

2011 AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The regular season and the voting for the player awards have both concluded and the league has announced the winners of the various player awards to be distributed Monday.

Bob Anderson has claimed his third straight Most Valuable Player award. Anderson led the Colonials to a 15-3 record and a two seed in this year's playoffs. Anderson joins teammate Brandon Reiter as the only players to earn MVP honors three times in the league.

After a year hiatus from the award, the Best Defenseman title once again belongs to Rob Stanley. Stanley edged out teammate Dave Jewell and Voodoo defender Austin Boyd to claim his seventh medal in his XHL career. Stanley has become well known for his ability to block shots and play a solid two way game. Stanley finished the season with 34 goals and 24 assists and helped the Maniax to a 16-2 record.

This year's Most Improved Player is Zach Smith. Smith amassed 28 goals and 16 assists for the Maniax this season. Smith is often seen practicing before games and rarely misses a pick-up opportunity.

Jeremy Lee is the first Venom player to ever pick up a Sportsmanship Award. Lee is the Captain of the Venom and is a versatile player who can play goalie and forward or defense. Lee put up 10 points for the Venom this year while also starting three games in net.

Tim Herman earns his first Best Goalie title after defeating two two-time winners in Rob Keith of the Rogue and Bob Williams of the Colonials. Herman backstopped the Voodoo to a 14-4 record and a four seed in this year's playoffs. Herman's stand up style and large presence in the net makes it difficult for opposing teams to score on him (not to mention a very solid defense in front of him).

The Rookie of the Year award belongs to Ryan Foltz of the Iron Lions. Foltz finished the season with 25 goals and 11 assists to lead his team. Foltz' play was a huge bright spot for the Iron Lions who won their first game of the season before dropping their final 17 games.

The league's newest award, the Outstanding Service Award, will remain a surprise until the awards ceremony that will take place around 8:00 on Monday, August 1st. Just like the past two years, two Outstanding Service Awards will be given out. The ceremony will take place between the second and third games scheduled Monday. These award recipients are chosen by the XHL President.

In addition to the awards that are voted on by the players, three other awards were finalized with Wednesday's final regular season contests. Bob Anderson claimed his third scoring title by finishing the season with 113 points. He was the only player to

eclipse the 100 point mark in the league's inaugural season at the Rollerdrome. Anderson also led the league in assists with 58. It is the eighth time he's finished the top assist number.

Kevin Smith is back on top in the goal scoring department as he finished the season with 67. This is Smith's third time to achieve this mark.

All award winners are encouraged to attend the awards ceremony Monday. Please bring your team's jersey with you for the picture.