

Bringing back the glory in memory of Jim Bishop

**OSHAWA MINOR  
LACROSSE ASSOCIATION  
BLUE KNIGHTS**



2011 OLA Tyke Provincial Champion Oshawa Blue Knights

**A BIG THANK YOU!!**

To the Bishop Family, Terry Lloyd, Mary & Lynne with the OLA, the Tournament Organizing Committee, the OMLA Board of Directors & the Novice 1 & 2 team parents and team staff and all the volunteers who made this event happen.



*1st Annual*  
***Jim Bishop Memorial***  
***Lacrosse Tournament***

**Celebrating a 50 year legacy  
of Lacrosse in Oshawa**

## **The Winningest Coach in Canada**

**By Jim Proudfoot, Toronto Maple Leaf Magazine, 1968**

One of the most difficult things in coaching is to try to keep a team that has won a championship constantly keen and hungry for yet another. Only great teams with great coaches have been able to succeed when the novelty of winning has become almost routine. To keep winning, you have to like winning - you have to understand what winning means - and then you have to be prepared to sacrifice for it. The Green Gael organization knows this and in Oshawa it's great to be young and be a Green Gael. For then, you become a winner too!

With the zeal of an evangelist, Jim Bishop would like to convince the world that lacrosse is the greatest sport on this planet. Bishop does more than talk about it. Oshawa Green Gaels, the team he has coached and managed, have won the Canadian junior championship for the past six seasons. Last year, he assumed the same roles with Detroit Olympics in the National Lacrosse Association as pro lacrosse was revived. Bishop had a major role in the formation of the NLA and his Detroit team won the Eastern Division, but lost the final to New Westminster...

Although he has a realistic attitude about the limited public acceptance of his sport, Jim Bishop has remained undaunted about his opinion that lacrosse should rank with hockey and football as a major spectator sport.

"No other sport fills the needs of today better than lacrosse," Bishop said. "People say a sport in the 1960s must have violence and mayhem to be a success. I'm not convinced this is true but, if it is, well, lacrosse has it. Lacrosse has all the body contact of football, only more of it, by more people. It has the speed of hockey. Okay, so you think that's wrong, eh? Tests have proven that someone running is faster for a 100-foot burst than someone skating. Most of the action happens in no more than a 100-foot burst. lacrosse has more precision than basketball or soccer. It's the greatest sport for the development of individual skills within the framework of a team."



## **Kingston, the Birthplace of Modern Lacrosse**

While Oshawa, Brampton, Clarington & Huntsville can claim to have played lacrosse as far back as the 1870's, Kingston can make the claim to be the birthplace of modern lacrosse when a codified set of rules developed by Montrealer Dr. William George Beers was adopted. According to lacrosse historian, Claude Scilley, "Kingston was actually the birthplace of the organized game as we know it today. Twenty-one years after the formation of the first lacrosse team in Montreal, 27 clubs from Ontario and Quebec met in Kingston in 1867 to codify rules and create the National Lacrosse Association, Canada's first sport-governing body."

Kingston Minor Lacrosse was founded in 1969 and by 1970 entered a midget team into the Ontario Minor Lacrosse Association. Over the next few decades, Kingston would enjoy successful teams culminating in a Junior C provincial championship in 1973 for the Kingston Kings.

In 1995 lacrosse was revived in Kingston with field lacrosse, garnering success which eventually led to the restart of minor box lacrosse as the Kingston Krossfire. In 2007 the Krossfire won a Midget Provincial Championship and in 2009 Junior C was renewed in Kingston, first as the Cavaliers and now as the Kings.

**Welcome Krossfire and we hope you have fun at our very first Jim Bishop Memorial Minor Lacrosse Tournament!**

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## **Jim Bishop Memorial Minor Lacrosse Tournament Organizing Committee**

**Todd Powless—Host Convenor**

**Sonya Crossey—All Star VP & Zone Rep**

**Mike Abramczuk—Treasurer**

**Stephan Bosco—Referee-in-Chief**

**Victoria Matthews—Secretary & Volunteers**

**Keith Hales—Awards**

## Kingston Krossfire Roster



- 2 Trentyn ROZENDAL
- 4 Owen WILLS
- 5 Oronhyathe GREEN
- 6 Matt CATO
- 7 Shane VANDERBERG
- 9 Chad MULLER
- 10 John POULOS
- 11 Connor BAGNELL
- 12 Brennoch KEILEY
- 13 Blake MARACLE
- 15 Oliver DOIG
- 16 Isaac WILLS
- 17 Ethan OLEJNIK
- 18 Braeden NIEMY
- 19 Seamus KEILEY
- 20 Nick VILLENEUVE
- 30 Hayden SHILLINGTON

