The Northland Hockey Group held its third annual Northland Hockey Group Selects in Saint Cloud in late July. An amazing 263 participants from 11 states and two Canadian provinces came to the Granite City for some fun on and off of the ice. An amazing 105 different youth hockey associations were represented in this event!!!

The groups were divided into the Northland Hockey Groups north teams and the south teams at the 1998, 1999, 2000, and 2002 levels for the boys. Two girl’s levels were added this year at the 12U and the 14U levels. There were so many teams at the 2001 level there were teams for the Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, and Southwest.

At most levels the Northland Hockey Groups teams for the North Teams were the Borderland Rage out of Northwest Ontario, The Great Lakes Gulls out of Duluth, The Iron Range Blast out of Hibbing, The Fighting Loons out of Bemidji, The Lakers out of Brainerd, the Red River Pike out of Grand Forks, the Predators out of Fargo, and the NoDak Oilers out of Bismarck.

The South teams consisted mainly of The Rum River Renegades out of Princeton, the Twin Cities Vulcans out of Vadnais Heights, The Twin Cities Xtreme out of Burnsville, The Ice Bucks out of Owatonna, The West Iowa Sabres out of Sioux City, the SoDak Solar Bears out of Sioux Falls, and The Black Hills Blaze out of Rapid City.

Each player had a practice, played three games and received a Northland Hockey Group Selects Jersey.

12U Level games

Game 1 - South 4, North 1
Alana Wall from the Twin Cities Vulcans (Roseville, Mn) led the way in this game with two goals. The South goalie Tayor Brownthunder from the Twin Cities Vulcans (Roseville, Mn) stopped 11 of 12 in her half in nets to help the teams cause.

Game 2 - South 5, North 1
Alana Wall continued her hot hand adding two more goals and a helper. Goalie Amanda Stevens from the Twin Cities Vulcans (Oakdale, Mn) stopped all five shots she faced in her half for the victors.

Game 3 - North 2, South 2
The North team came ready to play in this game as Breanna Frank from the Predators (Sidney, Montana) lit the lamp early. The South team battled back to tie the game as Wall scored her fifth of the tournament. Brooke Walters from the Flames (Sartell, Mn) gave the north the lead again but Allison Yaritz from the Twin Cities Vulcans (Roseville, Mn) tied it up late for the South.

Skills competition winners for the 12U level

Hardest Shot (48 mph) - Grace McCabe (Flames- Sartell, Mn)
Fastest Lap (16.4 seconds) - Brooke Walters (Flames- Sartell, Mn)
Top Goalie Breakaway Save % (85.7- 6 of 7) - Baylee Kram (Predators- Dickinson, ND)
14U Level games

**Game 1- North 5, South 2**
Balance scoring was the key to victory in this game for the north as five different players put the biscuit in the basket. The goal scorers were Myla Angus from the Borderland Rage (Fort Frances, Ontario), Rylee Redford from the Borderland Rage (Fort Frances, Ontario), Kenzie Christenson from the Fighting Loons (Long Prairie, Mn), Mina Maciunas from Utah (Wasatch Mountain Hockey Association), and Hannah Distad from the Twin Cities Vulcans (Roseville, Mn). Goalkeeper Fayth Chambers from the Borderland Rage (Atikokan, Ontario) stopped all five shots in her half and picked up the win.

**Game 2- South 4, North 1**
The south bounce back nicely in game two picking up the win in the same style the North won the first game with four different players lighting the lamp. Scoring for the South was Calle Bye from the Twin Cities Vulcans (Rush City, Mn), Mikayla Knudson from the Rum River Renegades (Elk River, Mn), Kennedy Bentley from the Rum River Renegades (Elk River, Mn) and Gina Stoner from the Twin Cities Vulcans (Mankato, Mn). Sami Miller from the Twin Cities Vulcans (Spring Lake Park, Mn) stopped all 13 shots she faced for the winning squad.

