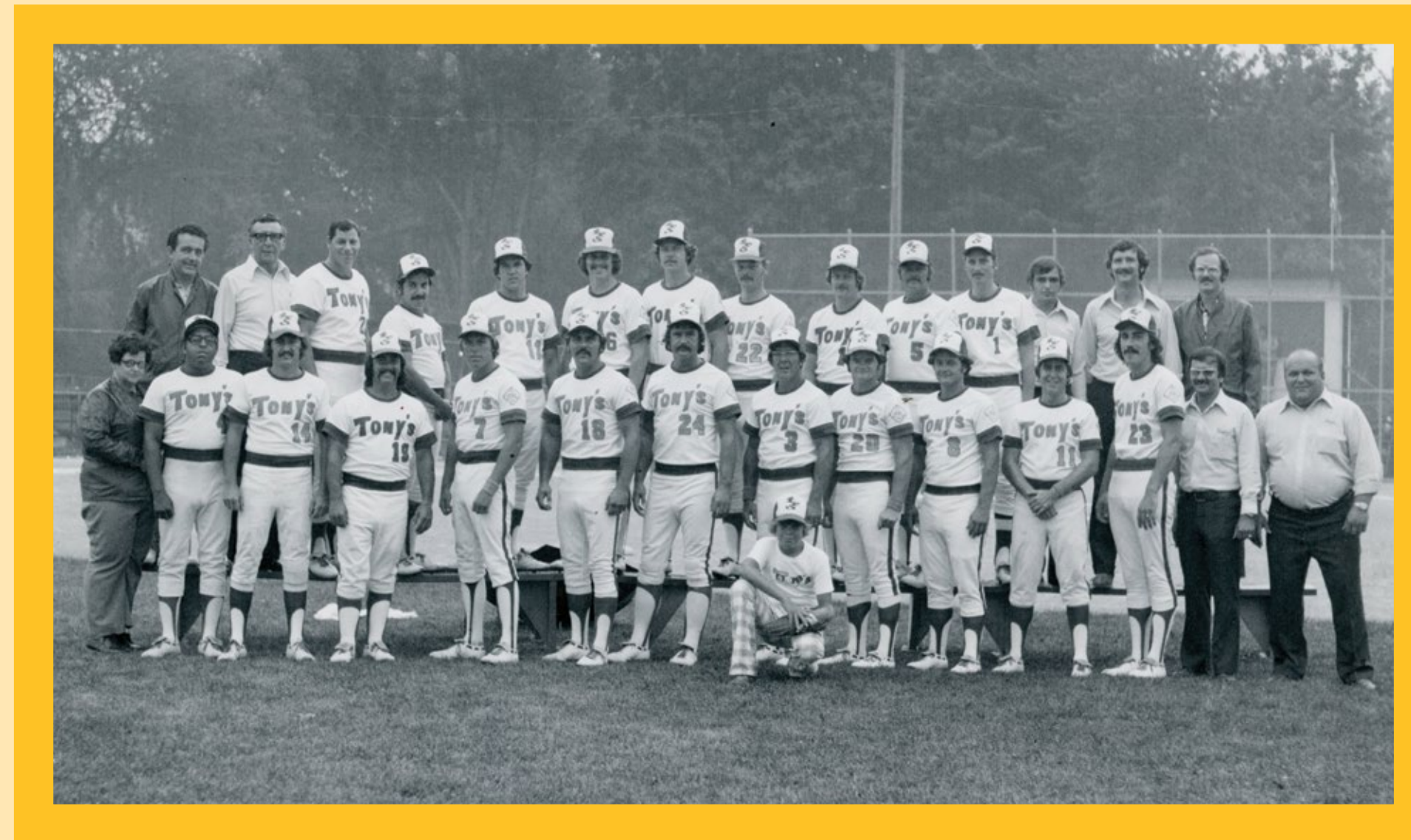




Guy "Ty" Silk (left) and Alex Hall (right) were members of the Oshawa General Motors lacrosse team. They were team members who went to the world championship in June 1930 where they won the world title. Source: Oshawa Museum, archival collection.