**Head Coach :** Jeff Olejnik  
**Asst. Coach:** Jeff Wills  
**Trainer:** Mike Keiley  
**Manager:** Kelley Olejnik

Of course, spouting a lot of fancy theories is one thing; backing them up with action is another: Bishop does this. His Green Gaels are living testimony to his theories. The Gaels are good show business, turning lacrosse, which sometimes has degenerated into pot bellies and slashing, into a work of art.

The Gaels have dominated their sport in a way no other Canadian team has ever dominated any game. No team in history has won six consecutive national titles in any sport. Although such a statement may draw guffaws, especially from hockey, Jim Bishop is probably the finest coach working today in any team sport in Canada...

How did Jim Bishop get this way?

He was born and raised during the depression years in the Parkdale area of west Toronto close to High Park. His father supported a family of six during those tough days on about \$15 per week, earned as a tap-man in a variety of local pubs.

I'm not one of those people who likes to talk about how tough he had it as a boy," Bishop added. "Nobody from a working-class home in the '30s had much money. When I was a boy, sports was about all we ever thought about. Maybe it sounds corny, but I did wear magazines as shin-pads for street hockey games."

In 1945, Bishop got to coach his first team - the Parkdale Marauders bantams in the King Clancy hockey series, which led to his coaching the pee wee lacrosse team for the St. Vincent's Holy Name Society, although he had never seen a lacrosse stick before he took the job.

"I didn't know what the game was all about," Bishop recalled. "Neither did the players. But we worked at it. Sometimes we practised all day."

Of course, the team won. "We took the Ontario pee wee championship tournament at Brampton," Bishop said. "No one had ever heard of us and we weren't the best dressed team, either. But we were the hungriest."

Bishop coached assorted hockey and lacrosse teams. Then, in 1948, he founded the Green Gaels.

The rest, they say, is history...



## Oshawa Blue Knights 1 Roster



- 2 Eric MATTHEWS
- 5 Nick GIBSON
- 6 Ethan POWELL
- 7 Bryce DENNIS
- 8 Tyler DOWNER
- 10 Mason MCALLISTER
- 13 Jayden O'CONNOR
- 15 Nolan GOULDBURN
- 31 Taylor HIGGINS
- 33 Josh ZUPANIC
- 41 Bryant TROWSSE
- 44 Steven MAYOCK
- 62 Adam DUS
- 63 Tyler BOYLE
- 65 Liam WELLS
- 71 Connor PERRY
- 91 Tommy JOHNSTON

Head Coach:	Dieter Kirner
Ass't Coaches:	Terry Downer
	Bryan Johnston
General Manager:	Vicktoria Matthews
Team Manager:	Kerri Powell
Equipment Mgr:	Scott Matthews
Trainer:	Ed Powell/Kerri Powell

## Lacrosse History runs through Huntsville

There is an undeniable lacrosse connection between Huntsville and Oshawa and that connection is no better illustrated by Mr. Lacrosse himself, Jim Bishop.

According to Larry Powers, local lacrosse historian par excellence, in 1957 Bishop moved to Huntsville where he founded the Huntsville Minor Lacrosse Association. "Possibly the greatest coach to grace the sport of lacrosse, Jim worked for the Parks and Recreation Department in Huntsville and coached, taught, organized, and managed minor lacrosse teams from novice to intermediate. He won eighteen Ontario championships over five years."

It was in Huntsville where Jim Bishop perfected his lacrosse strategies and after moving to Oshawa in 1962, his Juvenile Green Gaels made it to the Ontario finals before losing to St. Catharines in the final. The next year, 1963 would see the Oshawa Green Gaels move up to Junior A and win 7 consecutive Minto Cups. Many of the players on those Minto Cup teams were Huntsville boys.

