



NORTH IOWA BULLS HOCKEY CLUB

100 S. Washington Ave., Suite 118 | Mason City, IA 50401 | 641-423-GOAL | NorthIowaBulls.com | @NorthIowaBulls

GAME 24 - DECEMBER 10, 2021 (7:30 P.M. at Mason City Arena – Mason City, IA)



NORTH IOWA BULLS

13-7-1-2 (29 pts, .630)

1st, Central Division

Head Coach: Todd Sanden

Assistant Coaches: Mark Hicks

SPRINGFIELD JR. BLUES

17-8-0-1 (35 pts, .673)

2nd, Midwest Division

Head Coach: Tyler Renette

Assistant Coaches: Todd Pockocke



VS

SCHEDULE

| | | |
|-------|-------------------|----------|
| 09/15 | vs. MN Wilderness | W, 5-1 |
| 09/16 | vs. Jamestown | L, 4-1 |
| 09/17 | vs. Amarillo | W, 4-1 |
| 09/18 | vs. Kenai River | W, 6-2 |
| 09/24 | ABERDEEN | L, 3-2 |
| 09/25 | ABERDEEN | W, 6-5 |
| 10/01 | AUSTIN | SOL, 4-3 |
| 10/02 | @ Austin | W, 4-2 |
| 10/08 | @ Minot | W, 3-2 |
| 10/09 | @ Minot | W, 6-3 |
| 10/15 | MINOT | W, 3-2 |
| 10/16 | MINOT | L, 6-1 |
| 10/22 | @ Aberdeen | L, 5-2 |
| 10/23 | @ Aberdeen | SOL, 5-4 |
| 11/05 | BISMARCK | W, 6-4 |
| 11/06 | BISMARCK | W, 6-3 |
| 11/12 | @ Austin | SOW, 3-2 |
| 11/13 | AUSTIN | W, 5-3 |
| 11/20 | @ St Cloud | W, 7-4 |
| 11/26 | @ Austin | L, 5-3 |
| 11/27 | AUSTIN | L, 4-1 |
| 12/03 | ST CLOUD | L, 4-2 |
| 12/04 | @ St Cloud | OTL, 3-2 |
| 12/10 | SPRINGFIELD | 7:30pm |
| 12/11 | SPRINGFIELD | 7:30pm |
| 12/17 | @ Bismarck | 7:15pm |
| 12/18 | @ Bismarck | 7:15pm |
| 12/31 | @ Austin | 7:00pm |
| 01/01 | AUSTIN | 7:30pm |
| 01/07 | ABERDEEN | 7:30pm |
| 01/08 | ABERDEEN | 7:30pm |
| 01/14 | @ Minot | 7:35pm |
| 01/15 | @ Minot | 8:05pm |
| 01/21 | @ Bismarck | 7:15pm |
| 01/22 | @ Bismarck | 7:15pm |
| 01/27 | ST CLOUD | 7:30pm |
| 01/28 | @ Aberdeen | 7:15pm |
| 01/29 | @ Aberdeen | 7:15pm |
| 02/04 | AUSTIN | 7:30pm |
| 02/05 | @ Austin | 7:00pm |
| 02/11 | @ Aberdeen | 7:15pm |
| 02/12 | @ Aberdeen | 7:15pm |
| 02/18 | BISMARCK | 7:30pm |
| 02/19 | BISMARCK | 7:30pm |
| 02/25 | @ Springfield | 7:05pm |
| 02/26 | @ Springfield | 6:05pm |
| 03/04 | @ Bismarck | 7:15pm |
| 03/05 | @ Bismarck | 7:15pm |
| 03/11 | AUSTIN | 7:30pm |
| 03/12 | @ Austin | 7:00pm |
| 03/18 | ABERDEEN | 7:30pm |
| 03/19 | ABERDEEN | 7:30pm |
| 03/25 | MINOT | 7:30pm |
| 03/26 | MINOT | 7:30pm |
| 03/30 | ST. CLOUD | 7:30pm |
| 04/01 | @ St Cloud | 7:00pm |
| 04/08 | BISMARCK | 7:30pm |
| 04/09 | BISMARCK | 7:30pm |
| 04/15 | ST. CLOUD | 7:30pm |
| 04/16 | @ St. Cloud | 7:00pm |

IN A NUTSHELL:

One of the league's newest and youngest teams welcomes the NAHL's longest-running franchise for its final home weekend of 2021.

