

PINE FALLS
“A SMALL HOCKEY TOWN”
By
C. C. “Chuck” Hubbard

The Pine Falls Paper Kings joined the “Big Six League” for the 1953-54 season. Teams in the MAHA governed Intermediate Hockey League included” Brandon, Minnedosa, Dauphin, Letellier, Portage La Prairie and Pine Falls. The League was very well run and provided great competition.

In 1956-57, we played in the “Big Six” finals with the Dauphin Kings. We engaged in a best of five series with Dauphin winning the first two games, Pine Falls won the next 3 games winning the series. The MAHA then set up a sudden death game vs. Poplar Point, the Intermediate AB winner with the Paper Kings coming out on top.

Upon representing Manitoba in the Western Canadian Championships, the team was allowed to pick up 3 other Manitoba players. They were Dewar Thomson, Chuck Lumsden and Hec Bourgeois from the Dauphin Kings.

First team to play in pursuit of the Western Canadian Championship was the Kenora Thistles. The best of seven series was played in Fort Frances. We won the series in 4 straight.

The 1956/57 Paper Kings included: Bob Guay, Ted Gilchrist, Joe Reichert, Hugh MacKay, Bob Sequin, Bud McCrae, Laurie May, Chuck Hubbard, Tom Marshall, Bill Juzda, Mel Matthews, Red Ahrensback, Gyle Woods, Art Harris, Bill Boivin, Murray Balagus, Chuck Lunsden, Dewar Thomson, Hec Bourgeois, Play Coach – Ken McKenzie, President – Art Kruger, Manager – Jim Desilets, Executive – Fred McFadden, Trainer – Stan Powell, Manager – Stan Brewster.
“What a team playing the best Game in the World”.

In 1931, Pine Falls won the “McDiarmid Shield” Intermediate AA Championship.

After 1957, the Paper Kings continued to win Provincial Hockey Championships – winning the Intermediate A Wilcox Trophy in 4 seasons – 1961, 1965, 1966, 1973.