"The 1963 Oshawa Green Gael club, which finished in third place during the regular season behind the Brampton Armstrongs and the Alderwood Terriors, is the only team ever to win the Minto Cup in its initial year of Junior A play. Of the fourteen players to play during the playoffs in that inaugural season, eight of them followed Bishop from the Huntsville Minor Lacrosse program. These eight players were Don Stinson, Merv Marshall, Dave Lough, Tom Conlin, Ken Thompson, Larry Ireland, Stew Wieler and Dwight Davies."

Before Bishop however, there was a great lacrosse player from Huntsville named Jack Bionda who helped the Brampton Excelsiors with their first Junior A Minto Cup in 1952 and then went on to win a string of Mann Cups in the 1950's and 60's. He finished out his storied career with the Senior Huntsville Hawks in 1970. Jack Bionda left such an impression on his hometown that they named an arena after him and have their own 'Jack Bionda Shootout' minor lacrosse tournament. Another Huntsville boy, Jim Meredith, is also well known for his scoring prowess and Mann Cup rings.

**Welcome Hawks and we hope you have fun at our very first Jim Bishop Memorial Minor Lacrosse Tournament!**

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**Did you know?** The late Huntsville native, Don Stinson, played on all 7 of the Oshawa Green Gael Minto Cups from 1963 to 1969. Embodying the epitome of the Bishop work ethic, this feat will never be matched because **Don was only 14 when he first played Junior A!**

## Moller Insurance Huntsville Hawks Roster



- 1 Quinton GREENFIELD
- 2 Jordan WILLFORD
- 3 Keese ZUGEHOER
- 4 Ayden VEITCH
- 7 Ty COLLINS
- 8 Tierran HORNICK-MARTIN
- 9 Zachery STEPHEN
- 10 Kaiya ROBERSON
- 11 Jack LYNDON
- 12 Kyle MATTICE
- 14 Colby REYNOLDS
- 15 Morgan AUBIN-VARDY
- 16 Dolan BOESE
- 17 Brandon MAW
- 18 Nick DOWLING
- 19 DJ BALL

**Head Coach :**

Darrell Booth

**Asst. Coach :**

Cory Veitch

**Trainer :**

Chris Greenfield

**Manager :**

Lesley Reynolds

## President's Message

"Mister Lacrosse" Jim Bishop died an untimely, accidental death in 1998 – the Oshawa Minor Lacrosse Association is PROUD to host the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual "Jim Bishop Memorial" Lacrosse Tournament – it is our small way to venerate his memory & his unparalleled contribution to the "Creator's Game."

The OMLA is Jim Bishop's "LEGACY" – our "tag-line" states that one of our primary purposes is "Bringing Back the Glory in Memory of Jim Bishop" – Jim approached me, fatefully less than 2 weeks before his unexpected death & implored me to re-start Oshawa Minor Lacrosse as he originally had done in 1962 – it is something that I eventually "had" to do & was spurred on by Todd Powless' approach to me in 2009 – we eventually did it in 2011.

Many of this year's Invited Associations have a Bishop history & heritage, most notably Mimico where it all started back in 1946, & Huntsville which boasts many of Bish's most significant Minor Lacrosse achievements, as well as forming the nucleus of the 1962 Intermediate Team that founded Oshawa Minor Lacrosse & as the nucleus of the early Junior A Green Gaels dynasty.

Upon taking over the helm as President of Whitby Minor Lacrosse in the late 80's, I approached Bish about returning to the Lacrosse Coaching ranks – our Minor Teams with Jim Bishop as Head Coach, won several Provincial "A" Championships in Novice, Peewee, Bantam & Midget after that & it ultimately culminated in his 1997 Whitby Warriors Junior A Minto Cup – imagine, his last Minto Cup had been the 7<sup>th</sup> one with the Green Gaels in 1969!

Jim's history includes so many incredible accomplishments like Vice-President of the NHL Detroit Red Wings, the founding of 2 Pro Lacrosse Leagues & being the first Technical Director of the CLA – we urge you all to research this man's history & prepare to be amazed.

I could go on for hours & pages here, but now is the time to simply welcome you all & thank you so very much for being part of our 1st Tournament to remember & honour this exceptional man!

Yours in Lacrosse, the 'Creator's Game' & Canada's National Summer Sport!

