



# BULLDOGS PLAYOFF PREVIEW

## Bulldogs on the brink in playoff series with Buzz

By Eamonn Maher  
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Putting the youngest team they've had in several seasons on the floor this year, the Halton Hills Bulldogs are in jeopardy of bowing out in the first round of the Ontario Jr. B Lacrosse League playoffs after a pair of weekend losses to the Oakville Buzz.

The fourth-place Bulldogs lost at home 15-12 in Saturday's opener and were overpowered again Sunday night in Oakville in a 13-5 Buzz rout and now trail the best-of-5 East Conference quarterfinal 2-0.

Game three of the series was played Wednesday night in Georgetown. If a fourth game is required, it will take place Friday

at Joshua's Creek Arenas in Oakville at 7:30 p.m. Game five would be played Sunday at the Alcott Arena starting at 7 p.m.

The fourth-place Bulldogs have fallen into a slump at the worst possible time against the fifth-ranked Buzz.

After losing several key players to age and Jr. A during the off-season, Halton Hills was able to maintain its usual place near the top of the conference standings with a 12-3-1 start. But they haven't won since, dropping their final four regular-season starts and two more versus Oakville.

"When you've got a young team, you're learning what it takes to win and as a coaching staff we have to focus on making sure everyone is understanding how to prepare a little better and sacrifice a little more, making sure we do things right," head coach Blaine McCauley said prior to the playoffs.

"Our approach this year was learning in the regular season and hopefully that prepares us for the playoff run. The expectations are high for us every year and we need to learn to play with those expectations."

Cody Menzies got the 'Dogs on the board first in game two Sunday but the Buzz took control soon after, holding intermission leads of 7-2 and 12-3. Mason Wright (2), Derek Jensen and Cam Downey had the other goals for the visitors.



Halton Hills Bulldogs' netminder Blake Jensen covers up a loose ball before Green Gaels' sniper Jeremy McWatters can get his stick on it during a recent Ontario Jr. B Lacrosse League game in Georgetown. The Bulldogs were riding a five-game win streak heading into the contest with the Gaels but lost 14-7 and haven't won since, dropping six games in a row. Photo by Eamonn Maher

In the opener Saturday, Halton Hills held a 10-6 lead early in the third period before the Buzz broke the game open with nine goals in less than nine minutes.

Zack Kearney (3), Josh Bryers (2), James Vezina, Adam Elinesky, Cody Menzies, John

Vezina, Theo Dol, Derek Jensen and Cam Downey scored for the home side.

The Bulldogs have advanced past the second round just once since 2011, making it to the league championship series in 2014 against Six Nations.

**OLA JR. B EAST CONFERENCE**  
Best-of-five quarterfinal series

**Game 1 - June 24**  
Oakville, 15, Halton Hills 12

**Game 2 - June 25**  
Oakville 13, Halton Hills 5

**Game 3**  
Wednesday, June 28 at Georgetown

**x-Game 4**  
Friday, June 29 at Oakville 7:30 p.m.

**x-Game 5**  
Sunday, July 2 at Georgetown, 7 p.m.  
x-if necessary

**MEET THE BULLDOGS**

<p>#1  <b>CAMERON MACLEOD</b> POSITION: Goalie DOB: Jan. 1, 1999 Georgetown 6'0" — 170 lbs.</p>	<p>#3  <b>JAMES VEZINA</b> POSITION: Transition DOB: Sept. 25, 1998 Georgetown 6'2" — 190 lbs.</p>	<p>#4  <b>MASON WRIGHT</b> POSITION: Forward DOB: March 29, 1997 Milton 6'1" — 210 lbs.</p>	<p>#5  <b>MATT HODGINS</b> POSITION: Transition DOB: April 14, 1997 Georgetown 6'1" — 160 lbs.</p>	<p>#6  <b>ADAM ELINESKY</b> POSITION: Transition DOB: Sept. 1, 1998 Georgetown 5'10" — 165 lbs.</p>	<p>#7  <b>SPENCER BLACKWELL</b> POSITION: Forward DOB: Feb. 6, 2000 Erin 5'10" — 160 lbs.</p>
<p>#9  <b>CODY MENZIES</b> POSITION: Forward DOB: Oct. 21, 1996 Georgetown 5'11" — 180 lbs.</p>	<p>#10  <b>HUNTER RANDELL</b> POSITION: Transition DOB: Nov. 10, 1999 Georgetown 5'9" — 160 lbs.</p>	<p>#11  <b>ZACK KEARNEY</b> POSITION: Forward DOB: Jan. 12, 2000 Georgetown 5'11" — 170 lbs.</p>	<p>#12  <b>No Photo Available</b></p>	<p>#13  <b>CONNOR HOUSTON</b> POSITION: Transition DOB: Jan. 1, 2000 Georgetown 5'11" — 160 lbs.</p>	<p>#14  <b>QUENTON BEGIN</b> POSITION: Transition DOB: April 18, 1996 Guelph 6'1" — 200 lbs.</p>
<p>#15  <b>TYLER BILES</b> POSITION: Defence DOB: Aug. 21, 1996 Georgetown 6'1" — 190 lbs.</p>					

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