From the President

Dear EBA parents, players, and community volunteers:

To amend the famous quote from Field of Dreams, “If we build it, they will come” – and they are coming to the EBA as never before! With a house league operating at almost full capacity and the largest number of Junior Hoops participants ever, the EBA also managed to field 30 rep teams that spanned every age group for both boys and girls during the 2009-10 season. Two such teams climbed almost to the very top of the provincial mountaintop. On the girl’s side, Pat Farrell’s Major Midgets finished 4th in the province, losing to the eventual D1 champions by 3 points in the semifinals. Jordan Picken’s U-19 boys finished 2nd in the province in the top division – our highest ranking ever! Perhaps not surprisingly, both teams began their quests last summer and, indeed, trained throughout the summer.

That’s where the “building” has been most dramatic. As outlined in the current newsletter, we have expanded our summer programming to offer several weeks of camps for boys and girls of all different ages and ability levels. In addition, we are running elite development training and AAU teams for players entering Grades 9-12. If you add in our FREEBALL program, as well as specific teams who have requested gym time, then we have far more youth playing basketball in EBA summer programs than we’ve ever had! One simple truth guides our actions through all of this growth and development: if we invest in building the best youth basketball organization we can, we will be helping to build a healthier Etobicoke and society for the long term. So, whether you’re a player or former player, a parent, or community volunteer, “Start Your Game” with the EBA! And look out for the strongest, most determined EBA teams we have ever fielded in 2010-11!!

Joe Michalski

Register Today!

Plans are well underway for the 2010/2011 EBA House League Season! Watch your mail later this month for more details regarding House League evaluation dates, Walk-in Registration and more.

Registrations are currently being accepted now, so don’t wait until the Fall! Register today to ensure your spot for next season!!

www.etobicokebasketball.com
At the conclusion of this year’s Juvenile House League season, two All Star squads were announced at the Banquet by the division’s Convenor, Thomas Smith. Each of the division’s 10 Head Coaches submitted 3 nominations from their respective teams, comprising a pool of 30 players. From this pool, the two respective All Star head Coaches, Errol Broderick and Jordan Paolucci, held a draft with the Convenor and their respective assistant coaches. Two teams of 12 players were selected, with players from all 10 House League teams being represented on both squads.

The tournament format was also established, whereby the EBA Boys Juvenile All Star Classic would be played as a “best of two” series, with the winner being determined based on winning both games, or, in the event of a split decision, based on plus/minus points scored and allowed. The winning team would receive the new Commissioner’s Trophy, and also win the privilege to play exhibition games against the EBA Rep Boys Juvenile #2 team (coached by Mike Smith), the EBA Rep Boys Juvenile #3 team (coached by Al White), and a special home-and-home series against the Mississauga Monarchs House League All Star team.

The teams practiced for two weeks before meeting on March 27th for Game #1 @ Bishop Allen. Team Broderick took a tightly-contested first game, 63-53, led by stellar three point shooting performances from shooting guard Sreten Kalinovic and small forward Matt Bukovec, as well as a double-double from team captain Jamal Broderick.

The second and final game took place on April 3rd @ Richview, where Team Paolucci won a nail-biter, 60-44, led by the solid interior play of center Phil Cverko, the tenacious defence of captain Damnjan Zlatic, and four game-turning deep three pointers from shooting guard Adam Couse. With the 16 point win, Team Paolucci also erased Team Broderick’s 10 point +/- lead to take the All Star Classic by a 6 point difference.

After the game, all the players participated in several skills challenges, and awards were presented for the series and for each skill challenge. Team Paolucci was presented the Thomas Smith Commissioner’s Trophy for taking the series, and all players on both teams received customized Shooting Shirts (c/o Perry Kangas), Flat-Brim Hats (c/o Michelle Ciufo), as well as EBA Drawstring bags.

