



NORTH IOWA BULLS HOCKEY CLUB

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

GAME 1 - SEPTEMBER 15, 2021 (11 A.M. at National Sports Center Super Rink - Blaine, MN)



NORTH IOWA BULLS

2020-21 Regular Season: 27-11-1-1 (56 pts, .700)

1st, NA3HL West Division

Head Coach: Todd Sanden

Associate Head Coach: Mark Hicks

MINNESOTA WILDERNESS

2020-21 Regular Season: 25-27-1-3 (54 pts, .482)

3rd, NAHL Central Division

Head Coach: Dave Boitz

Assistant Coach: Brendan Phelps



VS

SCHEDULE

09/15	vs. MN Wilderness	11:00am
09/16	vs. Jamestown	4:30pm
09/17	vs. Amarillo	5:15pm
09/18	vs. Kenai River	6:00pm
09/24	ABERDEEN	7:30pm
09/25	ABERDEEN	7:30pm
10/01	AUSTIN	7:30pm
10/02	@ Austin	7:00pm
10/08	@ Minot	7:35pm
10/09	@ Minot	7:35pm
10/15	MINOT	7:30pm
10/16	MINOT	7:30pm
10/22	@ Aberdeen	7:15pm
10/23	@ Aberdeen	7:15pm
11/05	BISMARCK	7:30pm
11/06	BISMARCK	7:30pm
11/12	@ Austin	7:00pm
11/13	AUSTIN	7:30pm
11/20	@ St Cloud	7:00pm
11/26	@ Austin	7:00pm
11/27	AUSTIN	7:30pm
12/03	ST CLOUD	7:30pm
12/04	@ St Cloud	7:00pm
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

STANDINGS

Aberdeen	0-0-0-0	0 pts
Austin	0-0-0-0	0 pts
Bismarck	0-0-0-0	0 pts
BULLS	0-0-0-0	0 PTS
Minot	0-0-0-0	0 pts
St. Cloud	0-0-0-0	0 pts

IN A NUTSHELL:

North Iowa opens a brand-new era of junior hockey with its first-ever NAHL game.

ALL-TIME SERIES:

First meeting.

LAST TIME OUT:

The Bulls wrapped up preseason play at 1-1-1, taking a 7-3 loss to Shattuck-St. Mary's last Wednesday evening before blitzing the Aberdeen Wings on Friday by a 7-1 count. The Wings went up 3-0 after one period on Saturday, with Kyle Gaffney getting the scoring started just ahead of the game's eight-minute mark, and Aberdeen left the first period with a 19-7 shots-on-goal advantage. Cullen DeYoung entered the net, and the Bulls began their climb back, starting with **Byron Hartley's** pocket-picking breakaway on the penalty kill just 3:40 out of the break. Owen DuBois buried a rebound at 14:34 of the period, but **Michael Mesic** answered with a second-chance tally of his own on the power play with just 11 seconds left in the second period. **Hunter Bulger** scored twice to erase the lead in the third period – including the game-tying marker with 10:04 remaining – but Landry Schmuck beat DeYoung on an odd-man rush with the only shot of overtime to seal a 5-4 win for the Wings. Mesic co-headlined the offensive effort for the Bulls alongside Bulger, notching a goal and two assists.

NEXT HOME GAME:

North Iowa opens its 2021-22 home schedule on Friday, September 24 against Aberdeen. That game kicks off the Bulls' "1 Town, 2 Teams, 3 Days, 4 Games" weekend alongside the new Mason City Toros, with free schedule posters to be given away at Friday's game.

NEW BEGINNINGS:

Today's game is a historic one for the Bulls – it's the first NAHL game for a Mason City-based team since March 27, 2010 – that game saw the North Iowa Outlaws fall to the Alexandria Blizzard 4-2 at the Runestone Community Center to wrap up a 15-37-6 season, with Nick Booth scoring the final goal in Outlaws history. The team moved to the La Crosse, Wisconsin area the following year, and became the Chippewa Steel after another move in 2019 – assistant coach Todd Sanden would remain with the Coulee Region Chill for their first year before returning to helm the brand-new North Iowa Bulls.

HISTORY REPEATS:

The second decade of North Iowa Bulls hockey will begin in exactly the same fashion it did in 2011 – with a four-game jaunt to a Showcase event in Blaine, Minnesota. This Bulls group, however, would prefer a little better start to its second decade on the ice – that team dropped its first five before earning its first win on October 2. The 2011-12 Bulls found a groove, winning 29 of their 48 games in their opening season.

