

Game No. 27: Bantam A Consolation #1 – Dryden 2 Fort Frances 1

Recap – Two third period tallies helped Dryden rally to win in one of two division consolation games.

Katie Sinclair and Elizabeth Henderson combined to set-up Shilo Beck to put the Fort up a goal.

Abby Bartlett assisted on Chelsea Greenwood's equalizer early in the final frame and she then scored the game-winner with an unassisted effort with five minutes remaining.

Earning game star honours were Calie Clendenning of Fort Frances and Syd Bruetsch of Dryden.

Game No. 28: Midget AA – Final: Sportop Queens 3 Minnesota Crunch 2 (Overtime)

Recap – Michela Cava's goal 44 seconds into overtime was the winner as the Thunder Bay Sportop Queens edged the Minnesota Crunch 3-2 in the championship game of the midget AA division.

Thunder Bay jumped out to a 1-0 first period lead on a goal by Riley Cronk only to see Rachel Hennessy tie it for Minnesota heading into the third.

An unassisted effort by Kaitylyn Quarrell put the Queens back on top, but Hennessy tied it again forcing extra time with her second of the contest.

That set the stage for the winner as the hosts took advantage of a late penalty call against Minnesota as Cava redirected a Kylie Cornell point shot in giving them the title. Megan Leikkari recorded the win in net.

Game No. 29: Bantam A Consolation #2 – Nipigon 5 Thunder Bay Fury 2

Recap – Nipigon's Sam Strassburger continued her torrid play with another four-goal performance helping her side to victory while Dayle Chouinard chipped in with a goal and a helper.

Summer Spence and Cynthia Tuomisto replied for the Fury.