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Eamonn Maher photo

Halton Hills Eagles' shortstop Josh Ryder puts the tag on Niagara Falls baserunner Joseph Baka after catcher Liam Ellis corralled a wild pitch and made a strong throw to second base for the out. The host minor peewee AA Eagles won their opening game of the Baseball Ontario championship tournament over Niagara Falls 6-2 but were eliminated from contention after Saturday's play.

## Cambridge, Chatham victorious at provincials hosted by Halton Hills

The first-ever Baseball Ontario championships hosted by the Halton Hills Minor Baseball Association finished up with champions declared in the minor peewee AA and B divisions.

Cambridge won the AA championship and Chatham claimed the B title.

The tournament, which had 12 teams in each division, had a double-knockout for-

mat.

Both host teams were eliminated in Round 3 of their respective draws.

In the minor peewee AA Eagles' opening game Friday, winning pitcher Jack Stott belted a run-scoring double and Josh Ryder added a two-RBI double to break open a close game in Halton Hills's 6-2 triumph.

## Maple Leafs great Sittler tees it up at North Halton

Retired Toronto Maple Leafs star centre Darryl Sittler agreed that there's a lot more to talk about while attending community events as one of the team's ambassadors now that the NHL team has returned to winning ways.

The 66-year-old overtime hero from the 1976 Canada Cup was at The Club at North Halton last week to hit some balls on the par-three ninth hole with participants in the Castle Building Centres' Supplier Appreciation Tournament.

Sittler hailed the additions of number-one overall pick Auston Matthews along with Mitch Marner, William Nylander, and a host of young players, who pushed the league's top regular-season team, the Washington Capitals, to six games in their first-round playoff series.

"The Leafs are fun to talk about and it's great to see the nucleus of young guys, plus probably the best coach in the league and a solid management team," said the native of St. Jacobs, Ont.

"To come from last place last year to go to the playoffs and play as well as they did, there's a lot to look forward to and lots of

optimism. It's nice to see us in an upswing."

He also acknowledged that the path to the Stanley Cup won't be easy, as it wasn't for captain Sittler's teams in the 1970s when the likes of the great Montreal Canadiens and Philadelphia Flyers teams stood in the way.

Like fellow Leafs ambassador Wendel Clark, who purchased his first vehicle in 1985 at Georgetown Chevrolet as a teenager with his entry-level contract, Sittler has his own Halton Hills-related story from four decades ago.

During the Mississauga train derailment in November 1979, in which more than 200,000 people had to be evacuated, then-Lorne Park resident Sittler and his family spent a week at the spacious home of teammate Dave Burrows, who was a neighbour of current town councillor and former NHL director of officiating Bryan Lewis.

"We basically moved into Dave's house with two or three other couples for a few days and (the evacuation) lasted a little longer than we thought it would, but we were fine," Sittler recalled.



Eamonn Maher photo

Hockey Hall of Famer Darryl Sittler (third from left) was the guest of Castle Building Centres president Ken Jenkins (third from right) at the company's recent Supplier Appreciation Tournament held at The Club at North Halton last week. From left, Corry Clark, Terry Mulock, Bruce Filek and Malcolm Orr.

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