**Dieter Kirner, President, OMLA.**

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**2012 MINTO CUP — WHITBY, ON — IROQUOIS PARK**

**AUGUST 18th to 26th**

## Oshawa Blue Knights 2 Roster



- 3 Owen WATSON
- 4 Lucas ABRAMCZUK
- 11 Brendan MCDONNELL
- 16 Shemar HEADELEY
- 19 Quinn ARNOTT
- 32 Josh DUDDRIDGE
- 34 Riley BABIY
- 35 Steve SPORINA
- 50 Ryan OLAN
- 66 Owen DOYLE
- 77 Kaleb DANCEY
- 80 Hunter LEES
- 93 Aiden MACKIN
- 94 Jack COLLINS
- 98 Jake JULIAO

**Head Coach:** Dieter Kirner  
**Ass't Coaches:** Andrew Duddridge  
Mike Abramczuk

**General Manager:** Vicktoria Matthews  
**Team Manager:** Tammy Abramczuk  
**Equipment Mgr:** Mike Abramczuk  
**Trainer:** Jason Babiy

## From Oshawa to Bowmanville, a Legacy re-born

Lacrosse in Clarington, centred on Bowmanville, is as old as any in Ontario with Bowmanville lacrosse teams playing teams from Oshawa, Millbrook and Port Hope as far back as the early 1870's. In those days, these were all small Ontario towns with friendly rivalries in most organized sports.

Although no minor association existed in Bowmanville for any length of time over the years, this changed in 2001 with the efforts of a few dedicated volunteers. In 1995, after a 11 year hiatus, the Green Gaels were resurrected as a Junior 'B' franchise by Jim Bishop and Terry Rowland, and, in 1997, moved to Bowmanville to become the Clarington Green Gaels, winning the first of their four Founders Cups in 1998. Three years later, the Clarington Minor Lacrosse Association club was founded taking their nickname 'Gaels' from their successful hometown junior franchise.

Since 2001, the CMLA has grown leaps and bounds and has had much success in Ontario Provincial play in both box and field lacrosse. In 2009 the Clarington Shamrox joined the OLA Junior 'C' league and won consecutive Provincial Championships in 2010 and 2011.

Now that Oshawa Minor Lacrosse is back, another friendly rivalry has been revived with our neighbours to the east. A rivalry over 140 years old!

**Welcome Gaels and we hope you have fun at our very first Jim Bishop Memorial Minor Lacrosse Tournament!**



**Jim Bishop Memorial Trophy  
generously donated by  
Keith Hales of Spirit Sportswear!**

## Clarington Gaels 3 Roster



- 2 Brandon BRAITHWAITE
- 8 Patrick LACHANCE
- 9 Caleb MacDONALD
- 11 Jacob OLAISEN
- 16 Harrison MORTON
- 17 Liam WELSH
- 27 Darien ST. PIERRE
- 41 Ethan MURREE
- 44 Matthew KAMSTRA
- 55 Thomas SMITH
- 66 Jonas MARSHALL
- 71 Nicholas BURTON
- 76 Nathan ROBERSTON
- 88 Brandon COUTURE

<b>Head Coach:</b>	Bryan Braithwaite
<b>Asst. Coach:</b>	Scott Swift
<b>Asst. Coach:</b>	Derek Kelly
<b>Trainer:</b>	Jeff Smith
<b>Manager:</b>	Jacquie Kamstra

## A Return to Roots in Oshawa

In a northeastern section of Oshawa, on a ridge overlooking the Harmony Creek watershed that leads to Lake Ontario, archaeologists worked quickly to uncover and preserve the artefacts of an ancient 13th century Wendat (Huron) village before the area was bulldozed and paved over to make way for a new housing development. The Grandview Site was discovered to be the home of some 1200 inhabitants who hunted and farmed the uplands above the old shore of primeval Lake Iroquois. While no artefact was recovered to positively prove that the venerable old ball game was played, no doubt the Wendat people enjoyed the same game as noted by Jean de Brébeuf some 300 years later. Brébeuf noted in his 1636 writings that:

"Of three kinds of games especially in use among these Peoples,—namely, the games of crosse, dish, and straw,—the first two are, they say, most healing. Is not this worthy of compassion? There is a poor sick man, fevered of body and almost dying, and a miserable Sorcerer will order for him, as a cooling remedy, a game of crosse. Or the sick man himself, sometimes, will have dreamed that he must die unless the whole country shall play crosse for his health; and, no matter how little may be his credit, you will see then in a beautiful field, Village contending against Village, as to who will play crosse the better, and betting against one another Beaver robes and Porcelain collars, so as to excite greater interest."