ALL-TIME SERIES:

First meeting.

LAST TIME OUT:

North Iowa nearly snapped its three-game losing skid this past Saturday night, snagging the lead twice in its trip to face the St. Cloud Norsemen – St. Cloud tied the game twice and walked off of its home ice with a 3-2 overtime win to snare a sweep for the weekend. The Bulls took the lead just before the halfway mark of the first period when newcomer **Dylan Gajewski** shoveled one into the net to beat Tomas Bolo and jump ahead, 1-0. The lead stayed in North Iowa's hands for 37 minutes, but Kade Peterson took advantage of an extra chance to beat **Hunter Garvey** and tie the game with 13:20 left in regulation. Gajewski's 2-on-1 goal from **Logan Dombrowsky** got the lead back for the Bulls just three minutes later, but a turnover deep in the North Iowa zone helped St. Cloud equalize the game again, with Ryan O'Neill finding Blake Perbix for a backdoor tap-in with 3:46 to play. Neither team put a full scoring chance together in the overtime session until Nik Hong entered the North Iowa zone and found O'Neill for a backside pass, and O'Neill dangled the puck into the net for the winner at 2:46 of overtime. Garvey did more than his share, stopping 49 of 52 St. Cloud shots in the game, while Bolo made 23 saves for the victory. Dombrowsky and **Sota Isogai** earned assists on both of Gajewski's goals.

UPCOMING PROMOTIONS:

North Iowa opens its annual "Naughty and Nice" weekend tonight, with an ugly sweater contest and an appearance by the Grinch. This evening's game is also a "Friday Night Lights" game, with selected Bulls players signing postgame autographs. The Bulls will also wear special Busch Light-themed jerseys tonight, to be auctioned live after Saturday's game.

GOOD THINGS COME IN 3s:

North Iowa forward Dylan Gajewski seems to have settled in just fine after his first weekend in a Bulls uniform, posting three goals last weekend in two losses against the Norsemen. He quickly matched his 19-game total with the Austin Bruins, with all three goals coming at the North American Hockey League Showcase at the start of the season. He posted a point per game last season in the NA3HL for the Willmar WarHawks, playing 26 regular-season games and becoming a major factor in their run to their first-ever West Division Final series.

MULTIPLYING MILESTONES:

Dylan Gajewski's huge weekend marks just one of a multitude of recent milestones that the Bulls have celebrated – two of his goals last weekend saw a debut on the NAHL score sheet for a linemate. His first Bulls goal last Friday night saw defenseman **Andrew Stacey** pick up his first junior assist, and Mason City Toros call-up Sota Isogai earned his first two NAHL assists on Gajewski's goals in Saturday's game. Defenseman **Casey Roepke** earned an assist on **Michael Mesic's** Teddy Bear Toss goal last Friday. Since November 20, five Bulls have earned their first points in a North Iowa uniform and two have marked a career 100-game milestone. **Jack Mesic's** 100th NAHL game remains on hold as his run with the USHL's Lincoln Stars continues.

PICKING UP STEAM:

If the first portion of the season is any indication, fans at this weekend's games will have all the more reason to stay for the full game – the latter stages of a game are when these teams shine. The margins are close in every stanza of the game, but the third period is the only one where North Iowa has out-shot its opponents this season (244-239). For Springfield, the third period is by far its most efficient at the offensive end, scoring more goals (32) in the final period than in any other despite firing off fewer shots (229) than in either of the other two.

LIVING HISTORY:

There are long-tenured teams in the North American Hockey League, but no team on the circuit boasts quite the history or heritage that the Jr. Blues do – the team first entered the league in 1993, and now boasts of being the longest-operating team in Illinois's capital city. Springfield made quite a few trips to Mason City during the North Iowa Outlaws' stay in town from 2005 to 2010, going 17-14-2 against the Outlaws in the regular season and postseason. The teams met in the first round of the 2008 Robertson Cup playoffs, with the Jr. Blues sweeping North Iowa in three games.

