



Prelude

The spring lacrosse season launches tomorrow morning. At 9.00 a.m. to be exact. The weather forecast is such that the kick off to the field season in Ontario, the Jammer Classic, will make the weekend absolutely perfect. Same place, same exciting program, same special event. "Same" might sound mundane, but you can't tell that to those that will be there.

The Jammer Classic celebrates the life of Jamieson (Jammer) Kuhlmann, a talented Toronto Beaches and Hill Academy midget lacrosse player who lost his life in May 2008 playing the sport he loved. Each year, family and friends of the Toronto Beaches Lacrosse Club hold the Tournament in his honor.

All past and current tournament details can be found at www.thejammerclassic.com

Over 30 corporate sponsors and organizations have volunteered money and time to make the Jammer Classic a success. All proceeds from the event will be donated to the Children's Wish Foundation. In 2011 the tournament raised \$17,500 for the Foundation, bringing our three year total donation to over \$45,000. The incredible support of sponsors, suppliers, volunteers, and especially the many hundreds of players, have all committed to make this year's event another great one! Without you, it could not be happening.

A special thanks to our 3 Platinum Sponsors that have been with us since Jammer #1. Two of them, Munich Re and MSA Research, neither with any pecuniary interest in their investment other than to support a great cause and to make special things happen for so many youth. Kudos to them both. And then there is that 3rd one. The referees. A group that does have a financial interest. Or do they? They work hard, they get paid. And then most of it comes back in brown envelopes, dark alley kind of thing. Then onwards to the Children's Wish Foundation. More about that on Saturday.

The weekend promises to be a great time for field lacrosse players, parents and fans. In addition to the best lacrosse players from across southern Ontario playing in the club tournament all weekend, on Friday five high school boys teams and four U-15 & U-19 girls teams take to the turf to demonstrate their skills. The high school boys will be the ones to watch. It may come down to St Michael's and Msgr. Paul Dwyer as like last year. But then again, St. Andrews is back. And let's not discount those mavericks from Malvern nor the guys from Upper Canada College. Friday will be a good day. In many ways.

Then we move to seeing eight of Ontario's top U-17 lacrosse teams play for the tournament championship on Saturday and Sunday. In addition on Saturday four U-13 and four U-11 teams also play in a two game mini tournament.

On Sunday the U-15 boys get in on the action. Women's lacrosse will be show-cased with the younger girls getting a chance to show their skills as four U-11 and four U-13 teams playing. Additionally, Sunday will see the powerhouse Hill Academy play a Red and White game.

All in all, a special weekend ahead. Be there if you can.

The Jammer Classic Committee

Day One: Varsity Day and the Girls U-19 and U-15 Friendly's

Another great start to a great event. The weather? No need to comment. It was perfect. Almost like summer at that special place by the lake.

A tremendous day of lacrosse. Competition was in full swing throughout the day. Some scores at the extremes, some games coming down to the last shot. Just the way it should be.

You can see great pics the event which will be posted each evening. The incredibly, wonderful and dedicated Michelle Quance will be snapping pics throughout the Jammer. Check out all the great stuff she does at <http://michellequancephotography.instaproofs.com/>

The Boys Varsity Day, as always, was special. The return this year of St. Andrews College, along with perennial contenders Malvern C.I. and Upper Canada College, made for some exciting and competitive lacrosse. And then déjà vu set in, well, almost. Again we saw St. Michael's College facing off against Msgr. Paul Dwyer for the Jammer Banner. Those Catholic schools went at it again. Both with special dispensations to play on Good Friday. If last year's final went down to

the wire, this one went over it. A one goal game all the way, this time going into overtime. Coach Alex and his gang were determined to reclaim the banner from 2010 and they indeed did, with St. Michael's scoring in overtime to edge out Msgr. Paul Dwyer 6 – 5. What a game!

Then there was the Girls U-19 and U-15 Friendly's. Magic on the field. A different game than the Boys, but just as exciting. Again, the Jammer Classic focused on the development of girls' lacrosse in Toronto. What was witnessed was a fine display of talent, enthusiasm, and love of the game. Once again, a special thanks to Jim Calder for making it happen. And a special thanks to Mimico, Oakville and Toronto for being a part of it.

