

Table Tennis North

Submitted by Table Tennis North

Table Tennis is growing in the Northwest Territories and with it is healthy living and being active. We have reached 13 communities so far and working on projects in the new fiscal year to reach even more. We have played Table Tennis with over 2,000 children in just the last 18 months. The word is out there, now it is time to manifest it, create leaders in communities and build a base.

We are very fortunate to have so much support from our partners, sponsors and the communities. Without that, we would be nothing. The media also plays a big role and next to being featured many times in local newspapers, we are very lucky to have had an article in UP HERE Magazine and in May 2017 we will be featured in Readers Digest Magazine as well.

Next up more clinics in the communities, preparations for the Arctic Winter Games and putting a Team NWT into place that will be able to compete in National events as well.

Deh Gah School in Fort Providence hosted the 2017 Territorial Table Tennis Championships. A two-day event featuring different age groups, singles and double events from January 27th to 28th, 2017.

“This was an amazing event, a huge success! We are a very young Territorial Sports Organization still and competing with sports like Hockey, Volleyball, Soccer and Basketball in the Northwest Territories. BUT, we are getting out there, one day at a time and one kid at a time. Really, this was

amazing!” says Executive Director Thor Gohl. He continues with a smile on his face “Even when there was no matches to be played or umpired, the kids found a free table to play. That says it all!”

The tournament is definitely growing. From three Regions and four communities, to four regions and seven communities. Participants came from Yellowknife, N'Dilo, Fort Resolution, Hay River, Fort Providence, Fort Simpson and Tulita. We also split the School Championships from the Open Championships, so we have two tournaments a year in two different communities.

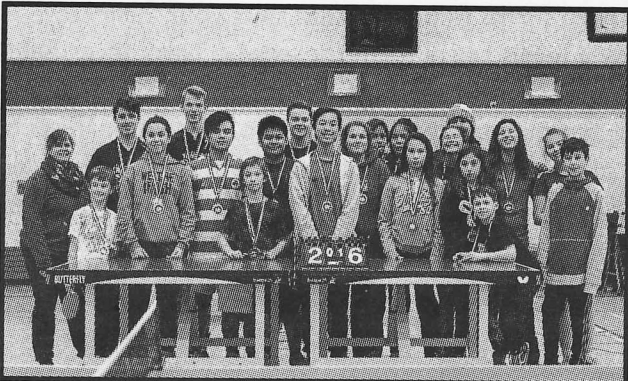
A huge thank you to all our sponsors and partners, without you, this would not be possible. Therefore, a big MAHSI CHO to the Mackenzie Recreation Association, Aerobic Table Tennis, Rowe's Group of Companies, Butterfly North America and Deh Gah School.

All awards received a Mackenzie Recreation Association package with backpack, hat, and t-shirt. They also received t-shirts from Olympic Team Canada and professional Table Tennis rackets from Steve Rowe's Aerobic Table Tennis.

A great weekend of play and competitions!

Here are the results:

- Men's Open: 1. Jeremy Kielstra (N'Dilo) 2. Mike Mathison (Yellowknife) 3. Robert Heath (Fort Resolution)
- Women's Open: 1. Shirley Zhang (Yellowknife) 2. Teresa Vandell (Fort Providence) 3. Slavica Jovic (Yellowknife)
- Open Double: 1. David Sangris/Jeremy Kielstra (both N'Dilo) 2. Riis Schaub (Hay River)/Christopher Canadien (Fort Providence) 3. Zachary Mathison/Shirley Zhang (both Yellowknife)
- Girls Junior (U18): 1. Tamara Jovic (Yellowknife) 2. Aurora Fraser (Yellowknife) 3. Shannon Bonnetrouge (Fort Providence)



- Boys Junior (U18): 1. Brian Liang (Yellowknife) 2. Riis Schaub (Hay River) 3. Zack Horton (Hay River)
- Girls Cadet (U15): 1. Aurora Fraser (Yellowknife) 2. Shannon Bonnetrouge (Fort Providence) 3. Starr MacLean (Fort Resolution)
- Boys Cadet (U15): 1. Zachary Mathison (Yellowknife) 2. David Sangris (N'Dilo) 3. Isaac Bonnetrouge (Fort Providence)
- Hopes Girls (U13): 1. Taneisha Franki (N'Dilo)
- Hopes Boys (U13): 1. Zachary Mathison (Yellowknife) 2. Jude Simon (Fort Resolution)
- Junior Doubles: 1. Jude Simon (Fort Resolution) / Zack Horton (Hay River) 2. Riis Schaub (Hay River) / Chase Yakeleya (Tulita) 3. Adam Nadli (Fort Providence) / Zachary Mathison (Yellowknife)

Zack Horton (Hay River) received the Fair Play award for his amazing attitude. Winning or not winning he was always cheerful. When someone else made an amazing point, he would cheer for them and tell others about it. When there was a free table he would want to play with all different players. Very great to have that kind of energy around.

