

Three-game sweep ? Bantam Hawks win OMHA title over Newmarket



The Caledon Hawks bantam AE team captured the Ontario Minor Hockey Association Bantam AE II division championship with a three-game sweep over Newmarket in the final series. Team members include Gregory Placenza, Jake Bird, Rocco Marinaccio, Matthew Cozzi, Colin Sinclair, Morgan Pace, Nicholas McKibbin, Thomas Stellar, John Paul Lattavo, Christopher Abad, Spencer Beam, Gavin Stone, Christopher Bernardi, Marco Taglieri, Kyle Skinkle, Mark Guaragna and Jonathan Ferguson, with Coaches Tim Sinclair, Don Cardwell, Steve Clune, Tim Beam and Scott McCrimmon, Trainer Joe Pace and Manager Maryann Steller. Photo submitted

By Brian Lockhart

The Caledon Hawks bantam AE team has clinched the Ontario Minor Hockey Association Bantam AE II title.

This came after a final series that saw the Hawks bring out the broom for a three-game sweep of Newmarket.

The final game was played March 23 in Newmarket, and ended with 3-1 win for the Hawks and the right to hoist the OMHA cup.

"We have 17 kids on the team," said Hawks' coach Tim Sinclair. "We ended up in the middle of the pack in the regular season, but then swept the last series in three games straight."

After ending the regular season, the bantam squad dropped down and entered the playoffs against teams from around Ontario.

"We went to a round-robin style playoffs and were up against teams from Owen Sound, Dundas and Woolwich," Sinclair said.

Coming out on top, the squad advanced to the next round and found themselves up against Kent/Chatham in the quarter-final.

A successful outcome meant they could move on to the semifinals.

This time they met up with a team from Oakville and again found themselves on the winning side of the series and earned the right to advance to the finals against Newmarket.

"The final was a best-of-five, first six points wins," Sinclair explained.

The squad held tough for the series and captured the six points (two for each win) and the three games to come out on top.

Along with Sinclair on the bench were Coaches Don Cardwell, Steve Clune, Tim Beam and Scott McCrimmon, Trainer Joe Pace and Team Manager Maryann Steller.

Sinclair stated that the coaches are very happy with the season's results and the entire coaching staff congratulates the players for the win. He said it was based on the players' "dedication and hard work" for the entire season.