**Game 3- North 3, South 2**
In the deciding game the north score three in the first half and hold on to win it 3-2. Leading the way for the victors was Chelsey Paquette from the Borderland Rage (Atikokan, Ontario) with a goal and an assist. Blaine Helleloid from the Borderland Rage (Grand Forks, ND) and Distad scored the other goals for the North.

Skills competition winners for the 14U level

*Hardest Shot (53 mph) - Mikayla Knudson (Rum River Renegades- Elk River, Mn)*

*Fastest Lap (15.9 seconds) - Mikayla Knudson (Rum River Renegades- Elk River, Mn)*

*Top Goalie Breakaway Save % (87.5- 7 of 8) - Sami Miler (Twin Cities Vulcans- Spring Lake Park, Mn)*

2002 Level games

**Game 1- North 9, South 6**
In the wildest game of the whole tournament the North prevail over the South 9-6. The player that really came ready the most for the North was possibly was Anthony Menghini from the Lakers (Brainerd, Mn) as he scored two goals and chipped in with three assists. Dylan Winsor from the Borderland Rage (Red Lake, Ontario) had two goals for the winning squad and Ty Swenson from the Lakers (Brainerd, Mn) had a goal and assist for the North squad. The South’s Cole Klingbeil from the Twin Cities Vulcans (North St. Paul, Mn) and Luke Nemth from the Ice Bucks (Ames, Iowa) each scored two goals and Gavin Gunderson from the Ice Bucks (Mankato, Mn) had a good game as well with a goal and an assist.

**Game 2- North 7, South 3**
Carson Noga from the Borderland Rage (Fort Frances, Ontario) led the way for the North with two goals and an assist in this game. Robbie Stephens from the Lakers (Pequot Lakes, Mn) had a good game as well with a goal and two assists. Goalkeeper Brayden Johnson from the NoDak Oilers (West Fargo, ND) had a good first half stopping all five shots he faced.

**Game 3- North 9, South 2**
Three players each score twice for the North in this game and they were Alexander Krassey from the Borderland Rage (Atikokan, Ontario), Menghini, and Noga. Christian Kadolph from the Lakers (Brainerd, Mn) had a great game as well with a goal and two assists for the winning squad. Goalies Pacey Mohler from the Lakers (Brainerd, Mn) and Johnson had good games in the net stopping 16 of the 18 shots they faced.

Skills competition winners for the 2002 level

*Hardest Shot ( 52 mph) - Christian Kadolph (Lakers- Brainerd, Mn)*

*Fastest Lap ( 16.9 seconds) - Anthony Menghini (Lakers- Brainerd, Mn)*

*Top Goalie Breakaway Save 100% (10 of 10) - Dylan Prosser (Rum River Renegades- Big Lake, Mn)*
2001 Level games

**Game 1- Northeast 8, Southwest 0**

Cade Moreland led the way for the north with the hat trick and an assist. He plays on the Iron Range Blast (Virginia, Mn). Brandon Goehring from the Iron Range Blast (Grand Rapids, Mn) and Gavin James for the Iron Range Blast (Eveleth, Mn) each had a goal and an assist to help the cause for the North team. The goalies that combined for an 11 save shutout were Carter Smith and Richard Troumly Jr and they are both from the Iron Range Blast. Carter is from Hibbing and Richard is from Greenway.

**Game 2- Northwest 1, Southeast 1**

A great defensive battle in this one. Scoring the goal for the Northwest was Ethan Mock from the Fighting Loons (Bemidji, Mn). The Southeast's goal was from Colton Bauer from the Twin Cities Xtreme (Burnsville, Mn). The goalie that perhaps played the best in the game was Seth Stock from the Black Hills Blaze (Rapid City, SD) as he stopped all 8 shots he faced.

**Game 3- Northeast 6, Southwest 2**

Mitch Ziemb from the Iron Range Blast (Hibbing, Mn) led the way for the Northeast as he had two goals and one assist to lead the way. Brandon Lind from the Iron Range Blast (Eveleth, Mn) had a great game as well scoring twice for the winning squad. Picking up the playmaker “Three assists in a game” was Jonathan Jones from the Great Lakes Gulls (Duluth, Mn). Nathan Wick from the SoDak Solar Bears Black squad (Sioux Falls, SD) had a good game in defeat scoring once and picking up an assist.

