

Huskies earn third OFSAA berth in a row



The North Hastings High School Huskies player Erin Kavanagh stick handles against the Red Hawks defender Abby Gordon in the COSSA championship final on Thursday, Oct. 29 at the Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School field in Peterborough. The Huskies lost 1-0, but still advanced to the all-provincials as the second seed from Kawartha and play this week.

DARREN LUM Staff

By Darren Lum

Three in a row.

The Huskies of North Hastings High School, a perennial field hockey powerhouse, are playing in the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations championship for the third consecutive year.

The only difference this year is the Huskies are going as the second seed from the Kawartha High School Field Hockey League instead of being the title holder like the previous two years.

The Huskies lost 1-0 to area rival Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Red Hawks in the Central Ontario Secondary School Athletics championships final on Thursday, Oct. 29 at the Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School sports field in Peterborough.

Head coach Allison Avery couldn't be prouder of her team after a hard fought game when either team could have won.

The main thing for her team, who earned a berth to the final with a 3-0 win over the St. Peter's Catholic Secondary School Saints a little more than an hour before, was they had fun.

"We had a great game against St. Pete's and then we had a great game against them. That's all I can ask. As long as they had fun, really. When they have fun they play well. When they play well good things happen. That's what I tell them," she said.

Taryn Betson scored a pair of goals while teammate Danielle Sunstrum added another.

The future looks bright for the young Bancroft team.

"There were four Grade 10s on the field for that whole game," she said.

This squad will lose only four players to graduation. It's a far cry from the turnover the team felt last year when 10 graduated.

To prepare for the upcoming all-provincials, Avery wants her team to remember the fundamentals like keeping their stick down, move their feet and have fun.

This year the Huskies hosted COSSA in Peterborough and will also host the all-provincials this week from Nov. 5 to 7 at various athletic fields in Peterborough.

See www.ofsaa.on.ca/field-hockey/schedules-results/competition-schedules for schedules and results.