COVERAGE:

All 60 regular-season North Iowa Bulls games are streamed live at HockeyTV.com. Listen to the Bulls for free, home and away – click the "Listen Live" link at NorthIowaBulls.com, or go directly to the Bulls' audio homepage at mixlr.com/northiowabulls.

CENTRAL DIVISION STANDINGS

| | | |
|------------------|-----------|--------|
| BULLS | 13-7-1-2 | 29 PTS |
| Austin | 13-9-1-2 | 29 pts |
| Minot | 14-11-1-0 | 29 pts |
| Aberdeen | 13-10-0-1 | 27 pts |
| St. Cloud | 11-9-0-0 | 20 pts |
| Bismarck | 7-16-1-0 | 15 pts |



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Roster accurate as of December 8, 2021

FORWARDS (16)

| # | NAME | SHOT | HT | WT | D.O.B. | HOMETOWN | LAST TEAM |
|----|------------------|-------|-------|-----|----------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| 7 | Dylan Gajewski | Right | 5'10" | 165 | 07/16/01 | Woodhaven, MI | Austin Bruins |
| 9 | Carter Rapalje | Right | 5'9" | 170 | 8/10/01 | Burlington, VT | Amarillo Bulls |
| 11 | Logan Dombrowsky | Right | 6'3" | 200 | 11/02/02 | Stevens Point, WI | Amarillo Bulls |
| 12 | Max Scott | Left | 5'11" | 185 | 10/11/02 | San Jose, CA | Amarillo Bulls |
| 14 | Justin Mexico | Left | 5'9" | 165 | 12/03/03 | Madison Heights, MI | Maine Nordiques AAA |
| 16 | Brett Morich | Right | 6'1" | 200 | 07/09/01 | Phoenix, AZ | Jamestown Rebels |
| 18 | Jake LaRusso | Right | 5'11" | 180 | 03/16/02 | Colts Neck, NJ | New Jersey Titans |
| 19 | Michael Mesic | Left | 5'11" | 165 | 08/15/04 | Plymouth, MI | Honeybaked U16 AAA |
| 20 | Hunter Bulger | Right | 5'8" | 170 | 08/05/02 | St Louis, MO | St. Louis Blues AAA |
| 22 | Tyler Braccini | Left | 5'11" | 175 | 07/02/01 | Minneapolis, MN | Minnesota Magicians |
| 23 | Sota Isogai | Left | 5'11" | 170 | 02/14/01 | Nagano, Japan | Mason City Toros |
| 24 | Jack Champion | Left | 6'0" | 170 | 09/02/01 | Crystal, MN | Mason City Toros |
| 25 | Carter Newpower | Left | 6'2" | 180 | 02/21/02 | Cottage Grove, MN | Mason City Toros |
| 26 | Simone Dadie | Left | 6'2" | 198 | 09/18/03 | Brunico, Italy | Okanagan Hockey Academy Europe U20 |
| 29 | Byron Hartley | Right | 6'0" | 185 | 05/09/02 | Philadelphia, NY | Philadelphia Little Flyers 18U |
| 37 | Anthony Domina | Right | 6'4" | 205 | 11/24/03 | Severna Park, MD | Northern Cyclones |

DEFENSEMEN (8)

