

## Atom A Hawks enter Tri-County playoffs

By Brian Lockhart

Despite a loss in their first game in the Tri-County playoffs, the Caledon Hawks atom A squad turned out a stellar performance during their match against the Oakville Blades Sunday at Caledon East.

The game went almost a full three periods before anyone could score. Oakville notched the only goal with 3:15 left on the clock in the third.

The Hawks put six attackers on the ice in a bid to tie it up, but despite a couple of near misses, they couldn't find the back of the Oakville net and had to settle for the loss.

Goalie Tyler Kirkland played an outstanding game in the Hawks' net, stopping 23 shots which included some wild scrambles in front of the crease.

‘He stood on his head, that’s for sure,’ Hawks’ head coach Craig White commented.

Defensively, both teams were trying to keep the other squad out of the zone, resulting in the low score.

The Hawks beat the Oakville team 2-1 the previous week, so they knew, going into the game, they had a chance to come on top. The Blades won their division last season as an AE team and moved up a division this season.

‘They out-shot us 24-8, they out-chanced us 10-3,’ White said. ‘We had our moments. They got us to the point where we could pull the goalie with a minute and change left and give ourselves a chance and we almost pulled it off. They (Oakville) play hard, they’re a very skilled team. There’s a lot of AA quality players on Oakville. I thought the referees called a good game.’

On offence, Andrew Gilchrist and Ethan Amaron had a solid games. Defensively, George Kirobolis and Sebastien Palikrousis did stand-out jobs protecting the Hawks’ zone.

The Hawks have several more games on the schedule as the Tri-County playoffs continue in a round-robin style format.



The Caledon Hawks atom A team played the Oakville Blades during game one of the Tri-County playoffs. The Hawks had to settle for a 1-0 loss when the Oakville squad scored with a little more than three minutes remaining in the third period. Photo by Brian Lockhart