



Burlington Lions Optimist Minor Hockey

3455 Fairview Street
Burlington, ON L7N 2R4
Phone: 905-637-0731 Fax: 905-637-3556



The Russell Tidball Memorial Scholarship

Russell was born on May 28, 1981, twin brother to Michael. At the time of his birth it was determined that he suffered from a heart defect for which he underwent various surgical procedures over the years. Russell had always wanted to play hockey, but due to his heart condition, he was unable to do so until he was nine years of age. At that time he commenced playing in BLOMHA at the House League Level and thoroughly enjoyed every minute. He always wanted to be a goaltender and received medical clearance to do so.

In November 1994 Russell once again underwent heart surgery. However, as a result of the surgery he sustained severe brain damage which resulted in his hospitalization in various rehabilitation facilities until the month of November 1995. As a result of his brain damage Russell was dealt numerous cognitive deficits and an inability to verbally communicate. In addition his motor skills were somewhat diminished. While relearning his life skills Russell had two main goals; one was to go to high school and the second was to play hockey again.

When Russell was released from the hospital he returned home. Thanks to the preparation and consideration of many fine people he was able to attend high school with his brother and friends and to play hockey once again with Burlington Lions Optimist Minor Hockey Association with his brother.

Russell loved playing hockey; although his abilities were not what they had been previously the coaches, players and other members of the league were constantly encouraging him.

At the conclusion of the 1995-1996 season, Russell was thrilled and honoured to receive the Neale Pyefinch Award for the most improved player in the Bantam division. Russell treasured this trophy as it was the highlight of his hockey career.

Russell continued with his education at Notre Dame High School in Burlington and in September 1997 he received the award for the student achieving the highest marks in Grade 10 English. Unfortunately on December 29, 1997 he succumbed to a fatal heart attack.

The two most important outside factors in Russell's life were hockey and education. Russell was an average hockey player who loved to play the game.

The Russell Tidball Memorial Scholarship will hopefully help other individuals who share Russell's two loves, hockey and education.



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The Russell Tidball Memorial Scholarship Program Details & Application Form

One Scholarship of \$1000.00 to Be Awarded Annually

Eligibility:

To be eligible to receive a scholarship, candidates must meet the following criteria.

- *Candidates must have been registered within the previous three years with BLOMHA*
- *Candidates must have been registrant in good standing within BLOMHA*
- *Candidates must be enrolled or in the process of enrolling in a post secondary institution.*
- *Candidates must not be receiving any other hockey scholarships.*
- *Candidates must meet the admission standards of the post-secondary institution that they are attending.*
- *Candidates must have maintained clear academic status. Students on probation are not eligible for a scholarship.*
- *Candidates may only be eligible to receive the scholarship once.*

How to Apply:

- *Candidates must complete the application form attached.*
- *Accompanying the application form, candidates must submit the following:*
 1. *Two (2) letters of reference from their current school or former high school.*
 2. *One (1) Letter of reference from a hockey related individual (coach, Convenor, etc.)*
 3. *An official copy of their school transcript.*
 4. *A letter from the candidate outlining their contribution to hockey and what the game of hockey has meant to them.*
- *All required information must be submitted by June 1st of the year in which they are applying to the BLOMHA office. Facimilies will not be accepted*

The successful applicant shall be announced at the annual general meeting in late June. Payment of the Scholarship shall be made upon proof of enrollment. Proof of enrollment will be acceptable in the form of a receipt from the educational institution the recipient is attending. Payment will be made directly to the recipient.



BLOMHA Scholarship Program Application Form

Personal Information:	
Last Name:	First Name:
Current Address:	
City:	Postal Code:
Phone:	Birth Date:
E-mail Address:	
Hockey Involvement:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Please attach one (1) letter of reference from a hockey-related individual (coach, convenor, etc). ➤ Please submit one letter of approximately 250 words outlining your involvement in hockey and what the game of hockey means to you. 	
Educational Background:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Please attach two (2) letters of reference from your current school or former high school. 	
High School:	
Contact at school:	Phone:
I currently have clear academic status: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Post-Secondary Education Institution Applied for/ Attending:	
Area of Study:	
I will not be receiving any other hockey scholarships <input type="checkbox"/>	
<p><i>I hereby apply for financial assistance and declare that all information submitted is complete and true in every aspect and that I have answered all questions applicable to me on this form.</i></p>	
Signature of Applicant: _____	Date: _____
Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____	Date: _____