

## Fifth season of Golden Hawks set to kick off in GMOHL

By Jake Courtepatte

Rosters are set for the Georgian Mid-Ontario Junior C Hockey League, as the preseason wraps up and the puck hits the ice for the regular season in less than one week.

The 2014-2015 campaign marks the fifth season of play for the Caledon Golden Hawks, led by retired NHLer Sandy McCarthy. The Hawks met the Alliston Hornets at the New Tecumseh Rec Centre Aug. 18, five months after the Hornets' six-game loss in the GMOHL championship to the Penetang Kings.

Bad blood boiled almost immediately between the two teams, who combined for a whopping 206 penalty minutes in five games against each other last season.

Although Alliston would spend most of the first and second periods shorthanded, including four head-contact misconduct penalties, the Hawks simply could not capitalize on their opportunities.

Falling behind 5-0 after two periods, their only redemption would be a shorthanded shutout-breaker late in the third for a 5-1 loss.

The Hawks would meet Alliston again four days later, coming out strong this time to lead 2-0 after the first period. However, the Hornets would pick up three goals of their own in the second, once again putting the Golden Hawks in a hole.

A shorthanded marker in the third by last season's team scoring leader Daniel Cafagna would not prove to be enough, as the Hawks would drop their second-straight against the Hornets, 4-3.

The final game of the preseason would have the Hawks visit the Schomberg Cougars, looking for redemption from their 2014 playoff exit.

After a blank second period, the Cougars looked to mount a comeback when Matthew Hudgin potted their first goal of the game to cut the Hawks' lead in half.

However, Caledon would come storming back less than a minute later when team veteran Steve Zeppieri would put them up 3-1. Adam Breen would put the game out of reach, with an empty-netter in the final two minutes.

The Hawks dropped out of the GMOHL playoffs early last season, falling in five games to the Cougars in the first round.

The regular season is set to begin Saturday, when the Golden Hawks face off against the Erin Shamrocks on the road. The team's first home game comes the following evening against the Fergus Devils in Caledon East. Puck drop is at 7 p.m.