

WELCOME TO THE STATE TOURNAMENT!

STATEMENT WEEKEND

Sixteen teams hit the X this week attempting to win state titles;
Minnetonka and Breck earn top seeds

Welcome to the 2010 State High School Hockey Tournament!

You hold in your hands the most comprehensive guide to the teams involved in this year's tournament. It was published through the joint efforts of Breakdown Sports USA, MyFoxHockey and the Minnesota Hockey Hub, the best three sources for high school hockey and all partners with the Minnesota Hockey Coaches Association.

Class AA team capsules are located in the first half of the guide, followed by both the Class AA and Class A brackets in the guide's center and the Class A team capsules in the last half of the guide. Each team capsule includes basic information about the program, statistics of each team's leading scorers and goaltenders, full rosters, the "Road to the X," and a scouting report on each team with pictures.

Minnesota Hockey Hub editor Loren Nelson wrote half of the Class AA and Class A capsules. You'll recognize his style as the man with his finger on the pulse of Minnesota high school hockey.

Tim Kolehmainen, editor of Breakdown Sports USA, compiled the other half of the Class A and AA capsules, as well as teaming with Helen Nelson to provide nearly all the action photos in the guide. The Breakdown publishes the best preseason preview on Minnesota high school hockey, a nearly 300-page encyclopedia on the best game in town. It's available just prior to each season and a must-have for all hockey fans.

There are plenty of old favorites in this year's tournament, with Edina in Class AA and Warroad in Class A teaming for numerous appearances. But there are also unfamiliar faces, programs that have been to St. Paul before, but aren't nearly as frequent guests such as Apple Valley and New Ulm.

Class A action begins the four-day celebration at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. Second-seeded Mahtomedi (23-5-0) plays Alexandria (21-6-1) at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 10, followed by No. 3 Hermantown (25-3-0) against Virginia/Mt. Iron-Buhl (18-7-3). The evening session kicks off at 6 p.m. with No. 1 and defending state champion Breck (26-2-0) taking on New Ulm (16-9-1), followed by No. 4 Warroad (24-4-0) against Rochester Lourdes (17-8-3).

The Class AA tournament opens the next morning (Thursday, March 11) at 11 a.m. with No. 2 Edina (20-6-2) against Roseau (22-5-1). At 1 p.m., No. 3 Blaine (21-4-3) faces Apple Valley (17-11-0). In the evening, top-seeded Minnetonka (25-1-2) gets its tournament underway against Lakeville North (11-15-2) at 6 p.m. The 8 p.m. game features No. 4 Hill-Murray (25-2-1) and Duluth East (19-5-4) squaring off.

The Minnesota Hockey Hub will be your complete home of the Minnesota High School Hockey tournament. We are pleased to announce that we will feature our live in-game scoring and will also offer audio play-by-play throughout the tournament.

With our team of photographers, images of the action will be updated as the games progress, and we will also be working in conjunction with our other partner, MyFoxHockey.com to post video of post game response from players and coaches.

We look forward to bringing you the most comprehensive news and information of the greatest event in high school sports from the Xcel Energy Center.

Please accept this invitation to join us this week as along with our partners we will bring you the most up-to-date and professional coverage of the State Tournament.

Thank you for viewing our site this season, as it has been a success. We look forward to seeing you all back next winter!

-- **Tim Kolehmainen,**
Editor, Breakdown Sports USA

-- **Loren Nelson,**
Editor, Minnesota Hockey Hub

-- **Pete Waggoner,**
Minnesota Hockey Hub



Pictured above is Hill-Murray's J.D. Cotroneo (27).
Front cover is Breck's Austin Rudnick (24) and
Minnetonka's Max Coatta (9).