Additionally, congratulations to today's individual award winners, each by unanimous selection by the referees. As throughout the Jammer, each will receive great awards compliments of Brodie Merrill and Reebok and ILA Sports.

- Boys Varsity M.V.P.: #13 Justin DeMarci, St. Michael's College,
- Boys Varsity Sportsmanship Award: #41 Josh Delves, Msgr. Paul Dwyer Catholic H.S.

Catch all of the scores on our website.

Tomorrow sees the start of the soul of the tournament, the U-17's. This will be one to see. Many of Ontario's best will be battling it out until Sunday. Additionally, and very worthy of a peak, will be the U-13 "Little Jammer" as well as the U-11 Friendly. A day of great lacrosse for sure.

The forecast is calling for 14 and sunny, a repeat of today. Ignore the mention of a little rain of Sunday. We have someone working on it to postpone the rain until Monday.

Good lacrosse!

For Further Information visit www.thejammerclassic.com

Regards,

The Jammer Classic Committee

Day Two (Saturday): The start of the minor competition.

Weather was even more pleasant. Players were actually were looking to take dips in the lake after games. All that donated Gatorade was consumed with endless thirst. Tomorrow calls for some isolated showers in the afternoon. We have someone looking after things here and they will be "isolated" elsewhere.

The U-17 round robin kicked off the day with 8 teams competing for the Jammer Championship. For reasons unknown, last year's Champs, Orangeville, took a breather from the Jammer this year. Perhaps they wanted to duck what appears to be this year's powerhouse, Whitby. Watch out for these guys, based on their play today, they want the trophy back they earned 2 years ago.

The U-11 Friendly and U-13 Little Jammer also ran today with many players in this group experiencing the magic of The Jammer for their first time. They'll have the chance to be back for at least another 5.

The U-11's completed their Friendly, with Dente Mancini of Oakville taking away the M.V.P. award. Well deserved.

The U-13's battled it out for their Little Jammer Championship with the Peterborough Lakers taking home the trophy. And then there was Luke McIntyre of the Lakers who took away the U-15 MVP Award.

Check out all of today's results at www.thejammerclassic.com

This year, the welcome gifts for all participants were under glove gloves with that special logo. And yes again, a complimentary BBQ. Early morning Peameal on a Bun (Quality Meats and COBS Breads makes the best!!) and "Champs" sausages and burgers (yes, even veggies were available) satisfied everyone's hunger. All cooked over a honking BBQ donated by Gervais Rentals.

Again, we had the Children's Wish Foundation of Canada present at the noon time Opening Ceremony along with Oliver, the beneficiary of the 2011 Jammer Classic donation to the Children's Wish, and his family. Very special indeed.

Also present today was Toronto City Councilor Paula Fletcher. A special person who has been a part of everything to do with this event from day one. Paula was a key driver in the building of the fields these games are played on, the naming of one of them being the Jamieson Kuhlmann Field, as well supporting numerous initiatives for youths not only in her own district, but across the GTA as well. We could write forever about her here. Suffice it to say "Thanks for all you do Paula!"

Following the immense success of the first 3 Jammer's, we were very pleased to present a cheque for \$10,000, bringing the 3 year total to \$55,100. WOW!!!! As usual, this will be upped even more once the BBQ sales get counted tomorrow. Oh yes, we have to add the contents of that brown envelope from the referees.

Tomorrow we are busy. Easter dinners will need to be delayed. We have the finals of the U-17, the Little Jammer for the U-15's, the U-11 and U-13 Girls, as well as the Hill Academy Red and White game.

A long day, but a good day.

Regards

The Jammer Classic Committee

Day Three (Sunday):

Done. Like Dinner. All good. Everyone has gone home for a rest. Full report to follow tomorrow.

For now, complete results are posted:

www.thejammerclassic.com

And enjoy the pics by Michelle. Wow!!

