



# NORTH IOWA BULLS HOCKEY CLUB

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

## GAME 53 - MARCH 25, 2022 (7:30 P.M. at Mason City Arena – Mason City, IA)



### NORTH IOWA BULLS

21-23-3-5 (50 pts, .481)

6<sup>th</sup>, Central Division

Head Coach: Todd Sanden

Assistant Coaches: Mark Hicks, Nick Bruneteau

### MINOT MINOTAUROS

27-24-2-1 (57 pts, .528)

4<sup>th</sup>, Central Division

Head Coach: Cody Campbell

Assistant Coaches: Jake Howie, Darren Banks



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	OTW, 4-3
12/11	SPRINGFIELD	L, 6-3
12/17	@ Bismarck	L, 5-3
12/18	@ Bismarck	L, 5-1
12/31	@ Austin	L, 5-2
01/01	AUSTIN	W, 5-3
01/07	ABERDEEN	SOL, 7-6
01/08	ABERDEEN	SOL, 5-4
01/14	@ Minot	L, 4-1
01/15	@ Minot	W, 5-4
01/21	@ Bismarck	L, 9-7
01/22	@ Bismarck	W, 4-3
01/27	ST CLOUD	L, 4-2
01/28	@ Aberdeen	W, 4-2
01/29	@ Aberdeen	L, 4-2
02/04	AUSTIN	L, 3-1
02/05	@ Austin	W, 4-2
02/11	@ Aberdeen	OTL, 4-3
02/12	@ Aberdeen	L, 4-3
02/18	BISMARCK	L, 6-2
02/19	BISMARCK	L, 4-0
02/25	@ Springfield	W, 3-1
02/26	@ Springfield	W, 5-3
03/04	@ Bismarck	L, 6-2
03/05	@ Bismarck	L, 6-3
03/11	AUSTIN	L, 5-2
03/12	@ Austin	L, 2-1
03/18	ABERDEEN	SOL, 4-3
03/19	ABERDEEN	OTL, 4-3
03/25	MINOT	7:30pm
03/26	MINOT	7:30pm
03/30	ST. CLOUD	6:30pm
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

#### CENTRAL DIVISION STANDINGS

St. Cloud	32-15-2-1	67 pts
Aberdeen	28-20-2-2	60 pts
Austin	26-22-2-3	57 pts
Minot	27-24-2-1	57 pts
Bismarck	24-25-1-2	51 pts
<b>BULLS</b>	<b>21-23-3-5</b>	<b>50 PTS</b>

#### IN A NUTSHELL:

This weekend marks a critical junction in the season for the Bulls, with two games against the fourth-place team in the Central Division.

#### ALL-TIME SERIES:

North Iowa leads, 4-2-0 (won first three matchups in October).

#### LAST TIME OUT:

North Iowa snagged two of the four available points last weekend against the Aberdeen Wings, taking both games to the bonus session before falling by 4-3 counts – after reaching the shootout on Friday, Will Gilson ended Saturday's game with a successful wrist shot just more than halfway through overtime. The Bulls got off to a roaring start, though, with **Justin Mexico** rescuing a pass and sweeping it to the back post for a goal 1:38 into the game and **Carter Rapalje** scoring on an odd-man rush at 2:14. Will Gilson first appeared on the score sheet at 4:34 of the contest, though, trimming the score to 2-1 going to the second period. A wrist shot from Ronan Walsh wiped away the lead at 1:28 of the second period, giving the Wings their third power play goal of the weekend, and Jacob Bosse's goal 9:03 into the second period gave the Wings their first lead. A drag across the front of the net and a toss to the twine from **Byron Hartley** tied the game with 5:24 remaining in the period, and none of the 15 shots in the third period made their way into the cage. Gilson's winner with 2:16 remaining came after crossing over to the right half, beating **Kyle Kozma** and sending the Wings back to Aberdeen with a sweep. Cade Neilson closed the night with two assists, and Anton Castro made 36 saves for the win, while Kozma took the loss despite 27 stops.

#### TONIGHT'S PROMOTIONS:

The Bulls welcome their billet and player families to this weekend's games, and this evening's game is also the first of two home games in North Iowa's jersey auction weekend – proceeds from Saturday's postgame jersey auction will benefit Mason City Parks and Recreation.

