

Novice Tigers take home OMHA gold



By Jake Courtepatte

The Tigers are provincial champions, thanks to the Novice AAs.

After going 49-10-5 in the regular season, the Tigers cruised to an OMHA championship in a four game first-to-six-points series with the Guelph Gryphons.

Fresh off three straight wins over the Barrie Jr. Colts to reach the penultimate series, Aurora won three of four against Guelph to take the series.

‘The Guelph team was a really good team, who was the top team in their loop as well,’ said head coach Rob Blakley ‘I think though that the boys gained a lot of character and confidence in their semifinals win against Barrie.’

A split in the first two games with Guelph left both teams needing four points to secure the championship, which Aurora did with a pair of decisive wins last weekend by scores of 5 ? 2 and 4 ? 2.

The team seemed destined for greatness from the start, putting up zero losses through their first eighteen starts of the season.

‘They were a really great bunch of kids to coach,’ said Blakley. ‘Instead of getting complacent, the boys continued to work hard every practice and game, to ensure that they would always be improving and stay as one of the top teams.’

Just as successful off the ice, the Novice AAs implemented a program they called ‘Pucks for Charity’ this season to raise money for those who couldn’t afford minor hockey. Collecting abandoned pucks they would find at different rinks, they raised \$1,200 to be put back into the AMHA.

Congratulations to Lucas Carpino, Mack Stewart, Samuel Zheng, Joseph Rodrigues, Jake Blakley, Jackson Bristow, Nicholas Rozalowsky, Dylan Charnley, Parker Bifulchi, Josh Lounds, Colin Ellsworth, Jayden Ajani, Mitchell Jamieson, Mathias Petropoulos, Justin Thibault, Zach Simone, and Scott Muxlow.