

CWSF 2012 - Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island



Mark van der Velden

Concussion Minimization

Challenge: Health

Category: Junior

Region: Simcoe County

City: Barrie, ON

School: St. Monica's E.S.

Abstract: 'Concussion Minimization' examined the effectiveness of different foam types and thicknesses in reducing the force sustained in a concussion. The effect of wet foam was studied as players who are sweating may change the effectiveness of foam in a helmet to protect against concussion. Concussions are a very big topic because star players are not able to play when they have a concussion.

Biography

My name is Mark van der Velden. I'm a grade 8 student at St. Monica's School in Barrie, Ontario. My project "Concussion Minimization" was first thought of when I was watching the news with my family and a story about Sidney Crosby came on. It was about how he had been out for a whole year with a concussion and would finally be able to come back to the NHL. This gave me the idea to try and prevent the possibility of getting a concussion. Also, I play many sports myself and I know how it feels to have an injury, so I want to help prevent them. Advancing beyond the regionals is a new experience for me since I have never gone to the nationals before. If I was to give advice to people that are thinking about doing a Science Fair I'd tell them that it might be annoying to have to type up all the work and do the research, but in the end it is worth it.

Awards

Value

Excellence Award - Junior - Bronze Medal Sponsor: Nuclear Waste Management Organization	\$300
Western University Scholarship Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$1 000
Total	\$1 300

