

Minor bantam Hawks have tough week with five games

By Brian Lockhart

Minor hockey is wrapping up the season with a final push to get the playoffs over.

The Caledon Hawks minor bantam AE team are right in the middle of a tough week as they are scheduled to play five games over six days going into the final playoff schedule in Tri-County round-robin action.

The minor bantams met the Orangeville Flyers in game three of their Tri-County schedule at Caledon East arena Sunday. It was a tense game that saw the first two periods go scoreless, as both teams turned it up a notch in a bid to advance in the playoffs.

The Hawks played a solid defensive game and kept the Flyers to the outside.

It wasn't until the third period that either team could score, Caledon's Paton Dorval.

?Right now, we a 0-3 with three games left,? Observed Hawks' head coach Guy Dorval after Sunday's game. ?Hopefully it goes our way and we make it 3-3 at the end of Thursday. We'll be playing five games in six days, as of last night. There's been a change with the schedule, including some cancelled games, now they've got to get them all done by the 6th. It's tough, but these will do well this way.?

After playing two periods with no score, both teams caught some breaks and managed to capitalize on opportunities in front of the net.

?The goalies were really good on both ends,? Coach Dorval said. ?There just weren't a lot of great opportunities to bury it. We're very strong on defence and we were playing a very defensive game. We try to keep them to the outside so they don't get a lot of shots in. That's the way we play ? we're good that way. We're not winning games, but we brought our ?goals-against' down.?

The game was tied at three late in the final frame, when a slick play across the net by the Orangeville team gave them the tie breaker. The Hawks fought back in the final few minutes and came dangerously close on a couple of plays, but they couldn't find the back of the net to score and had to settle for the loss.

The minor bantam team will be back on home ice in Caledon tonight (Thursday), when they will host the Milton Winterhawks at Mayfield Arena.



The Caledon Hawks minor bantam AE team took on the Flyers from Orangeville during Tri-County playoff action at Caledon East arena. Minor hockey is going into the final week of playoffs. The Hawks had to settle for a loss in this game when the Orangeville squad scored late in the third period to take the game. Photo by Brian Lockhart