We would readily recognize the game of 'crosse' that de Brébeuf witnessed since the modern game has taken it's popular name from these observations: lacrosse...

Lacrosse has always been here, in Oshawa of course. George N. Campbell writes, "The City of Oshawa can currently or within recent memory, boast of participation in every type of sport familiar to Canadians but it is of special significance that in lacrosse, Canada's National Game, Oshawa has its oldest history of any sports activity. Indeed, a review of Oshawa's sports history for the past century reveals that while there were friendly games in lacrosse as well as baseball and hockey (as these games were played then) the very first team to bear the name "Oshawa" and represent the community in organized competition, against other towns was the Oshawa lacrosse team of 1872 - which played against Port Hope, Bowmanville, Millbrook, etc., communities which in those days were just as large as Oshawa."

Some 300 plus years after de Brébeuf made his observations, another man would arrive in Oshawa to put his name to the game of lacrosse. Arriving in the early 1960's, the legendary Jim Bishop would revolutionize the game of lacrosse with his Green Gaels junior franchise and the newly minted Oshawa Minor Lacrosse Association. Working with 'imports' and eventually local talent, Bishop's Green Gaels would win an unprecedented 7 straight Minto Cups - Canadian Junior A lacrosse championships, as well as many successful teams in subsequent years in both junior and minor lacrosse.

## Brampton Excelsiors 2 Roster



- 1 Connor O'TOOLE
- 2 Jake LANTEIGNE
- 3 Ty CARTY
- 4 Phoenix PULLEN
- 5 Michael OLMSTEAD
- 6 Nathan DUNNE
- 7 Lucas BALANCA
- 9 Aiden OCAMPO
- 10 Eric VIVEIROS
- 11 Alyssa BORGATTI
- 12 Neal ADAMSON
- 13 D.J. MUNROE
- 15 Nick McCLURE
- 16 Eric WARD
- 17 Evan GROBANPOULOS
- 18 Bowie HORSMAN

Head Coach/Trainer: Patrick O'Toole  
Asst. Coach/Trainer: Jason Ward  
Asst. Coach/Trainer: Chris Horsman  
Asst. Coach: Mike Dunne

## Brampton and Oshawa Friends and Rivals in Lacrosse for over 130 years!

The Excelsior Lacrosse club is one of the oldest lacrosse clubs in Canada having it's roots in the early days of Brampton lacrosse in the 1870's. In 1883, the Excelsior Lacrosse Club was officially established taking their name from popular poem 'Excelsior' by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, which was suggested and used by Brampton teams as far back as 1871.

The history of the Excelsiors is long and storied and includes numerous Ontario and Canadian championships. Brampton won their first of many Mann Cups in 1930 and repeated the success the following year. They won their first Minto Cup in 1952.

The Brampton Minor Lacrosse Association was started in 1943 even though there were various minor clubs in Brampton as far back as the turn of the 20th century. In 1946 the BMLA joined the Ontario Minor Lacrosse Association and has since attained provincial success in practically ever age division.

According to the 'History of Brampton Lacrosse and the Minors,' "Brampton is viewed as both a "cradle and nursery" for the development of lacrosse in Ontario and indeed, Canada. The Excelsior Lacrosse Club holds the enviable legacy of being the longest-running amateur community-owned sports franchise in Canada, perhaps in North America."

Oshawa and Brampton have a long history of competition which reached back into the 19th century. In Larry Power's 'A Short History of Lacrosse in Durham,' "...in 1878 Oshawa won the right to vie for the Dominion Championship of Canada with Brampton. Brampton won the first game of a two game total goals series 3-2 on their home field. The return game played in Oshawa lasted fifteen minutes before the home team swept Brampton completely, scoring three goals to win the game. The game was played within the race track which used to exist on Park Road South, but which has long since been built upon."

Ever since then, the two communities have embraced a friendly lacrosse rivalry that is over 130 years old and is renewed again this year. **Welcome Excelsiors and we hope you have fun at our very first Jim Bishop Memorial Minor Lacrosse Tournament!**

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**Support those who support us!**  
**Please see what our tournament vendors**  
**have to offer!**