

## Caledon FC drops below .500 after 3-1 loss to Mississauga



The Caledon FC battled Mississauga Portofino on the soccer pitch at Caledon East Community Park last Thursday (July 11) night under the lights. The Caledon squad will be in Orangeville this week to take on the Athletic. Photo by Brian Lockhart

By Brian Lockhart

The Caledon FC tied it at one early in the first half of last Thursday (July 11) night's Ontario Soccer League game against Mississauga Portofino at Caledon East Community Park, but the Mississauga responded with two more goals to end the game at 3-1. The loss leaves Caledon still struggling to notch a couple of wins to get on the plus side this season.

After giving up a goal in the first half, the Caledon response was a hard drive that resulted in several chances at the Portofino end. But they couldn't find the back of the net.

The squad was still feeling a 4-1 loss against Wisla United the previous week.

"It was a bit rough," said Caledon co-captain Tristan Costa of the game against Wisla. "We kept them at par for the first half. When it came to the second half, they switched up the formation and opened up the field and kind of broke us down a bit. We got a bit frustrated when calls weren't going our way. That led to a couple of cards and a few fouls. By the end of the game, a couple of our guys were ejected."

Despite struggling for part of the season, Costa said the team is still turning out good performances.

"We have nine points," he said. "The last three games we played were three games we should have won. But we dropped points here and there. We had a day game, a hot game, in Norval against Croatia, that we lost 1-0 on a penalty. We're not being a 90-minute team, I'd say. We're playing good for the first hour of the game, and then the last 30 minutes we're breaking down. I don't know if it's a fitness issue or a mental issue, but it's something we've got to fix."

Going into last Thursday night's game, it was the first time Caledon had met Mississauga this year.

"They're two points ahead of us," Costa observed. "We don't really know too much about them. We have two games in hand over them, so if we win this game we'll shoot up to about fourth place. The season's not over yet. We still have a good chunk of the season to make up points. We dropped those points early on, but we can't make those mistakes any more. We can't always be looking at the referees to give us our calls. We just have to play our game. We have a very skilled team, we just have to play to our strengths."

The Caledon squad will travel to Orangeville to take on the Athletic tonight (Thursday), with a 9:45 p.m. start.

They return to their home pitch in Caledon next Thursday (July 25) to host the Erin Mills Eagles. Game time is 9 p.m.