| # | NAME | SHOT | HT | WT | D.O.B. | HOMETOWN | LAST TEAM |
|----|---------------|-------|-------|-----|----------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 2 | Greg Japchen | Left | 6'3" | 195 | 12/17/01 | Doylestown, PA | Amarillo Bulls |
| 6 | Joey Potter | Right | 5'11" | 185 | 05/09/02 | Pittsburgh, PA | Twin City Thunder |
| 8 | Joe Sweeney | Right | 6'1" | 175 | 04/21/03 | San Jose, CA | Chippewa Steel |
| 10 | Jack Mesic | Right | 5'11" | 185 | 10/18/02 | Plymouth, MI | Amarillo Bulls |
| 15 | Jack Boxer | Left | 6'3" | 190 | 01/30/02 | Colorado Springs, CO | Amarillo Bulls |
| 17 | Andrew Stacey | Right | 6'0" | 180 | 01/14/03 | Toledo, OH | Tri-State Spartans 18U |
| 21 | Casey Roepke | Left | 6'0" | 177 | 05/02/02 | Erin, WI | Lincoln Stars |
| 27 | Sean Vlasich | Right | 5'8" | 175 | 04/20/01 | Upper Saddle River, NJ | Amarillo Bulls |

GOALTENDERS (3)

| # | NAME | HT | WT | D.O.B. | HOMETOWN | LAST TEAM |
|----|---------------|-------|-----|----------|----------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | Hunter Garvey | 6'1" | 160 | 02/03/02 | San Diego, CA | Amarillo Bulls |
| 30 | Nathan Dickey | 6'0" | 175 | 08/05/03 | Butler, PA | Kenai River Brown Bears |
| 31 | Carsen Stokes | 5'10" | 170 | 02/13/02 | Prior Lake, MN | North Iowa Bulls |

PRONUNCIATIONS

SEAN VLASICH: VLASS-ick
CARTER RAPALJE: RAP-al-jay
JACK MESIC: MESS-ick
MICHAEL MESIC: MESS-ick
JAKE LaRUSSO: La-ROOS-oh
SOTA ISOGAI: SOH-ta EE-so-guy
TYLER BRACCINI: brass-EE-nee

CASEY ROEPKE: REP-kee
ANTHONY DOMINA: DOM-inna
SIMONE DADIE: SEE-mo-nay DAH-dee-ay
HUNTER BULGER: BULL-ger
BRETT MORICH: MOR-itch
DYLAN GAJEWSKI: Guy-ESS-kee

TEAM STAFF

HEAD COACH/GM: Todd Sanden
ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH/GM: Mark Hicks

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER: Kathee Corsello
ATHLETIC TRAINER: Austin Kessler
BROADCASTING/MEDIA RELATIONS: Austin Draude

BULLS GAME-BY-GAME (13-7-1-2)