Several players received individual awards for skills competitions: Matt Bukovec (Layups in a Minute), Mihajlo Boljanovic (Free Throws), Gary Dunlop (Mad Skillz), and Sreten Kalinovic (Three Pointers). In addition, several players also received awards for their play in the series. From Team Broderick: Sreten Kalinovic (Sportsmanship), Justin Ciufo (Defensive MVP), and Jamal Broderick (Team MVP). From Team Paolucci: Victor Borkovsky (Sportsmanship), Phil Cverko (Defensive MVP), and Petar Berberovic (Team MVP). Gary Dunlop (Team Broderick) took home the Series MVP award.

After the series had concluded, Team Paolucci continued to practice for their upcoming exhibition games and fared very well in the four games, losing a tight game 45-48 against the Rep BJUV #3 team, winning an exciting game against the Rep BJUV #2 team 51-41, and sweeping the series against the Monarch All Stars by winning both games 73-43 and 72-59.

Congratulations to all our All Stars and coaches, and a big thank you to Convenor Thomas Smith, Head Referee Floyd Noel and his officials, and gym coordinator Joe DaSilva.
Congratulations to Linda Bennett and our Girls Bantam Team … Ontario Provincial Championship Division 5 GOLD MEDAL WINNERS!!

After a tough season our Boys Juvenile 3 Team put it all together and WON SILVER in Division 4 at the Ontario Provincial Championships – congrats to the entire team!

The 2009-2010 Etobicoke Storm and Etobicoke Thunder Rep teams have had an amazing season! Thanks to all the coaches, assistant coaches, managers, players, families and fans for a great year. Here are just a few highlights …

The Midget Girls Team capped a busy season with a Division 5 SILVER MEDAL at the OBAs in Sudbury. Along the way they won four games in very convincing fashion before an exhausting final. The girls also won medals at earlier tournaments in Hamilton and St. Catherines. The team made great progress in developing personal and team skills and look for even better things next year.

At this year’s Provincial Championships, our Boys Junior #2 Team came back from a 40-14 second quarter deficit to defeat Lakeshore and advance to the medal round on Sunday. The team almost repeated the performance on Sunday, where they battled back from 20 points down to lose by 2 points in the semi-finals. What heart!

The 2009-2010 Etobicoke Storm and Etobicoke Thunder Rep teams have had an amazing season! Thanks to all the coaches, assistant coaches, managers, players, families and fans for a great year. Here are just a few highlights …
Imagine standing at the free-throw line with 3.5 seconds remaining in your last pool game at the OBA tournament? Your team trails 49 – 48 in a game that you must win in order to have any hope of advancing to the semi-finals. That’s the position that Storm guard, Ashley Chapman, found herself in. An 80% free-throw shooter over the course of the season, Ashley calmly stepped up and made the first one. Game tied! Then, she heard her coach yelling to her from the sidelines; “Ashley, I need you to miss this free-throw”. So, the stage was set for the most unusual finish to a basketball game that any of the girls, their coaches and parents had ever seen. Ashley, missed the free-throw to send the game into overtime to give the Storm another chance to win the game by the (minimum) 6 point margin needed to gain top spot in their pool, if they ended up in a 3-way tie for 1st place.

Overtime began with the three of the Storm starters having already fouled out. But thanks to one remarkable play after another from every player on the team, the Storm put itself in a position to win. Finally, with 7.9 seconds remaining and the Storm nursing a 4 point lead, Ashley Chapman once again stepped to the free-throw line and made both shots to give the Storm the margin of victory they needed!

Sunday arrived and the Storm girls defeated Triple Threat to advance to the gold-medal game where they outlasted the KW Lightning 50 – 49 in an exciting, well-played final.

Congratulations to the EBA Juvenile Girls OBA 2010, Division 2 Gold Medalists!
In March, the Boys Major Bantam 1 Team played in the Spartan Classic tournament at 2-time NCAA champion Michigan State University. The team also earned a spot in Division 1 for the first time, where they were 1-2 in the Ontario Cup. The team, which started at the A/AA level four years ago, has improved each year to earn their highest ranking ever (top 10) in the 2009-10 season. Great job to the entire squad!