#### SPEAK NOW, OR...:

If North Iowa is going to make its playoff push, this may be the weekend to do it – the Bulls currently sit seven points back of the fourth and final Central Division playoff spot with eight games to go. The final team slotted into the playoffs is the Minot team that North Iowa faces this weekend – with a sweep, the Bulls could find themselves as close as three points out of fourth place with six games to go, putting them right in the hunt with three weeks left. A sweep going the wrong direction, however, likely puts the Bulls 11 points off the pace, and just two points away from postseason elimination.

#### HE'S A HANDFUL:

Forward **Byron Hartley** has been a literal handful for the Minotauros this season, posting five goals in six meetings against Minot. His best showing in the series, by far, came on January 15 in a 5-4 North Iowa victory at the Maysa Arena – Hartley picked up two goals, including the game-winner, and an assist. The Bulls got every period started the right way that night, posting a goal in the first two minutes every time out of the locker room.

#### HOMING IN ON THE POSTSEASON:

A busy home stretch continues, with the Bulls on home ice for eight of their last 10 games. Both remaining road games are scheduled as part of home-and-home weekends against first-place St. Cloud, against whom four of the Bulls' final six games will be played.

#### BACK WITH A VENGEANCE:

Forward **Logan Dombrowsky** spent six weeks on the injured list, but returned with a smashing performance last Friday against Aberdeen, notching three assists in his first appearance since February 5, just before his trip to the NAHL's Top Prospects event. His three points tied a career high, and his three assists set a new one – his only prior three-point performance came September 17 with two goals and an assist at the NAHL Showcase against the Amarillo Wranglers.

#### TOUGH-TO-TAME TAUROS:

There aren't many teams that have been tougher to hold down than Minot when going into the final 20 minutes – the Minotauros have come back from a deficit at the second intermission for six wins this season. Only New Mexico (seven wins) has a better mark, and Jamestown is the only other NAHL team to match it. Colby Joseph leads the way against North Iowa, with eight points in six appearances against the Bulls.

#### COVERAGE:

All 60 regular-season North Iowa Bulls games are streamed live on HockeyTV, sponsored by Dakota Fix Shelter Insurance. 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.



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Roster accurate as of March 24, 2022

## 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	Bryce Laager	Left	6'2"	190	09/13/04	Blaine, MN	Blaine H.S.
24	Jack Champion	Left	6'0"	170	09/02/01	Crystal, MN	Mason City Toros
25	Ryder Brophy	Right	6'2"	190	04/30/02	Franklin, PA	Esmark Stars 18U AAA
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
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
44	Jack Phelan	Right	6'4"	185	05/28/04	Hinsdale, IL	Chicago Mission 18U

## GOALTENDERS (2)

#	NAME	HT	WT	D.O.B.	HOMETOWN	LAST TEAM
1	Hunter Garvey	6'1"	160	02/03/02	San Diego, CA	Amarillo Bulls
30	Kyle Kozma	6'3"	200	09/02/01	Vaughan, ON	Minnesota Magicians

## PRONUNCIATIONS

**SEAN VLASICH:** VLASS-ick

**CARTER RAPALJE:** RAP-al-jay

**JACK & MICHAEL MESIC:** MESS-ick

**DYLAN GAJEWSKI:** Guy-ESS-kee

**JACK PHELAN:** FAY-lan

**TYLER BRACCINI:** brass-EE-nee

**BRYCE LAAGER:** LAH-gher

**CASEY ROEPKE:** REP-kee

**ANTHONY DOMINA:** DOM-inna

**SIMONE DADIE:** SEE-mo-nay DAH-dee-ay

**HUNTER BULGER:** BULL-jer

**BRETT MORICH:** MOR-ick

**RYDER BROPHY:** BROH-fee

## TEAM STAFF

**HEAD COACH/GM:** Todd Sanden

**ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH/GM:** Mark Hicks

**ASSISTANT COACH:** Nick Bruneteau

**CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** Kathee Corsello

**ATHLETIC TRAINER:** Austin Kessler

**BROADCASTING/MEDIA RELATIONS:** Austin Draude