The Tony's Fastball Team pose for a team photo, circa 1978. They called Alexandra Park their home turf from 1968 to 1978. Fun Fact: The 1974 Oshawa Tony's Fastball Team won the Canadian Fastball Championship and they became inductees into the Oshawa Sports Hall of Fame in 1993! Source: Oshawa Museum, archival collection.

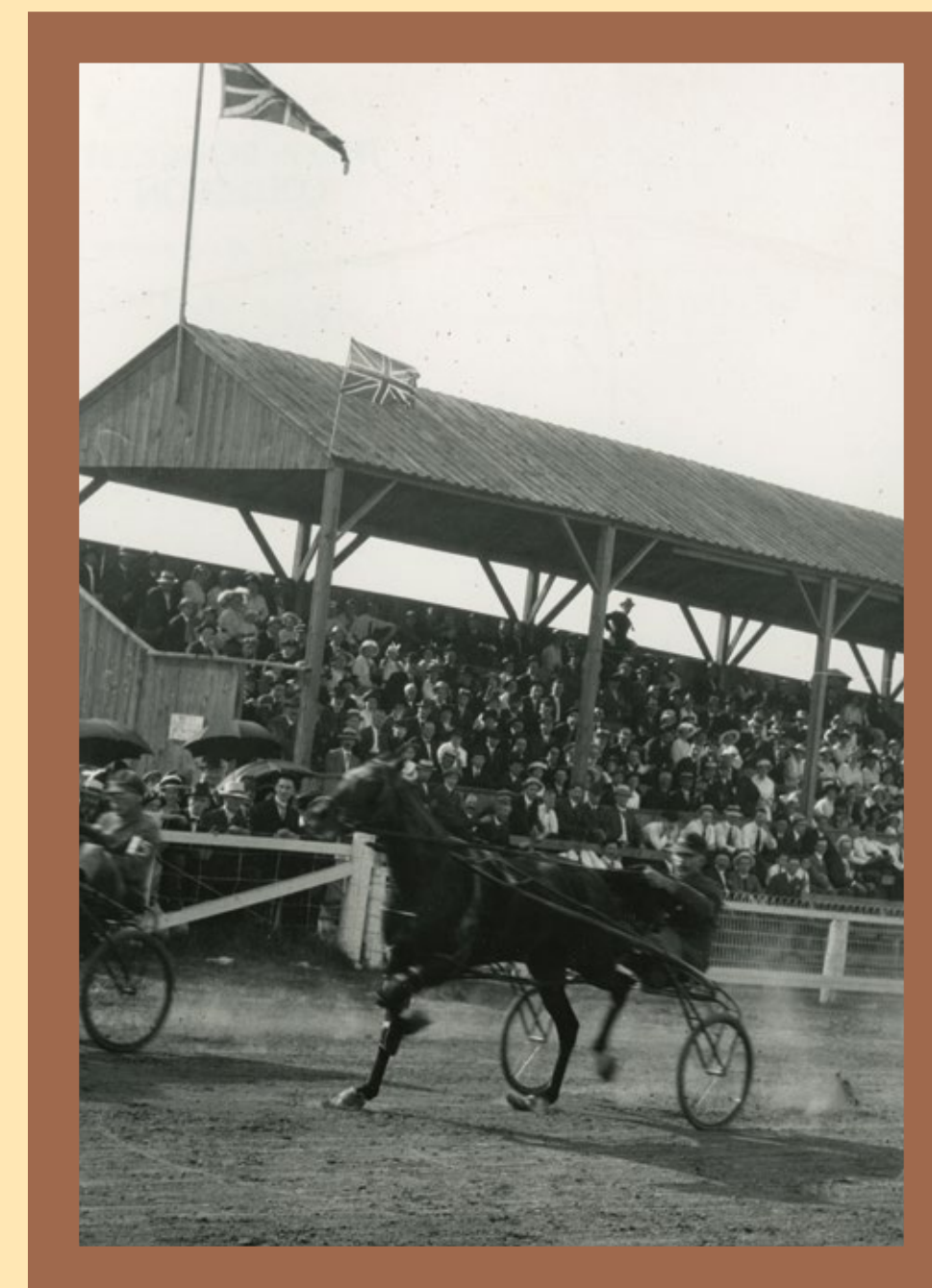
## A Place for Sport, Recreation and Play