| Date | Opponent | Result | GWG | Bulls Goaltender | Opp. Goaltender | Record | Highlights |
|--------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|--|
| Sep 15 | vs. MN Wilderness | W 5-1 | Michael Mesic (1) | Carsen Stokes (1-0-0-0, 23/24) | Jacob Zacharewicz (0-1-0-0, 26/31) | 1-0-0-0 | Dombrowsky: Bulls' 1 st NAHL goal (10:01, 1 st); Mesic/Coughlin/Scott: 3 pts |
| Sep 16 | vs. Jamestown | L 4-1 | Owen West | Jackson Baker (0-1-0-0, 27/31) | Nolan Suggs (1-0-0-0, 33/34) | 1-1-0-0 | Baker: 1 st junior start; NI: 6-for-6 on penalty kill; West: goal, 2 assists |
| Sep 17 | vs. Amarillo | W 4-1 | Logan Dombrowsky (1) | Cullen DeYoung (1-0-0-0, 33/34) | Max Gutjahr (1-1-0-0, 27/31) | 2-1-0-0 | North Iowa: 3-for-5 on power play; Dombrowsky: 2 goals, assist |
| Sep 18 | vs. Kenai River | W 6-2 | Carter Rapalje (1) | Cullen DeYoung (2-0-0-0, 28/30) | Bryant Marks (0-3-0-0, 23/28) | 3-1-0-0 | Rapalje, Greg Japchen: 2 G each; Ryan Coughlin: 100 th junior game |
| Sep 24 | Aberdeen | L 3-2 | Devon Carlstrom | Cullen DeYoung (2-1-0-0, 23/26) | Kyle Kozma (2-1-0-0, 33/35) | 3-2-0-0 | Chris Carroll: Bulls' 1 st NAHL home goal (1 st , 0:49); combined: 12-12 PK |
| Sep 25 | Aberdeen | W 6-5 | Hunter Bulger (1) | Carsen Stokes (2-0-0-0, 25/30) | Kyle Kozma (2-2-0-0, 22/25) | 4-2-0-0 | ABD comes back from down 3-0 for 4-3 lead (NI: 6-4 lead at 4:15 of 3 rd per) |
| Oct 1 | Austin | SOL 4-3 | Gavin Morrissey (SO) | Hunter Garvey (0-0-0-1, 34/37) | Hudson Hodges (4-1-1-0, 27/30) | 4-2-0-1 | Bulls tie game 3x (Vlasich: GTG w :43 left in 3 rd per.); AUS: 2-3 PP, 4-4 PK |
| Oct 2 | @ Austin | W 4-2 | Carter Rapalje (2) | Hunter Garvey (1-0-0-1, 27/29) | Niko Goich (1-1-0-0, 25/29) | 5-2-0-1 | 1 st NI/Austin games since 1985; NI: 5-5 PK (AUS: 1 st game w 0 PPG this yr) |
| Oct 8 | @ Minot | W 3-2 | Max Scott (1) | Hunter Garvey (2-0-0-1, 32/34) | Carter Clifton (2-3-1-0, 9/12) | 6-2-0-1 | MNT backup Zach Sandy: 18-for-18; Scott: 1 st goal as NI Bull (18:51, 1 st) |
| Oct 9 | @ Minot | W 6-3 | Carter Rapalje (3) | Hunter Garvey (3-0-0-1, 45/48) | Zach Sandy (0-3-0-0, 9/11) | 7-2-0-1 | Garvey: most saves by NI G since 2019; NI outshot 48-28 (1 st /2 nd per: 37-9) |
| Oct 15 | Minot | W 3-2 | Logan Dombrowsky (2) | Hunter Garvey (4-0-0-1, 30/32) | Zach Sandy (0-4-0-0, 35/38) | 8-2-0-1 | Byron Hartley, Justin Mexico score 1 st per goals for NI :35 apart (5:02, 5:37) |
| Oct 16 | Minot | L 6-1 | Zack Simon | Hunter Garvey (4-1-0-1, 32/38) | Zach Sandy (1-4-0-0, 32/33) | 8-3-0-1 | Minot scores three in opening 4:23; Dadie PPG breaks 31 PP skid for Bulls |
| Oct 22 | @ Aberdeen | L 5-2 | Patrick O'Connell | Hunter Garvey (4-2-0-1, 27/32) | Dominik Wasik (2-1-0-0, 36/38) | 8-4-0-1 | Wings: 3 straight goals in 1 st period, 2 goals :16 apart in 2 nd ; Max Scott: 2 G |
| Oct 23 | @ Aberdeen | SOL 5-4 | Cade Nielson (SO) | Hunter Garvey (4-2-0-2, 12/12) | Dominik Wasik (3-1-0-0, 40/44) | 8-4-0-2 | Carsen Stokes: 25/29 in 1 st start since 9/25; Carter Rapalje: 2 tying goals |
