



# WINTER 2025: WEEK 1

## RECAP



		1ST	2ND	3RD	OT	
<b>Game M-WEEK 1</b> Regular Season  6:34 PM Jan 5, 2025 <a href="#">VIEW BOX SCORE</a>	<b>Bulls</b> (1 - 0 - 0) MASTERS	1	3	1	1	6
	<b>Yellowjackets</b> (0 - 1 - 0) MASTERS	0	2	3	0	5

### Yellowjackets' Late Surge Pushes Bulls to the Brink in Overtime Thriller

The Yellowjackets delivered an unforgettable final two minutes of regulation, scoring twice in a stunning rally to force overtime against the Bulls in the season opener. Trailing 5-3 late in the third period, Sean Taylor and John Petricig electrified the crowd with back-to-back goals, including Petricig's second of the game with just 21 seconds on the clock. Both late period goals were assisted by rookie Chris Yuknis as part of his playmaker performance in his first league game. The rally exemplified the resilience and firepower of the Yellowjackets, whose 19-shot barrage in the latter stages nearly turned the tide.

The Bulls had appeared in control for much of the game, capitalizing on contributions from Josh Sigsworth and Jason O'Connell, who tallied three points each as well as a handful of other Bulls who had multipoint performances. Their defense held strong until the final stretch, supported by goaltender Tom Andrade's clutch saves, including a series of key stops to open the third period. Despite the Yellowjackets' late heroics, the Bulls regrouped in overtime, where DeBenedictis cemented his status as the hero, scoring the game-winner at 4:31 to secure a 6-5 victory.

This thrilling contest set a high bar for the 2025 winter season, showcasing grit, skill, and no shortage of drama. While the Bulls celebrated their redemption after last season's playoff disappointment, the Yellowjackets proved they are a force to be reckoned with, igniting what promises to be a fierce rivalry as the season unfolds.



		1ST	2ND	3RD	OT	SO	
<b>Game M-WEEK 1</b> Regular Season  7:48 PM Jan 5, 2025 <a href="#">VIEW BOX SCORE</a>	<b>Mariners</b> (0 - 1 - 0) MASTERS	1	1	1	0	0	3
	<b>Monarchs</b> (1 - 0 - 0) MASTERS	1	1	1	0	1	4

### Monarchs Bounce Back with Thrilling Shootout Victory Over Mariners

After a heartbreaking championship loss last season, the Monarchs began their redemption journey with a dramatic shootout win over the Mariners in the season opener. The tightly contested game saw both teams trading blows across regulation, with neither side able to gain a clear upper hand. Monarchs' Mike Kelly shone with two goals, including a short-handed tally that energized his squad, while the Mariners' Steve Fay delivered a standout performance with two goals and an assist.

The back-and-forth battle featured stellar goaltending from both sides, as Mike Ciavattieri of the Mariners and Jeff Delnickas of the Monarchs made critical saves to keep their teams in contention. Despite being outshot 30-18, the Mariners' defense held firm through overtime, thanks in part to disciplined play that kept the Monarchs' dangerous power play in check. In the shootout, the Monarchs proved dominant, sealing the win.

This hard-fought victory marked an emotional rebound for the Monarchs, who demonstrated resilience and determination in their quest to reclaim glory. The Mariners, meanwhile, proved to be a formidable opponent, showcasing a balanced attack and strong defensive structure. With both teams delivering high-octane performances, fans can expect a competitive and exciting season ahead.

		1ST	2ND	3RD	
Game M-WEEK 1 Regular Season  9:07 PM Jan 5, 2025 <a href="#">VIEW BOX SCORE</a>	 <b>Threshers</b> (0 - 1 - 0) MASTERS	2	0	0	2
	 <b>Knights</b> (1 - 0 - 0) MASTERS	4	2	2	8

### Championship Hangover: Threshers Fall to Knights in a Stunning Season Opener

The reigning back-to-back champions, the Threshers, stumbled out of the gate in their season opener, succumbing to the Knights in a decisive 8-2 defeat. Despite entering the game with high expectations, the Threshers were overwhelmed by a relentless Knights offense, led by Jack Bannon's hat trick and stellar supporting performances from Ryan Reale and Tom Smith. The Knights dominated from start to finish, showcasing precise passing and clinical finishing that left the Threshers reeling.

The opening period hinted at a competitive clash, as Duncan Morrissey and Scott Ormiston found the net for the Threshers to keep the game close. However, the Knights' Jack Bannon, assisted by Ryan and Rob Reale, struck twice in quick succession, including the game-winning goal by Tom Connolly in the final minute of the period. From there, the Knights seized complete control, outpacing and outshooting the Threshers, whose defensive lapses proved costly as the Knights poured on six unanswered goals over the final two periods.