WILD 'N' OUT:

Last year's Minnesota Wilderness team finished just under .500, going 25-27-1-3 in a 56-game schedule (though the Midwest Division played only 48 games, the NAHL schedule across the board was the shortest since the 2004-05 season, when 54 games was the standard). Though the Wilderness finished in third place, it was lackluster by the team's typical standards – this year's Minnesota team will be chasing its seventh winning record in a nine-year run in the NAHL (plus seven straight years in the Superior International Junior Hockey League and Minnesota Junior Hockey League before that).

YOU AGAIN:

Longtime junior hockey fans in North Iowa will recognize a familiar face behind the bench for the Bulls' opponent in this one – Wilderness head coach Dave Boitz served as the first head coach in North Iowa Outlaws history, from 2005 to 2008, winning a Central Division championship in the last of those seasons. Boitz became the head coach of the NAHL's Alaska Avalanche the following season, and has been in the Wilderness front office since 2013.

I WANNA BE LIKE MIKE:

Michael Mesic came out of North Iowa's brief preseason run as the team's top scorer, cranking out a goal and four assists over three appearances. He notched two assists in last Friday's win over the Aberdeen Wings, and piled up a goal and an assist in Saturday's overtime loss.

COVERAGE:

All Bulls games, home and away, 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.



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Roster accurate as of September 12, 2021

FORWARDS (16)

#	NAME	SHOT	HT	WT	D.O.B.	HOMETOWN	LAST TEAM
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	Michael Mumm	Right	6'2"	190	01/17/03	Livingston, NJ	New Jersey Rockets 18U AAA
18	Anthony Galante	Left	5'11"	165	04/18/02	Morganville, NJ	Maine Nordiques AAA
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
21	Luka Sukovic	Right	6'3"	195	11/03/03	Lincolnshire, IL	Odessa Jackalopes
22	Charlie Tuggey	Right	5'10"	165	01/04/03	Shaker Heights, OH	Gilmour Academy
24	Ryan Coughlin	Right	6'0"	180	02/09/01	Charlotte, NC	Amarillo Bulls
26	Simone Dadie	Left	6'2"	198	09/18/03	Brunico, Italy	Okanagan Hockey Academy Europe U20
28	Chris Carroll	Left	5'11"	180	05/04/01	Islip, NY	Amarillo Bulls
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
44	Matus Hadusovsky	Right	6'0"	170	04/24/03	Spisska Nova Ves, Slvk.	IF Sundsvall

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
7	Nick Liotino	Left	5'11"	180	09/25/02	Commerce Township, MI	Compuware 18U AAA
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
23	Luke Helgeson	Left	5'11"	190	11/30/04	Anchorage, AK	Cleveland Barons 16U
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	Carsen Stokes	5'10"	170	02/13/02	Prior Lake, MN	North Iowa Bulls
30	Cullen DeYoung	6'0"	165	04/03/02	Canton, MI	Amarillo Bulls
31	Andrew Takacs	6'3"	190	02/27/01	Bowie, MD	Amarillo Bulls

PRONUNCIATIONS

NICK LIOTINO: leo-TEE-no

CARTER RAPALJE: Rap-al-jay

JACK MESIC: MESS-ick

MICHAEL MESIC: MESS-ick

ANDREW TAKACS: TACK-iss

MATUS HADUSOVSKY: ma-TOOSH had-oo-SHUV-skee

ANTHONY GALANTE: gal-AHN-tay

LUKA SUKOVIC: SOO-coe-vich

SIMONE DADIE: DAH-dee

SEAN VLASICH: VLASS-ick

ANTHONY DOMINA: DOM-inna

TEAM STAFF

HEAD COACH/GM: Todd Sanden

ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH/GM: Kevin Murdock

ASSISTANT COACH: Mark Hicks

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER: Kathee Corsello

ATHLETIC TRAINER: Austin Kessler

BROADCASTING/MEDIA RELATIONS: Austin Draude

BULLS GAME-BY-GAME (0-0-0-0)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>GWG</i>	<i>Bulls Goaltender</i>	<i>Opp. Goaltender</i>	<i>Record</i>	<i>Highlights</i>
Sep 15	vs. MN Wilderness						
Sep 16	vs. Jamestown						
Sep 17	vs. Amarillo						
Sep 18	vs. Kenai River						
Sep 24	Aberdeen						
Sep 25	Aberdeen						
Oct 1	Austin						
Oct 2	@ Austin						
Oct 8	@ Minot						
Oct 9	@ Minot						
Oct 15	Minot						
Oct 16	Minot						
Oct 22	@ Aberdeen						
Oct 23	@ Aberdeen						
Nov 5	Bismarck						
Nov 6	Bismarck						
Nov 12	@ Austin						
Nov 13	Austin						
Nov 20	@ St. Cloud						
Nov 26	@ Austin						
Nov 27	Austin						
Dec 3	St. Cloud						
Dec 4	@ St. Cloud						
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	@ Bismarckj						
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						