| Nov 5 | Bismarck | W 6-4 | Max Scott (2) | Hunter Garvey (5-2-0-2, 31/35) | Erik Forss (3-6-1-0, 34/40) | 9-4-0-2 | Carter Rapalje: 4 goals (Bulls' 1 st NAHL hat trick, first home goals w NI) |
| Nov 6 | Bismarck | W 6-3 | Michael Mesic (2) | Hunter Garvey (6-2-0-2, 20/23) | Aksel Reid (0-3-0-0, 10/14) | 10-4-0-2 | 11 Bulls tally at least one point; NI: 4 unanswered goals to end game |
| Nov 12 | @ Austin | SOW 3-2 | Justin Mexico (SO) | Hunter Garvey (7-2-0-2, 33/35) | Klayton Knapp (2-0-0-1, 23/25) | 11-4-0-2 | Mexico: 1 st -period goal, SO goal; NI: 7-8 PK, 3-3 PP; Shots: AUS 35, NI 26 |
| Nov 13 | Austin | W 5-3 | Byron Hartley (1) | Hunter Garvey (8-2-0-2, 31/34) | Hudson Hodges (7-4-1-0, 17/21) | 12-4-0-2 | Hartley, Carter Rapalje: 2 G each (Hartley: 1 st multi-goal junior game) |
| Nov 20 | @ St. Cloud | W 7-4 | Carter Rapalje (4) | Hunter Garvey (9-2-0-2, 38/42) | Tomas Bolo (5-3-0-0, 12/15) | 13-4-0-2 | E. Dahlmeir (STC): 17/21; S. Vlasich: 4 A (1 st Bull w/ 4 asst since 1/3/20) |
| Nov 26 | @ Austin | L 5-3 | Michal Jasenec | Hunter Garvey (9-3-0-2, 17/22) | Hudson Hodges (8-5-1-0, 20/23) | 13-5-0-2 | Bulls lead 3x (never more than one-goal lead); Jasenec: 2 goals, 2 assists |
| Nov 27 | Austin | L 4-1 | Braidan Simmons-Fischer | Hunter Garvey (9-4-0-2, 24/28) | Klayton Knapp (3-1-0-1, 27/28) | 13-6-0-2 | Carson Riddle (AUS): 2 goals; Carter Rapalje: only Bulls goal (:22, 3 rd per.) |
| Dec 3 | St. Cloud | L 4-2 | Nik Hong | Carsen Stokes (2-1-0-0, 29/33) | Tomas Bolo (6-3-0-0, 21/23) | 13-7-0-2 | D. Gajewski: goal in Bulls debut (A. Stacey, C. Roepke: 1 st pts w NI (asst.)) |
| Dec 4 | @ St. Cloud | OTL 3-2 | Ryan O'Neill | Hunter Garvey (9-4-1-2, 49/52) | Tomas Bolo (7-3-0-0, 23/25) | 13-7-1-2 | Dylan Gajewski: 2 G (both go-ahead goals); Sota Isogai: 1 st 2 NAHL assists |
| Dec 10 | Springfield | | | | | | |
| Dec 11 | Springfield | | | | | | |
| Dec 17 | @ Bismarck | | | | | | |
| Dec 18 | @ Bismarck | | | | | | |
| Dec 31 | @ Austin | | | | | | |
| Jan 1 | Austin | | | | | | |
| Jan 7 | Aberdeen | | | | | | |
| Jan 8 | Aberdeen | | | | | | |
| Jan 14 | @ Minot | | | | | | |
| Jan 15 | @ Minot | | | | | | |
| Jan 21 | @ Bismarck | | | | | | |
| Jan 22 | @ Bismarck | | | | | | |
| Jan 27 | St. Cloud | | | | | | |
| Jan 28 | @ Aberdeen | | | | | | |
| Jan 29 | @ Aberdeen | | | | | | |
| Feb 4 | Austin | | | | | | |
| Feb 5 | @ Austin | | | | | | |
| Feb 11 | @ Aberdeen | | | | | | |
| Feb 12 | @ Aberdeen | | | | | | |
| Feb 18 | Bismarck | | | | | | |
| Feb 19 | Bismarck | | | | | | |
| Feb 25 | @ Springfield | | | | | | |
| Feb 26 | @ Springfield | | | | | | |
| Mar 4 | @ Bismarck | | | | | | |
| Mar 5 | @ Bismarck | | | | | | |
| Mar 11 | Austin | | | | | | |
| Mar 12 | @ Austin | | | | | | |
| Mar 18 | Aberdeen | | | | | | |
| Mar 19 | Aberdeen | | | | | | |
| Mar 25 | Minot | | | | | | |
| Mar 26 | Minot | | | | | | |
| Mar 30 | St. Cloud | | | | | | |
| Apr 1 | @ St. Cloud | | | | | | |
| Apr 8 | Bismarck | | | | | | |
| Apr 9 | Bismarck | | | | | | |
| Apr 15 | St. Cloud | | | | | | |
| Apr 16 | @ St. Cloud | | | | | | |