

Things tighten at the top of the Sunday night men's standings

Heading into Christmas, Mr. Handyman Moose have the knowledge that they are in the lead in the Sunday Night Junior Men's Hockey League standings, but just by one point.

The Inside Out Family Chiropractic Predators are right on their heels, with 19 points.

The Ainsley team gave themselves an early Christmas present Sunday by snapping a five-game losing streak, at the expense of the Predators.

Blades 5, Wild 4

The 7 o'clock slot seems to work in the Ken's Lawn Mower Repairs Blades favour, as they were able to pull off their second straight opening-match win, beating the Pommies Cider Co. Wild 5-4.

Net nabbers for the Blades were Darren Levy from Kevin Wigner and Daryll Simpson, Simpson from Steve Smith, Simpson from Wigner, Smith from Wigner, and Smith from Simpson. Wild whippers were Jay Beech (unassisted), Mike Hamilton from Beech, Craig Shaw (unassisted), and Shaw from Shaun Heron.

Fire 7, Predators 5

In a barn burner, the Ainsley Fire Protection Fire were able to blast out the Predators for the victory.

Fire flamers were Steve Whitten with a hat-trick, Shane Ainsley with a hat-trick and Matthew Geiser with the single. Assists were from the sticks of Mark Andreoli, Ainsley, Eamon Harper and Whitten. Predator pounders were Colin Fyffe from Mark Metcalfe and John Hutchinson, Metcalfe from Mike Andreoli, Andreoli (penalty shot), Fab Iafano from Howard Cantelon, and Metcalfe from Cantelon.

Warriors 5, Penguins 3

In another close one, the We Are Creative Warriors got creative over the George's Arena Sports Penguins and rode their four first-period goals to the finish line.

Goal getters for the Warriors were Gus Kourousis (unassisted), Brent Spagnol from Dave Gardilcic, Kevin Norris from Bogdan Rapan and Andrew Kirk, Spagnol from Gardilcic and Rapan, and Kourousis from Norris and Dave Chambers. Penguins bin bulgers were Brandon Scott (unassisted), Mike Tarasco from Matt Dowdle and Dave Matheson, and Jesse Thompson from Tarasco.

Wings 4, Moose 3

To round out the pre-Christmas games, the St. Louis Bar and Grill Red Wings dug deep and were able to squeak one out past the Moose.

Snipers for the Wings were Daniel Hamlett from Chris Quayle, Victor Ranieri from Scott McCrimmon, Mike Blackwood from Hamlett and Shane DeLaronde, and Mike DeFrancesco from Bob McHardy and McCrimmon. Moose mesh mashers were Carlo Landolfi from Marc de Abaitua and Graham Bryson, Brad Sztorc from Brendan Pace and Steve Brown, and Greg Keenan from Landolfi and Sztorc.

Dec. 13

The previous Sunday saw a couple of upsets, with things going pretty much according to the script.

Blades 4, Fire 2

In a tight battle, the Blades only needed the first frame to put out the Ainsley Fire squad, as all of the Blades' markers came that period. Smothering the Fire were Daryll Simpson with a pair, and Levy and Darren Jones with singles. Help came from the stick of Steve Smith. Fire markers were put on the board by David DiMeo and Sandro Mignosa, with the help of Mark Andreoli, Geiser and Mignosa.

Penguins 6, Wings 4

The Penguins were able to clip the Wings this night and took the win.

Penguin ice sliders were Scott from Ron Toffan and Dowdle, Scott from Dowdle and Tarasco, Dowdle from Toffin, Toffin from Matheson, Matheson from Toffin, and Tarasco from Scott and Cory Schittenhelm. Wings flappers were McHardy (unassisted), Quayle from Brad Wigner and McHardy, DeLaronde (unassisted), and Quayle from Mike D.

Moose 5, Warriors 3

The Moose took to the ice against the We Are Creative Warriors and were able to pull out the win in a close-fought game.

Moose man handlers were Cam Coulter (unassisted), Sztorc from Coulter and Pace, Bryson from de Abaitua, Coulter from Sztorc, and Shane Marshall (unassisted). Warriors weapons were Jody Spagnol from Giancarlo Tarsitano and Brandon Jones, Nick Curro (unassisted), and Curro from Gardilcic and Rapan.

Predators 5, Wild 0

Scott Irvine stood tall and got the goose-egg for the Predators over the Wild.

Predators prowlers were Mike Andreoli from Ryan Smith, Andreoli from Iafano and Mike Arnold, John Hutchinson from Steve Hutchins, Andreoli (unassisted), and Hutchins (unassisted).