

Field hockey

Central West players (pink) try to defend their empty net. (Samira Bouaou/The Epoch Times)



At the Minto Field near the Nepean Sportsplex, in girls U16 competition, the Central West region (Kitchener/Waterloo/Guelph) defeated the South region (Mississauga/Oakville/Burlington) 4–1 to win the gold medal. The Central West team was dominant from the start and created several scoring chances on a very warm day in Ottawa.

Field hockey is played on a watered-down astro-turf surface.

Dianne Dowling, Sport Manager for field hockey at the OSG and junior women's co-ordinator for the Outaouais Field Hockey Club talked about the potential future and development for the top girls who played at the OSG.

"The Canada Summer Games is the next step, being national squad players, and playing in the Olympics.

"Lots of players play both [indoor and outdoor field hockey]. [Indoor] helps develop high level of stick skills and in outdoor, you concentrate on space and long-ball hitting."

"There is also the World Cup for men and women and the Pan-Am Games which is a huge thing for Canadian field hockey."

The OSG was a huge success in Ottawa, with over 1,000 volunteers ensuring everything ran smoothly. The economic impact is expected to be \$1.4 million, which was helped by plenty of sunshine for the three days of competition in the midst of a generally rainy summer.

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