David Sangris (N'Dilo) received the Most Improved Player award with winning a Silver Medal in the Cadet Boys category and a Gold Medal in the Open Doubles. We have seen much improvement, just during the tournament. He is a dedicated player, coming with the school to Table Tennis clinics and tournaments.

Starr MacLean (Fort Resolution) received the Most Improved Player award and bronze in Cadet Girls category. We were in Fort Resolution recently and we can see fast improvement. When she was not playing in the competition, she was looking for others to play with.



Weledeh Catholic School and Table Tennis North hosted the 2016 NWT School Table Tennis Championships in Yellowknife on Sat. November 26th.

The idea was very simple, play as many matches as possible. Therefore, organizers decided to create 2 big Round Robins, mixed boys and girls, Grades 6 and 7, one group, and Grades 8 to 12, the other. The winners of each grade were decided by the overall ranking of their group.

Undefeated, in not just their own grade, but the entire tournament, were Cole Clinton (6, 7) and Brian Liang (8-12) The youngest athlete, Zakary Mathieson (Grade 2) was undefeated, even among the Grade 6 players. That made him the gold medalist!

Here are the results by Grades.

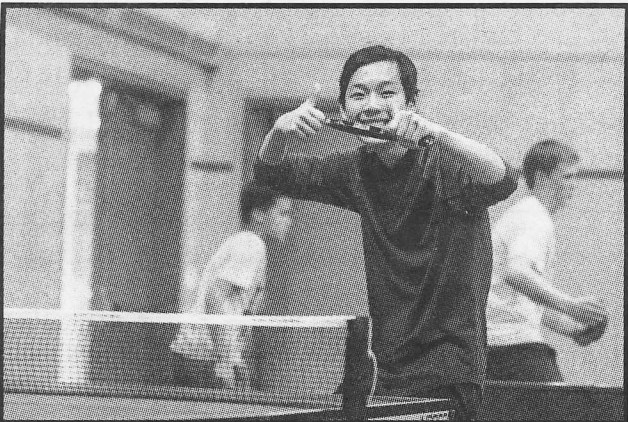
Grade 6 Boys
Zachary Mathison – Weledeh
Lennox Mutford – William Mac Donald
Adam Clinton – Allain St-Cyr

Grade 6 Girls
Natasha Zoe – Weledeh

Grade 7 Boys
Cole Clinton – Allain St-Cyr
Darius Moosenose – Weledeh

Grade 7 Girls
Amy Bestina – Weledeh
Therese Coyen – Weledeh
Jaylin Hamilton – Weledeh

Grade 8 Girls
India Edwards-Lowen – St. Patrick



Grade 9 Boys
Louis Phillippe Cloutier – Allain St-Cyr

Grade 9 Girls
Aurora Fraser – St. Patrick

Grade 10 Boys
Brian Liang – Sir John Franklin
Anthony Wood – Allain St-Cyr

Grade 10 Girls
Tamara Jovic – Sir John Franklin
Grade 12 Boys
Adrian Litao – St. Patrick
Sebastian Toner – St. Patrick
Justin Uson – St. Patrick

Grade 12 Girls
Katrina Deneron – Thomas Simpson

Ava was named the “Fair Play Award Winner” for her positive attitude and encouragement for her team mates and others, as well as, finding the time to umpire matches. Katrina and Ava also received the “Most Improved Players award, showing up early for practice, enthusiastically giving their best.

Most Improved Player Award
Katrina Deneron – Thomas Simpson
Natasha Zoe – Weledeh

Fair Play Award
Ava Erasmus – Thomas Simpson

Jeremy Kielstra, President of Table Tennis North, was excited about the tournament. “Table

Tennis North has had a successful few weeks running programming for youth here over the last couple of weeks. Things culminated with a tournament on Saturday. I think this was a great event for the sport and will encourage involvement in Table Tennis moving forward. Thank you to Thor for organizing and executing the events over the past weeks in Yellowknife. Thanks also to Ulli Nolting for helping out wherever needed.”

“It has been an amazing event, everything worked out perfectly” says Executive Director Thor about the workshops and tournament this past weekend. He adds, “The kids got to play a lot of matches, even the parents used the opportunity to play on the tables that were available. The kids actually improved a lot in just that one day. Table Tennis rocks!”

