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Re: The 2012 Youth Olympic Winter Games- NZ Winners Announced

We have at last held our 2011 NZIHF Boys Skills Challenge Final this past weekend in Christchurch. What a great display of skills and all out effort! The boys put in every ounce of energy and I was thoroughly impressed at the level of skill shown by all five of the competitors.

When the scores were added up and tallied, it was a very close race with the 2011 Winner being Callum Burns of Queenstown. Ultimately the real point of difference for Callum was his amazing shooting accuracy, scoring 8 out of 10 shots! I know there are Ice Blacks and NZIHL imports that couldn't do that.

Second place is awarded to Frazer Ellis of Auckland who posted an excellent result showing great agility in the transition and weave tests.

Callum's name along with that of 2011 NZIHF Girls Champion, Libby Jean Hay of Auckland will be supplied to the IHF and they pair will have the honour of representing New Zealand in the Global Skills Challenge in Vierumaki, Finland in early July.

From there the top 15 in each gender will earn entry to the 2012 Youth Olympic Winter Games in Innsbruck, Austria in January. Both players will have a very good chance of getting to Austria where all bets will be off and little old New Zealand may once again show the world our talents.

Congratulations to all of the competitors for the class they showed in representing their regions and clubs.

Sincerely

Jeff Bonazzo
National Coaching Coordinator