

Lake of the Woods Girls Hockey
Bursary Recipients

2004-2005

Sam Smith

"I have met many good friends from playing hockey, that maybe I would have not met if I didn't play. I think that is the best part of hockey. All the friends and memories you get from it."

Lacey Peacock

"Another event that was tons of fun and had nothing to do with being on the ice was Radio Bingo. My dad and I were pros at answering the phones and checking numbers after years of volunteering! Sometimes my dad had to drag my butt down to the radio station but once I got there, I was always fighting for the "main phone" and then if I didn't get the phone, my teammates and me would be racing to the soundproof door to knock at Herm to "stop calling numbers". After volunteering it always felt great to be helping out."

2005-2006

Sam Boucher

"Something I have learned in all my years of hockey is that there really is no "I" in team. No matter how good you are, you are always going to have a weakness, and when people know what it is, you don't stand a chance. You have to make use of your team; they can cover your weakness as you cover theirs. This is what makes a good team."

Rebecca Forsyth

My favorite memory and time in house league would be at our annual Thunder Bay Tournaments. That November weekend was a time where we were able to see most of our parents having fun, meet new people, play mini sticks in the hallway of our hotel, and try our hardest at the sport we all loved."

Lisa MacIver

"I have thoroughly enjoyed my years in hockey, it has been a very positive experience, I think I have learned a lot from playing hockey such as being a team player and I hope I am a positive role model for the younger girls."

Kendra O'Hearn

"The memory of playing hockey that stands out most in my mind is when I played for Kroppys Hawks. We had an amazing team that year and amazing black and red jerseys to match. That year, we went to a tournament in Brandon and played a bunch of really great games and came out on top with a gold medal. It's the only tournament I can remember winning probably because of the great team; not just in skills but in personality too."

Amanda Pearson

"Throughout my years of hockey I have had many different coaches. They have taught me new skills, guidance and the fun of hockey."

Lauren Penner

"A memory that I will never forget is when Sami Jo Small and Jennifer Botterill came to Kenora for a camp and to play with us girls. I have pictures of them and myself plus the autographed jersey which I treasure."

Rhandi Phinney

"One memory in particular was when I was in Novice. We were playing in a Dryden Tournament, at the time being CJ Edwards and Son, and we had qualified for the Semi Finals. The semi final game went into overtime with 5 on 5, then 4 on 4, 3 on 3, etc. After reaching 2 on 2, we took a face off in the opposing teams end. A quick pass off the draw and a shot and we had won the game. Winning on overtime is definitely a feeling I will never forget. We then went into the final game against the Royal Purple team from Kenora. This team had beaten us all year long and was very confident going into the game. However, our team played as hard as we could and upset the undefeated purple team. This was my very first gold medal and unquestionably the most memorable tournament of my 12 years."

Meaghan Liske

"The girl's hockey program taught me the importance of being a team player. Knowing the other girls on the team depended on me as much as I depended on them. The trips to Thunder Bay on the bus.... Four girls sharing a room, late night talks, getting to know each other have all given me lasting memories and friendships that I will always have. Thanks to all the coaches that I had over the years, it was their dedication and patience that has helped me become the person I am today."

2006-2007

Kelly Berringer

"Hockey has always been a constant part of my life, and trying to choose just one memory was terribly hard. Here is a big one. When I was in Peewee, our team was without goalie. When my coach Boog (Don Pernsky) looked around the dressing room for volunteers nobody seemed very keen. I guess I did not realize what I was getting myself into. I did not think about the over sized equipment or the fact that I would be the teams last line of defence.

It is important to you to have an idea of what I was like at thirteen; lanky and uncoordinated. I think the first game we lost 17-2, but every time a puck would slide under my stick or I would miss a save, someone from my team would give me a bit of encouragement or a pat on the back. I improved but I only shut out a few times. This experience changed me. I learned patience, perseverance and commitment. I learned that every time you fall down, all you can do is get up."

Jonalee Hodges

"My first team as a member of Lake of the Woods Girls Hockey was the Royal Purple. It's interesting to look at that team photo and to see some of the same girls I played my last years of midget with. Hockey has taught me many different things; working together to set up plays or just motivate each other has taught me teamwork. I have also learnt responsibility, respect and dedication."

Kassi Lewis

"I have learned a great deal from playing girls hockey, but being a team player stands out the most. Although every team has one or two remarkable players, it takes the whole team to move the puck around, make passes and keep it away from your goalie. It takes a whole team to celebrate a win and it takes a whole team to share a loss."

2007-2008

Alysen German

"My father taught me that even though I may not be a gifted player, if I tried my hardest at everything I did and respected my coaches, things would pay off. Mr. Zilinski taught me to have fun no matter what the scoreboard showed. Together these coaches have made my years of hockey both in house league and high school the best years of my life so far."

Meagan Green

"A memory that I remember is a tournament in Thunder Bay that I got to play up a division for Herm Phinney's team. I remember I stood on my head and made some of the most amazing saves. One, the ref never thought that I would get it, and called it goal only to realize it was in my glove. Then a girl was on a breakaway and I tried to make a diving save and she slid skate first and hit me in the head. I remember I was in so much pain, but I got up and said I could keep in playing. The ref came over and told me Don Cherry would be proud of me. I remember walking off the ice after the game and asking my dad who Don Cherry was and he laughed at me. But now I know who that is and it is a HUGE compliment."

Julie Pernsky

"The greatest memory for me while playing girls hockey would have to be the number of new friends that I made throughout the years. Winning was not a big part of the game to me, it was more important about having a fun time while getting the exercise I needed. It was also a nice touch to go to the rink and not have a coach yell at me for making simple mistakes."

Nicole Reidiger

"I have been playing Lake of the Woods Girls Hockey since I was 7 years old. I was excited to sign up, I urged my parents to sign me up, at that time you had to be 7 years old to play, and have been playing ever since; for a total of 10 years. I have also been a member of Beaver Brae high school team for three years and it would not have been possible to make the team without being part of the Minor Hockey League in the years before. Girl's hockey has taught me about commitment, friendship and hard work and it is a huge part of my life. I met some of my best friends playing hockey when I was in Novice and they are still my best friends today."

Meagan Zilinski

"My recent involvement with LOWGH was in January, where I helped Mr. Sparkman and Mr. Romaniuk with the Skill Development Program on Saturdays. I really liked working with the younger girls; it was a lot of fun! I also took the Speak Out course through the girl's league."

2008-2009