<http://michellequancephotography.instaproofs.com/>

Regards

The Jammer Classic Committee

P.S. And yes, Councilor Fletcher, the Easter Bunny did come today, as you requested. The young ones, and old, hunted on that grassy knoll.

Day Three (Sunday):

Report was promised yesterday, but there was a miscommunication with the referees as to the Sunday night meeting place. Finally hooked up with them late last night at a donut shop. The brown envelope was passed under the table, this in addition to the one they left in the hamburger cooler late Saturday night. We cannot say enough about the contribution the referees make to this weekend. They turn what would be one of the biggest costs of the tournament into something much less so, all for the cause, all for Jamieson's memory, all for the Children's Wish. Everyone respects their efforts, on the field and off. Even the players are slowly coming around to them.

As a result of their goodwill, we are bumping the initial \$10,000 donation to the Children's Wish to \$11,400, for a 4 year total of \$56,500! WOW!

Again, team fees, the BBQ and merchandise sales could never make this event happen in the way it does. A BIG "THANKS" to our many financial supporters, of which there are so many, including our Platinum sponsors, Munich RE, MSA Research, and those guys in the black and white shirts. Check them all out on the sponsor page on our website.

Now to the day:

Forecast was for a little cooler weather and rain mid-afternoon. Tents were put up, just in case, turned out to be only be an exercise in caution. All was good. Someone was directing things. There were only a few drips, those on the brows of players, referees and volunteers.

Play commenced on schedule at 8:30 with the Boys U-15's kicking things off with some close, and not so close, fought games. And then a little later, after beating Guelph 12 – 3 and then St. Catharines in a very tight game, 8 – 7, the Beaches emerged as the U-15 Little Jammer Champions. Finally, the Beaches will be engraved on the Jammer Cup. Congratulations to Jamieson's home club.

As well, congratulations to Jack Kelly of the Beaches for winning the U-15 MVP Award. Well deserved no doubt. Throughout the morning the U17's continued their endeavours to gain key spots for the late day finals.

And then came along the Hill Academy Red and White game. This being Easter weekend, it was problematic to get a U.S. team up to play so everyone had to "settle" for a Red and White. Settle? This was one of the highlights of the weekend!! Talent was in abundance on the field, with coaching duties being shared between the Merrill brothers, Patrick and Brodie. The game was competitive, ending 8 – 7 for the Reds. Kudos to Andrew Timkiv for picking up the Sportsmanship Award.

Then there was the Girls U-11 and U-13 Friendly's between Beaches and Mimico. Lots of fun out there and obvious talent. The Jammer Classic was so happy to be able to include this group of eager players this year.

Following on this was the Boys U-17 finales, the heart of the Jammer Classic. The mix for the final 4 was a little different this year. Whitby and Peterborough were still there, but along came Oakville and Newmarket to add to the twist. At the end of the day, Whitby reclaimed their place on the Jammer Cup from last year's winner, Orangeville, by beating Newmarket 7 – 3. Third place went to Oakville after beating Peterborough 9 – 6. A lot of great lacrosse, all in all.

Final awards presentations followed with individual awards presented to:

U-17 Sportsmanship Award: D.J. Eckert; Oakville

U-17 Most Valuable Offensive Player: Riley Caldwell; Peterborough

U-17 Most Valuable Defensive Player: Nick Chaykowski; Newmarket

The Jammer Award (U-17 M.V.P.): Jeff Ferandes; Whitby

The Jammer Classic trophy was then presented to Whitby. May it find its rightful place and be displayed with pride.

Well done, very well done, to all!

Again, thanks to everyone who was part of this year's event. Your support, whether a result of your playing, paying, buying, or just watching, was much appreciated. You honour Jamieson, you provide a Wish, and you provide a venue for a memorable weekend.

Check out our website for all of the scores and awards.

<http://www.thejammerclassic.com/>

And check out the photos of all the action by Michelle Quance. WOW!!!

<http://michellequancephotography.instaproofs.com/>

Regards,

The Jammer Classic Committee