**Game 4- Southwest 4, Northwest 0**

Goalie Hunter Burian from the Rum River Renegades (Princeton, Mn) was superb in nets stopping all 21 shots he faced and picked up the shutout leading the way to the Southwest’s 4-0 win over the Northwest. Matthew Swanson from the Rum River Renegades (Princeton, Mn) had a good game for the victors scoring twice. Easton Hagen from the NoDak Oilers (Jamestown, ND) had a great half in nets for the Northwest stopping all 14 shots he faced.

**Game 5- Southeast 1, Southwest 1**

Team Southeast’s second 1-1 game of the tournament. In this game Keith Schenkel from the SoDak Solar Bears (Yankton, SD) started the scoring for the Southwest followed by the Southeast’s Bauer. Ryan Flanders from the Ice Bucks (Austin, Mn) had a great game in the nets for the Southeast stopping an impressive 30 of 31 shots faced. Burian wasn’t too shabby for the Southeast stopping 17 of 18.

**Game 6- Northeast 10, Northwest 3**

Team Northeast wins the 2001 bracket in convincing style 10-3. Jonathan Jones led the way with two goals and one assist. Goehring and Ziemb each put two pucks in the back of the net as well for the victorious group from the Northeast. Simon Palm from the Chiefs (International Falls, Mn) had a great game as well with a goal and two assists. Gavin McIntyre from the Predators (Bismarck, ND) had a good game in a losing cause scoring twice.

**Skills competition winners for the 2001 level**

**Hardest Shot (55 mph)** - Keith Schenkel (SoDak Solar Bears- Sioux Falls, SD)

**Fastest Lap (15.9 seconds)** - Madisen Peterson (Rum River Renegades- Princeton, Mn)

**Top Goalie Breakaway Save 91.7% (11 of 12)** - Richard Troumbly Jr. (Iron Range Blast- Greenway, Mn)

2000 Level games

**Game 1- South 6, North 2**

After falling behind 2-0 the South score six unanswered goals en route to a 6-2 win over the North. Brendan Way from the Midwest Mayhem (Brookings, SD) and Parker DeLong from the Black Hills Blaze (Gillette, Wyoming) each had two goals and an assist to lead the way for the south in this opening game for both teams. Tieler Sanders from the Twin Cities Xtreme (Burnsville, Mn) had a good game as well scoring once and picking up one helper. Dayne Otto-Lake from the SoDak Solar Bears (Sioux City, Iowa) had a good game in the nets for the winning team stopping 13 of 15 shots faced.

**Game 2- South 2, North 1**

Once again the South trailed but came back to win. In this game Joseph Fodstad from the Rum River Renegades (Rogers, Mn) scored for the North to give the squad the lead. Later in the first half the player with the longest name in the tournament scored. Michael Kuechenmeister from the SoDak Solar Bears (Brookings, SD) lit the lamp to tie it after one half of play. In the second half Way scores for the South to give his squad the win. Conner Ernst from the Ice Bucks (La Crescent, Mn) stopped 12
of 13 shots faced and picked up the win. Lucas Hassel from the Red River Pike (Red Lake Falls, Mn) had a great game despite the loss stopping 19 of 21 shots faced for the North Squad.

**Game 3 - South 2, North 1**

In what was possibly the greatest game ever played in the three year history of the NHG Selects the South score late to win it 2-1 over the North. The South scored the only goal in the first half as Kuechenmeister gives his team the lead. In the second half Nathan Kiddie from the Borderland Rage (Dryden, Ontario) ties the game up and it looks like the game will end in a tie. The South have the pressure late and Bryar Flanders from the Ice Bucks (Austin, Mn) spots Sanders and Sanders does the rest giving the South a win with just 14 seconds left.

