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EASTERN MASS. HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

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STATE HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

There was a time when a prediction of sensational success for a State High School hockey tournament would have earned the forecaster nothing more than a straightjacket. However, what you are witnessing here today is the unalterable, and gratifying, answer to the visionaries who first tinkered with the wild thoughts of a rink tourney.

True, it was more than a couple of years in the planning stage; but this whole show, mad and wonderful and exciting as it is, got started back in 1943. So we are now in the 27th annual State hockey tournament.

Since its inception the schoolboy hockey tournament has shown steady growth and progress as the caliber of play and players improved. And, as the tourney strides deeper into its third decade of existence it is perfectly evident that the sky is the limit for this thrill-packed tournament.

Back in 1943, when Medford beat Melrose 3-1 for the first State championship, few people would have given even a flickering thought to the prospect of high school hockey teams being such a magnet. Imagine, this tournament has attracted over 200,000 adults and students in just the last four years.

Each year the tournament supplies enough new thrills to make even veteran fans forget the past. However, some items from yesteryear which should be kept in mind as this year's tourney progresses here at the Boston Arena are:

—Arlington, with five titles to its credit including the 1967 crown, has won more tournaments than any other school.

—Seventeen of the past 26 finals have been won by three or less goals; and, there has been only one co-championship as Medford and Needham played to a 2-2 stalemate in 1944.

—Medford (1943 and '44) and Lynn English (1956 and '57) are the only teams which can claim back-to-back championships.

—When Natick beat Malden Catholic 10-1 back in 1951 it marked the highest scoring final in tourney history.

—There have been only ten shutouts in the past 26 championship finals; and, only one loser (Arlington 3-6 to Malden Catholic in 1948) has fashioned more than two goals.

Individual highlights from out of the past would fill a book. But this is another year, and another set of heroes are in the making as the State High School hockey tournament moves from round to round and the championship final, March 18th.

TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS

1943 — Medford 3, Melrose 1
1944 — Medford 2, Needham 2 (co-champions)
1945 — Walpole 4, Natick 1
1946 — Needham 5, Lexington 0
1947 — Arlington 7, Boston Tech 0
1948 — Malden Catholic 6, Arlington 3
1949 — Arlington 7, Framingham 0
1950 — Melrose 6, Malden Catholic 2
1951 — Natick 10, Malden Catholic 1
1952 — West Springfield 4, Stoneham 1
1953 — Walpole 1, Malden Catholic 0
1954 — Needham 3, Walpole 2
1955 — Winchester 4, Belmont 2
1956 — Lynn English 5, Malden Catholic 2
1957 — Lynn English 2, Melrose 0
1958 — Cambridge Latin 2, Walpole 1
1959 — Arlington 1, Melrose 0
1960 — Malden Catholic 2, Auburn 1
1961 — Framingham 3, Needham 0
1962 — Melrose 2, Newton 1
1963 — Walpole 2, Arlington 0
1964 — Arlington 5, Marblehead 1
1965 — Walpole 1, Norwood 0
1966 — Needham 2, Melrose 0
1967 — Arlington 2, Norwood 1
1968 — Auburn 3, Arlington 2 O.T.

1968 ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM

The following players were voted on the all-tournament team a year ago by newspaper and radio representatives who covered the proceedings:

Goal—JOE BERTAGNE, Arlington
Defense—LARRY ANDERSON, Needham
Defense—JACK CRONIN, Norwood
Forward—BILL CORKERY, Arlington
Forward—ROBERT FTOREK, Needham
Forward—DENNIS HEBNER, Norwood

MOST OUTSTANDING PLAYER: BILL CORKERY, Arlington

1968 EASTERN MASS. TOURNAMENT QUALIFIERS

<u>TEAM</u>	<u>LEAGUE</u>	<u>LEAGUE RECORD</u>	<u>LEAGUE STANDING</u>
Needham	Bay State	15-2-1	1 (Tie)
Norwood	Bay State	15-2-1	1 (Tie)
B. C. High	Boston City	13-1-0	1
Boston Tech.	Boston City	11-3-0	2
Charlestown	Boston District	11-0-1	1
South Boston	Boston District	9-1-2	2
East Boston	Boston District	8-3-1	3
Falmouth	Cape Cod	15-0-0	1
Barnstable	Cape Cod	12-3-0	2
Xaverian	Catholic	15-1-0	1
Marian	Catholic	12-2-2	2
Zavier	Catholic	9-3-4	3
Arlington Cath.	Catholic	9-4-3	4
Wayland	Dual County	12-1-1	1
Newton South	Dual County	11-2-1	2
Lynnfield	Dual County	11-3-0	3
Brookline	G. B. I.	12-1-1	1
Arlington	G. B. I.	11-2-1	2
Medford	G. B. I.	9-2-3	3
Burlington	Merrimack Vly.	12-1-1	1
Andover	Merrimack Vly.	9-5-0	2
Columbus	Metropolitan	11-1-2	1
Quincy	Metropolitan	11-2-1	2
Malden	Metropolitan	10-3-1	3
Melrose	Middlesex	12-2-2	1
Stoneham	Middlesex	9-3-4	2 (Tie)
Reading	Middlesex	9-3-4	2 (Tie)
Lynn English	North Shore	14-2-0	1
Malden Cath.	North Shore	13-3-0	2 (Tie)
Gloucester	North Shore	13-3-0	2 (Tie)
Marblehead	North Shore	12-2-2	4
Beverly	North Shore	9-4-3	5
Catholic Mem.	South Shore	11-0-3	1
Hingham	South Shore	10-2-2	2 (Tie)
Arch. Williams	South Shore	10-2-2	2 (Tie)

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