

The SnapShot

South Shore Women's Hockey

South Shore Hockey Gets Even Better

The competition has gone up another notch this year. With the addition of several teams from the Assabet League to the South Shore, and with some heavy duty recruiting over the off-season, the women's league this year is even faster and promises even better hockey than last year.

Carl Gray, who ran Assabet Women's Hockey for over two decades, said he is glad his teams are here.

"I had to swallow a bit of pride to see one league come together," Gray said while his Assabet Midget team was beating an improved Mass Bay, "But it's something I've wanted for over four years."

Though Gray's pride may have been bruised by the move to the South Shore, his teams showed no signs of dismay their first week in their new league. The Assabet Midgets, each under 19-years-old, beat Mass Bay 3-1 despite new players Mass Bay gained over the summer.

His Assabet "A" team, which Gray coaches, beat Needham 4-1. His Chelmsford Midgets crushed Springfield 9-3. Springfield, never a powerful Gold Division team, has lost players this summer however, and looks as though it would struggle even in the Silver Division.

One team that is being closely watched is Canton. Under new coach, Mary Beth (M.B.) Riley, the club has taken a very serious approach to the game. Riley declined to comment on any of the players she has cut, but her new recruits should improve her squad even over last year's excellent team.

She now has two national players; Shelly DeFronzo, formally of Springfield, and Sandra Whyte, who used to play for Harvard. Other college additions include Linda Lundrigan of Northeastern and Shannon Bryant of Brown. Pam Manning, formally of Hobomock and Michelle Mesnick, formally of Nighthawks "A" are also on the team.

Though Canton's squad looks as though they would give the best women's teams in the country a great game, Riley is not smug. "There are three or four teams that will give us a big challenge." Though she was not specific, after last week's debut, one cannot help but suspect some of those "challenges" will be coming from Concord.

Snapshot Changes

Because there are now 20 teams in the league, it will be impossible to get in touch with all the coaches for the scores. Also, space will not allow to put in all those who score and get assists during the week. Finally, the newsletter will only be available in the Canton rink. However, the SnapShot will maintain its original commitment to keep the players informed on the activities of the league. (Interested writers please call. Anyone with story ideas or who wants to promote an event should also contact the paper.)

Despite Rush, Hobomock Strikes Gold

Hobomock lost some great players over the summer. Pam Manning moved to Canton. Lorna Moody went to Needham. Yet, as one observer said, "Don't shed any tears for them." They replaced great players with great players.

Shelly Looney, Wendy Cofran and Jeanine Sober are all National Team members who are now playing for Hobomock. They also have Chris Bailey, Lynn Manning (Yes, Pam's sister) and Kim Dowd, all formally of Providence.

Hobomock skated to a 1-1 tie against the Nighthawks "A" last week with only seven skaters. Hobomock's Erin Metcalf (5) got the goal from Wendy Farrell (14). The Nighthawks got their goal from RayAnne Conway (9) with assists going to Laura Prisco (3) and Tina Beauchemin (14).

Conway, Beth Moxcey and MaryAnn Forbes are all new to the Nighthawks this year. They replaced goaltender Michelle Mesnick, who went to Canton, with Linda Smith.

On Back

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Gold Games

The **Assabet Midgets** beat **Mass Bay** 3-1 last week. Though the **Midgets** are a much younger team, their positioning was more disciplined than the more experienced players on **Mass Bay**.

"We've only had three or four practices," **Mass Bay** coach **Allen Pecararo**, who was unconcerned with the loss, said. He said with time his team would look better.

Mass Bay has four new players this year, all formally of **Springfield**. **Terry Allen**, **Nancy Elliot**, **Diane Gourde** and **Melissa White** each have joined the team. **Pecararo** seemed to feel it would take some time to blend the team together. When that happens he seemed to think his team will improve greatly over their first game's performance.

Robin Duffy, formally of **Mass Bay**, was not invited to return this year. **Duffy** is now with **Springfield**. **Mary Venuto** chose not to play this season.

Mass Bay is sporting a new "**Tampa Bay Lightning**" style shirt this year. The new classy jersey is mostly white with some "**Lightning**" colors as well.

Needham looked good against the formidable **Assabet "A"** team last week, except perhaps for the last 35 seconds. **Needham** was down 2-1 for most of the game, though **Needham** had their chances against the faster **Assabet** club. But with only 35 seconds left a fantastic shot to the left corner beat **Mary Roberts** for an **Assabet** 3-1 lead. After the goal **Needham** seemed to give up, exposing **Roberts** to a point blank shot with ten seconds left, making the final score 4-1.

Canton beat **North Shore** 7-2. But despite the score, **North Shore** looked very good for the first part of the game. **North Shore** held **Canton** off and played them toe-to-toe. "North Shore has always given **Canton** a hard time," former **Canton** coach, **Paul Dumart** said. But soon the fantastic talents of **Canton** prevailed, giving **Canton** its first out of undoubtedly many wins for the season.

The young **Chelmsford Midgets** crushed a much older **Springfield** team in **Rhode Island**. The opening game for the **South Shore League** ended in a lopsided 9-3 score.

Springfield has mostly new players this year, with only five players from last year participating in the game. "I didn't know the competition was this good," **Gail Wickstrom**, who manages the team said.

Returning **South Shore** coach **David Baker** had a more optimistic view. "Look, none of us have ever played together in a game situation," he said. Still, he felt the team is definitely of **Silver** and not **Gold** quality. But **Springfield** will have to wait until the schedule changes are made in November to dump down.

"In the meantime we might as well get shirts with a big target on the front because that's what we're going to be for this half," an assistant coach joked.

Baker, who last year coached a team in the professional **Sunshine Hockey** league that lost in the championship finals, could barley force a smile at the joke.

The Snapshot

Designed to give a "Snapshot" of South Shore Women's Hockey.

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League information

Val Hampton, who makes the league schedule, wants coaches to know that the first team on the list is the home team. With so many teams this year playing at varied rinks **Hampton** said she did not have the space to specify home and away teams. "Please just let them know that if they are the first team on the list they're home," she said.

Other than **Canton**, games are being played in **Marlboro** and **Rhode Island** this year. Directions are on the schedule as well.

The next USA coaches clinic will be held

October 23 at **Falmouth High School**.

Contact **Terry Kirby** at **508-540-4812**.

Coaches need to be patched to work in the **South Shore**. Head coaches have to be at the intermediate level in order to participate in state tournaments.

The next league meeting will be held

October 17 at **7:00 PM** at the **Canton** rink.

Watch this section next week for the latest information on the **Silver Division**, including games, scores and the teams to watch.

October 9, 1994 Canton Rink

2:30 PM Framingham	V.	Boston
3:40 PM Canton	V.	Mass Bay
4:50 PM Assabet M	V.	Assabet A
6:00 PM North Shore	V.	Hobomock
7:10 PM R.I. M	V.	Quincy
8:20 PM Randolph	V.	S. S. Hornets

Rhode Island Rink

11:40 AM R.I. S	V.	Storm
12:45 PM Stoneham B	V.	Boston