

Minor Bantam AE Tigers take Challenge Cup

By Jake Courtepatte

Add one more piece of hardware to the Aurora Minor Bantam AE Tiger trophy case.

The group of 13-year olds swept through the Northumberland Hawks this weekend to capture their portion of the York Simcoe Lakeshore Challenge Cup, an annual end-of-year tournament between two of the GTA's minor hockey leagues.

A stellar year for the Tigers saw them go 49-8-6 over the regular season, before cruising to victory over the Barrie Colts in the York Simcoe final in late March. The win set up the matchup with the Hawks, who were the victors of the Lakeshore league's Minor Bantam AE division.

Aurora won both games of the series, held in Cobourg, by scores of 4 ? 2 and 4 ? 1.

The Tigers' Minor PeeWee A and Minor PeeWee AE teams also competed in the weekend's championship, falling to their Lakeshore rivals in hard-fought games. The AE squad also faced a team from Northumberland, on the wrong side of 5 ? 2 ad 5 ? 1 scores.

The A squad took on the Uxbridge Stars, falling 2 ? 0 and 5 ? 3.

After dominating the Lakeshore league in the 2015 Challenge, the YSMHL took a back seat in this year's cup. Lakeshore won the series by a score of 14 ? 9, with teams participating in divisions from Tyke all the way up to Midget.

Online registration for the 2016-17 season has already begun. For a schedule of in-office registration dates, visit www.auroraminorhockey.ca.