



We started every Orangemen game in the shootout because chances are better than not, that is where we were going to end up. Five of the first nine Orangemen games have gone to the extra shooters with them winning four of them. The Hawks did a good job in their double header weekend defeating the Thunder at home before traveling to the Hangar and losing a shootout to the Orangemen. The Express took the second meeting of the season against their arch rivals the VRW. The Polar Bear gained a measure of revenge against the Hitmen as they take the second meeting 5-4 in a shootout. The Hitmen have gone winless since opening the season at 3-0. The third annual DP Premier All-Star game will be announced shortly with the game to be played in late January. With half the season in the books we've proved that the Premier Division is the top league to play top level Ball Hockey in the Province.

The **Toronto Thunder** made the trip to west to visit the **Mississauga Hawks** only to find themselves behind the eight ball early. Three goals before the period was eight minutes old had the Thunder playing from behind. The Thunder would storm back to make the score 3-3 before the end of the first thanks to a PP goal from Captain Danny Filice. The Hawks would once again open a two goal spread as Allan Penney and Dan Conte would strike early in the second. The Thunder would find a goal from Matt Hebbes to pull to within one, only to see the Hawks tack on two more for a 7-4 final. Hawk Captain Matt Tremblett was in on six of the seven goals as he accumulates one goal and five helpers. Ex Hawk Captain now with the Thunder Charlie Giffin had three helpers on the night but his new club has dropped their first two meetings with the Hawks.

The **Toronto Polar Bears** have relied heavily on goaltender Gus Kalitzis and he has not let them down. With the absence of Sandro Mignosa, Mike Gaggi and Justin Monaghan the Bears are missing three offensive stars that produce at least a point a game. Jeff Wilson and Chris Monaghan have been close to unstoppable and the Bears have the tendency to score early and often. This game was no different as they build a 3-0 lead and then held on for dear life. The game would end 4-4 as that offensive threat from the blue line Pat Miller sets up all four Bears goals on the night. Anthony Novia and Jonathan Pulicichio with a pair earn the

#### **North York Hitmen**

a point. In the shootout only one man would score, and if you guessed Jeff Wilson you were

right as he beats David Clark to earn his club full marks. Bears draw level with the Thunder and sit only two points away from the Hitmen.

**Mississauga Hawks** have had a successful first half accumulating twelve of a possible eighteen first half points and second spot in the standings. In a matchup of one vs. two the **Metro Orangemen** would be a tough challenge for the Hawks looking to gain sole possession of top spot. The Orangemen would use their legs and force the Hawks into turnovers and open a 2-0 lead as Nelson Pacheco and Chris Creador would do the damage. Granted a five minute PP the Hawks would turn the tables, after Mike Balaban made the score 2-1, Tremblett and Frank D'Ambrosio give the Hawks the lead. A Sergio Vidal goal from a quick accurate shot from the slot draws the game level. In the shootout Tremblett and Paul Lima would both score after three rounds and the shooters would continue. Pacheco, who is nicknamed "Smiley" by his teammates, calmly dekes Zarnett and wins the shootout for the Orangemen. Final 4-3 and Orangemen have sole possession on top of the Premier Division.

**Vaughan Red Wings** looking to keep pace with the leaders had a date with the **Brampton Express** who found their winning ways and climbed into the thick of the race for a post season first round bye. The Vaughan Red Wings seem to need a full Express squad in front of them to play at an elevated level. With only eight Express runners up against the young fresh legs of fifteen VRW players the odds should be in the favour of the VRW. The Express in two games have a 9-3 and now a 4-2 victory in the first two meetings between them and the VRW in the Fall. Cody Graham with the game winner and Garrett Bambourough with an empty netter seal the late night victory. Anthony Valente of the Wings, with a highlight reel goal, pulls the VRW to within one late. Missing Sam Renda, Anthony Metallo and Daniel Alonzi for a crucial last minute push may have cost the Wings a point. The Express behind the solid goaltending of Dave DiGironimo hold on and are only three points away from the Orangemen and top spot with a meeting between these two still to come.

### **Week 8 Top Goaltenders**

1. Paul Zarnett (Hawks) - earns club three points with a win and tie in two starts
2. Dave DiGironimo (Express) - turns away rush after rush from VRW to earn W
3. Gus Kalitzis (Bears) - solid effort for a shootout victory

### **Week 8 Top Performers**

1. Matt Tremblett (Hawks) - two goals and six assists
2. Nelson Pacheco (Orangemen) - a goal in regulation and a shootout winner

3. Charlie Giffin (Thunder) - three helpers versus old mates

**Player of the Week**

In two games Hawks Captain ***Matt Tremblett*** collected eight points on two goals and six assists, he also had a shootout goal to help his club earn three points on the week. Congratulations and see Premier Commissioner for your player of the week award.

Peter Lorusso  
Premier Commissioner