

Hints for Writing Sports for The VOICE

Writing sports reports is easy - just use these hints to make sure you've included everything, then send it to The VOICE!

- Include all of the information - the date of the game, where it was played, the league, the division, the team, the final score, goalscorers, goalies and playmakers. Make sure names are spelled correctly.

- Don't forget your sponsor - they're helping out the sport by sponsoring your team and they deserve that recognition whenever their team is mentioned in the paper. It just might encourage them to continue their support in future seasons.

- Spice up the game report with some highlights from the game - major players (even if they didn't score); close calls; edge of your seat action; play-by-plays; injuries; etc. (Turn over this sheet to find some examples of 'sports talk')

- For very young players - try to include everyone's name at least once throughout the year, for example, list your entire roster, then simply start at

the top of the list, mentioning two players each game until every child has had the thrill of seeing his or her name in print.

- For older players - include the players who scored and made big plays but don't forget the other players on the team, see who is quietly contributing, even if they don't score, and mention their efforts as well, it's a lot more fun if everyone can get their name in the paper

- Don't forget to mention everyone who helped out the team - a parent who brought in snacks, the sponsor who provided extra equipment or a tent; a call-up player who filled up the bench; an injured player who still showed up to the game to support their teammates; etc.

- Look for positives, your team may have lost but did they improve their play, come together as a team, close the score in a comeback attempt, etc.

- Include pictures if you have them. Some picture ideas include action shots from the game, the team celebrating a win with a dog pile, or a team shot with a trophy.

- Along with your first game report, send a schedule of games. That way, if a VOICE photographer is looking for a

game to take pics of, we know where and when to find your team.

- Let us know when big games or other events are happening so we can help you spread the word and/or be at your event to cover it.

- Submit game reports as soon as you can after a game. If it doesn't get published that first week, please be patient with us, there are a lot of teams and not much space in The VOICE. I try to publish every team within a week or two of receiving the report. Keep sending reports, if I didn't publish it, I'll simply add to the story and publish all your game reports in one week. If your game hasn't been published more than two or three weeks past the time you submitted the report, give me a call and ask why - maybe it got missed.

You can submit game reports to The VOICE in a variety of ways. The easiest, quickest way is to email your story to thevoice@vaxxine.com. Reports can be sent in the body of the email or as a word attachment. Digital or scanned photos can be sent as a jpg file. Reports can also be faxed to 905-892-0823. Reports and photographs or negatives can be dropped at our office, located on Regional Rd. 20 across from Sobeys.

SPORTS TALK CHEAT SHEET

Some new ways to say won, lost, and scored...

WON

beat
defeated
overcame
were victorious over
close games
edged
outlasted
got by

squeaked by
narrowly defeated
slipped by
not close games
disposed of
crushed
whipped
walked over
trampled
finished off
pummeled
dunked (basketball)
flew by
shot down
highscoring
outscored

GOALIES

backstopped
held down the fort
shut down the opposition
held the opponents at bay
kept Pelham in the game
threw up a wall

SCORED

potted
put XXX on the board
notched
threw in
contributed
chipped in with
swished (basketball)

slammed down (basketball)
added
tallied
dented the twine (hockey)

LOST

were - any word from won list (try not to use the really negative terms for home teams)
took it on the chin
battled, but...
fought hard, but...
played well, but....