The Junior Girls Team had a great time being together and playing basketball this season. Unfortunately, several players suffered injuries throughout the season which were difficult for the team to overcome – and translated into more losses than they would have liked. Nevertheless, the core group is very eager to come back and play again next season. Many thanks to team manager Maureen Corradi and Head Coach Rick Sturino.

The Atom Girls Team has just put a wrap on their first competitive season with their final practice on June 19. Under the leadership of Coach Dan Dowdall and Assistant Coach Alan Tonner, the team really came together with a strong and memorable run at the OBAs. The girls came a long way from their first game on December 20th at the Archbishop Romero gym and through their journey built a passion for the game and their teammates. The Storm made it to the OBA playoff round in Orillia, learning the meaning of teamwork, hard work, and then heartbreak as they lost their two final playoff games by one (1) point to finish fourth in their division. The girls are looking forward to the upcoming season and want to thank their coaches for the commitment, hard work, trust and leadership they delivered throughout the season. Additionally a special shout out to the parents for the support, early morning wake ups, cheerleading and delivering them to every game and practice!

Congratulations to our Boys Midget team for their 4th place finish in Division 2 at the OBA’s! The team, which included six players who had never played rep basketball before, started the year with a number of losses but, while educating Coach Dowdall on the differences between the girls’ and boys’ game, pulled together to make it to the semis in the Blessed Sacrament D2 Tournament and win the Scarborough AA Tournament. The improvement over the year was outstanding and they look forward to playing Division 1 next year!
End of Season
Rep Banquets
Celebrating a great season of Basketball!
Check out the info below for all of our great summer camp programs! Some camps are almost full so register today!

June 28-July 9 Shawn Gray EBA Camp
Two Week Camp (closed July 1st)
Location: Martingrove Collegiate
Cost: $275
Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm  (Age - For Kids ages 12-13)

Week 1 (July 5-9)
Girls and Boys Developmental Basketball Camp
Location: Silverthorn Collegiate
Cost: $225
Time: 9:15 am - 4:00 pm  (Age- For Kids entering Grades 3-6 in Sept/10)

Week 2 (July 12-16)
Girls Elite Basketball and Conditioning
Location: Martingrove Collegiate
Cost: $225
Time: 9:15 am - 4:00 pm  (Age - For Kids entering Grades 7-12 in Sept/10)

Week 3 (July 19-23)
Boys Advanced Basketball and Conditioning
Location: Silverthorn Collegiate
Cost: $225
Time: 9:15 am - 4:00 pm
Age: For Kids entering Grades 7-10 in Sept/10

Week 4 - Junior Hoops Camp (July 26-30)
Location: Holy Angels Catholic School
Cost: $200
Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  (Age - Coed camp for kids ages 5-8)

BOLT Camp for Guys (July 19-23)
Location: Don Bosco Catholic High School
Cost: $225
Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm  (Age – For GUYS grades 9-12)

BOLT (Basketball Oriented Long-term Training) is an elite development training camp program. For a full overview, please see the information posted on the EBA website under Summer Camps.
GUYS & GIRLS
JOIN IN ON A LITTLE “PICK-UP” BASKETBALL
THIS SUMMER!

LACE IT UP FOR A LITTLE PICK-UP BALL
Open to all skill levels
(this is a FREE program courtesy of the Etobicoke Basketball Association)

FOR the GUYS
Wednesdays
Don Bosco High School
(2 St. Andrew’s Blvd)
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm – Guys Grades 7 and under
8:00 pm – 10:00 pm – Guys Grades 8 and up

FOR the GIRLS
Thursdays, beginning July 8th
Ourland Community Centre
(18 Ourland Ave., Etobicoke)
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

(supervised each week by EBA Rep Coaches)

www.etobicokebasketball.com
Thanks to our many faithful sponsors

Our 2009-2010 House League Sponsors

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If you would like to be a part of our new EBA Sponsorship Program,
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