Alexandra Park was Oshawa's premier gathering place for sport, recreation and community events from its opening until the 1950s. Generations of residents came here to cheer on local teams, celebrate victories and test their own sporting skills.

The Park was alive with excitement and community spirit as players and spectators gathered for football, baseball, lacrosse and rugby matches. A track also drew crowds for harness horse racing, motorcycle races and bicycle races creating a lively spectacle of speed and competition.



Lacrosse players from All Saints and Shamrocks face off for a game at Alexandra Park in 1910. Source: Thomas Bouckley Collection, The Robert McLaughlin Gallery.



The grandstand was full of spectators for this horse race at Alexandra Park, circa 1920. If you look closely, you can see standing room to the left of the grandstand. Spectators stood with umbrellas to shelter from the rain and sun. Source: Oshawa Museum, archival collection.

## Community Fun for All

For generations, Alexandra Park has been a place where families gathered, children played and community memories were made.

From the 1940s through the early 1960s, the Community Recreation Association (C.R.A.) brought the Park to life with supervised recreation programs for local children. The C.R.A. was a private, non-profit organization that organized a wide variety of activities designed to encourage play, friendship and healthy living.

Throughout the summer months, children took part in playground programs, relay races, golf activities, pet contests and even tin can bowling.

The Park was also a popular venue for local school field days. Students marched proudly into the park representing their schools before competing in track and field events, cheered on by classmates, teachers and family members.

Whether through organized games, friendly competition or everyday play, for over a century Alexandra Park has long been a place where the Oshawa community comes together to connect, celebrate and enjoy the outdoors.



Students from Albert Street School proudly carry their school flag into Alexandra Park for a field day, circa 1960s. Source: Oshawa Museum, archival collection.



High school students, in 1913, have fun competing in an "Egg Race" at the track in Alexandra Park. Source: Thomas Bouckley Collection, The Robert McLaughlin Gallery.

## Recreation and Relaxation Today

Today, the Park is home to a variety of recreational amenities, including soccer fields, baseball diamonds, playgrounds and tennis and pickleball courts. These spaces continue the long tradition of sport, recreation and community activity that has defined the park for generations.

Alexandra Park offers more than places to play. Nestled within the heart of the city, its mature trees, open green spaces and shaded pathways provide a welcome place to pause, reflect and connect with nature.

Whether visitors come to compete, play, gather with friends or simply enjoy a quiet moment, Alexandra Park continues to serve as a vibrant and valued community space.

## The Indigenous History of Lacrosse

Originally called the game of stick to the Michi Saagiig, Nishnaabeg, it was considered a ceremony to honour the spirit and heal the sick, earning it the name Medicine Game.

One of the original purposes of the game of stick was to settle disputes. This practice has not been used for over 125 years, but the game's cultural significance endures.

Information about the history of lacrosse was prepared with the knowledge shared by Elder Dorothy Taylor. Miigwech to Elder Taylor for sharing her knowledge with us for this project.



Across Nations, lacrosse is known by different names:

- To the Haudenosaunee, lacrosse is called *Tewaarathon*
- To the Algonquin, it is known as *baaga'adowewin*

Historical information and images provided by the Oshawa Museum



For more information and an accessible PDF, please visit [oshawa.ca/Exhibitions](https://oshawa.ca/Exhibitions).