

NobleKing minor midget 2 sweeps their way to the championship

NobleKing's minor midget 2 hockey team brought their season to a close March 21, defeating Alliston TNT 2 by a score of 8-0 in the Simcoe Region Local League Championship final.

NobleKing was perfect in the playoffs, sweeping all three rounds against traditional powerhouse opponents. The Knights beat the Bradford Bulldogs handily in the first round, before moving on to meet the Thornton Tigers in round two.

Thornton falls

In game one of round two, NobleKing and Thornton were tied 1-1 after the first period. NobleKing was trailing 3-2 after the second. Two quick goals early in the third ? the second a shorthanded effort ? gave NobleKing the lead. They added two more to win 6-3. The teams were again tied 1-1 after the first period in game two. NobleKing took a 2-1 lead mid-way through the second with Thornton on the ropes. NobleKing scored twice early in the third and the remainder of the game was wild as the teams battled. The final score was 4-1 for NobleKing.

Game three saw NobleKing leading 1-0 after the first. Two quick goals followed early in the second, with Thornton replying less than a minute later. NobleKing was on their heels this period, but added their fourth goal near the end of the second. NobleKing scored their fifth goal early in the third, and the penalties started to fly. A flurry of power play goals followed, and NobleKing won 9-2, completing their sweep of round two.

Explosive Final

NobleKing met TNT in the championship finals. TNT fought their way through a round robin in the second round against the only two teams to beat NobleKing 2 in the regular season ? Oak Ridges and NobleKing 1.

Game one was a penalty filled affair. NobleKing scored goals early and late in the first, taking a 2-0 lead. NobleKing added another pair in the second, while TNT struggled to get on the board. Two early goals in the third put the game out of reach, and the final score was 7-0 for NobleKing.

Game 2 was much closer. NobleKing scored midway through the first and a late goal in the second put NobleKing up 2-0. TNT bagged an early goal in the third. NobleKing quickly scored to regain their two goal lead, and the two teams battled for the final ten minutes. A penalty shot and several power plays kept the period exciting. The final score was 3-1 for NobleKing.

NobleKing took a 3-0 lead in the first period of game 3. Neither team was able to score in the second, despite many chances for both teams. There was more of the same in the third period, but a goal at the midpoint broke things open for NobleKing. They put four more goals into the TNT net over the next four minutes. The final score was 8-0, and NobleKing claimed the Simcoe Region Championship title.

The playoffs followed an excellent regular season. The Knights finished with a 24-2-0 record and 181 goals. The penalty-killing and power-play were effective, producing 15 shorthanded and 22 power-play goals.

Goaltender Carmen Ladisa was 18-1-0 in the regular season, with eight shutouts and a blistering GAA?of 1.0. Ladisa maintained this GAA throughout the playoffs, and added 4 shutouts. Backup Corson Panneton was 6-1-0 with a very respectable 2.28 GAA.

Although everyone manned the blue line at one point or another, Marcus Beretta was regularly joined on defence by Chris Frenette, Mitch Harknett, Patrick Warner and Parker Harris. Warner continued his ?shock and awe? campaign of physical play this season. Beretta was his usual steady self at the point, and was the anchor when his partner rushed. Frenette could jumpstart the offence and be back to defend, and he was tireless.

Harknett's shifty ways allowed him to sift through a crowd while handling the puck and his patience was the downfall of many opposing goaltenders. Harris was solid defensively and offensively, and was often the first backchecker when he was playing wing. Forwards Jack Mull and Bryce Cameron were relentless forecheckers, and forced turnovers with their pressure. Both were strong on the penalty kill, and did hard time in the blue paint. Jacques Berman's long reach was his trademark and he had deceptive speed. Sean Marchand was always a presence in front of the opposing net, and was tough to beat in the corners.

Nick Ladisa was lightning fast on the rush and the forecheck. He was a playmaker and brought an edge with his game. Lucas Stanghieri ? who had a forty goal regular season - and Lucas Brockie were deadly, and led the team in scoring. Captain Chris Frenette followed close behind and was a strong leader throughout NobleKing's outstanding season.

The team would also like to thank the coaching staff for their hard work ? head coach Mike Frenette, assistant coach Mike Ladisa,

trainer Franco Stanghieri, manager Maddalena Frenette, bench manager Rob Brockie, and assistant trainer Rob Marchand.