**Skills competition winners for the 2000 level**

- **Hardest Shot (68 mph)** - Lauden Poellinger (Ice Bucks- La Crescent, Mn)
- **Fastest Lap (14.6 seconds)** - Tieler Sanders- (Twin Cities Xtreme- Burnsville, Mn)
- **Top Goalie Breakaway Save 83.3% (5 of 6)** - Austin Martin (NoDak Oilers- Bismarck, ND)

**1999 Level games**

**Game 1 - North 7, South 0**

In what was a close game the North score five goals in the second half to win it 7-0 over the South. Timo Pelto from the Rum River Renegades (Plymouth, Mn) and Ethan Mathson from the Predators (Fargo, ND) each score twice to lead the way. Austin Howell from the Rum River Renegades (Hopkins, Mn) was a passing machine picking up four assists. Goalies for the North were Jackson Boline from the Predators (Alexandria, Mn) and Hayes Weiner from the Predators (Sparta, Wisconsin) and they stopped all 20 shots they faced. Playing well in defeat was Jaeger Reed from the Flames (Pequot Lakes) as he stopped 12 of 14 in his half of play for the South team.

**Game 2 - North 8, South 0**

Jace Greenman from the Rum River Renegades (Austin, Mn) recorded the hat trick and picked up an assist to lead the way for the North in this one. Pelto had a great game as well scoring twice. Mathson had a goal and two assists for the victors.

**Game 3 - North 8, South 0**

Tim Pelto had his third straight game with two goals to help the North sweep the South. Howell had two goals and an assist to help the cause for the North. Cloe Forest from the Red River Pike ( Grand Forks, ND) had a good game as well scoring once and picking up three helpers.

**Skills competition winners for the 1999 level**

- **Hardest Shot (65 mph)** - Jace Greenman (Rum River Renegades - Austin, Mn)
- **Fastest Lap (13.8 seconds)** – Dawson Kram (Minnkota Nats- Dickinson, ND)
- **Top Goalie Breakaway Save 100% (4 of 4)** – Hayes Weiner (Predators- Sparta, Wisconsin)

**1998 Level games**

**Game 1 - North 5, South 1**

Ben Dirks from the Predators (West Fargo, ND) scored twice and picked up an assist in this one to lead the way for the North over the South. Cameron Dunnet from the Iron Range Blast (Atikokan, Ontario) Had a nice game as well scoring a goal and picking up one assist. Colby Benson from the SoDak Solar Bears (Yankton, SD) scored late for the South to break up the shutout.

**Game 2 - North 8, South 0**

In a great team effort the North beat the south 8-0. Dirks continued the hot hand scoring twice and picking up a helper. Joshua Kippenhan from the Iron Range Blast (Hibbing, Mn) helped the cause with a goal and an assist. Cole Yliniemi from the Predators (West Fargo, ND) was in the nets and stopped all 16 shots he faced for the shutout.
**Game 3- North 3, South 0**
In a great defensive battle the North win 3-0 over the South. Carter Herring from the Predators (West Fargo, ND) led the way scoring twice for the winning squad. Dirks scored the other goal for the North. Ylineimi stopped nine shots for his second straight shutout. Both goalies for the South were superb in this one keeping their team in the game. Will Jennings from the SoDak Solar Bears (Lincoln, Nebraska) stopped 14 of 15 and Logan Tejral from the West Iowa Sabres (Sioux City, Iowa) stopped 19 of 21.

**Skills competition winners for the 1998 level**

*Hardest Shot (78 mph) - Ben Dirks (Predators- West Fargo, ND)*
*Ben has won this event every year. He beat second place by 10 miles an hour. Last year he shot it 71 mph*

*Fastest Lap (16.2 seconds) - Ben Dirks (Predators- West Fargo, ND)*
*Lap was longer than all other levels with nets moved behind line*

*Top Goalie Breakaway Save 100% (6 of 8) - Logan Tejral (West Iowa Sabres- Sioux City, Iowa)*