For the Threshers, the loss raises questions about their readiness to defend their title, as the Knights exposed vulnerabilities in a squad that had seemed invincible just months ago. Meanwhile, the Knights announced themselves as serious contenders, with Bannon and Smith leading an offensive onslaught that will have the rest of the league taking notice. As the season unfolds, the Threshers will need to regroup quickly to shake off their championship hangover and reassert their dominance.



		1ST	2ND	3RD	
<b>Game C-WEEK 1</b> Regular Season  6:40 PM Jan 5, 2025 <a href="#">VIEW BOX SCORE</a>	<b>Astros</b> (1 - 0 - 0) CLASSICS	3	0	2	<b>5</b>
	<b>Mountainmen</b> (0 - 1 - 0) CLASSICS	0	0	2	<b>2</b>

## Rebuilt Astros Make Statement with Dominant Season Opener

The Astros opened their season with an emphatic 5-2 victory over the Mountainmen, signaling that their offseason rebuild has positioned them as a serious contender. The game was highlighted by a dynamic first period, where the Astros scored three unanswered goals in just over two minutes. John Keyes led the charge with a goal and an assist, while Andrew Mellen netted the game-winner off a setup from Des Walsh, showcasing the team's retooled offensive depth.

While the second period saw no goals, the Astros maintained control, outskating and outshooting the Mountainmen. The third period saw the Astros extend their lead with contributions from Matt Brennan and Mike Fuller, who capped off an outstanding two-point performance with a brilliant unassisted goal. The Mountainmen managed two late goals from John Hickey and George Levoy, but it was too little, too late against an Astros team firing on all cylinders.

This commanding win underscores the Astros' potential to be a force in the league this season. Bolstered by standout performances from both seasoned veterans and fresh faces, the team has found a winning balance of skill and strategy. If this opening game is any indication, the Astros' rebuilt roster is ready to make waves and challenge for top honors.

		1ST	2ND	3RD	
<b>Game C-WEEK 1</b> Regular Season  6:55 PM Jan 5, 2025 <a href="#">VIEW BOX SCORE</a>	<b>Bolts</b> (1 - 0 - 0) CLASSICS	1	2	3	<b>6</b>
	<b>Fury</b> (0 - 1 - 0) CLASSICS	2	0	0	<b>2</b>



## Bolts Dominate Fury with Explosive Offense in 6-2 Victory

The Bolts showcased their firepower in a commanding 6-2 win over the Fury, kicking off their season with a statement performance. After falling behind early in the first period, the Bolts rallied with six unanswered goals, led by Tony Rota's two-goal, three-point effort. Rick Welch anchored the Bolts' defense with a solid outing in net, turning away eight shots and keeping the Fury scoreless through the final two periods.

The first period began competitively, with the Fury's Nate Rasmussen and Tom House countering an early power-play goal from Rota to take a 2-1 lead. However, the Bolts struck back in the second period with a stunning unassisted goal from Tim Cruz and a game-winning strike by Jamie Jernegan, assisted by Daron Jacobs. The Bolts' aggressive play and precision passing overwhelmed the Fury, who struggled to maintain defensive structure as the game progressed.

In the third period, the Bolts solidified their dominance with three more goals, including Rota's second of the night and a brace from Mark Vitello. Despite a spirited start from the Fury, their offense faltered under consistent pressure from the Bolts' relentless forecheck. With this resounding victory, the Bolts have

established themselves as early contenders, while the Fury will need to regroup and tighten their defense to bounce back in upcoming games.



		1ST	2ND	3RD	
<b>Game C-WEEK 1</b> Regular Season  7:50 PM Jan 5, 2025  <a href="#">VIEW BOX SCORE</a>	 <b>Longhorns</b> (1 - 0 - 0) CLASSICS	1	4	2	<b>7</b>
	 <b>Spartans</b> (0 - 1 - 0) CLASSICS	3	0	1	<b>4</b>

### Longhorns Surge Past Spartans with Explosive Second Period and Currie's Resurgence

The Longhorns delivered an electrifying performance against the Spartans, securing a dominant 7-4 victory. The Spartans started strong, with Mike Martin leading the charge by netting two goals in the first period, followed by Joe Craig adding a third. However, Ed Mortell of the Longhorns responded late in the period, cutting the Spartans' lead to 3-1 heading into the intermission. The stage was set for a thrilling comeback.

In the second period, the Longhorns erupted with an incredible offensive surge, scoring three goals in just one minute. Ed Mortell completed his hat trick, while Jim Hutchinson netted the game-winner off assists from John Zimmer and Tim Fallon. John Currie's return to form was a highlight of the night; his stealthy, calculated movements confounded Spartan defenders, reminiscent of a changeup pitch from baseball legend Pedro Martinez. Currie contributed significantly, tallying both a goal and an assist to ignite the Longhorns' rally.

Despite the Spartans' best efforts in the third period, including a goal from Mike Aylward, the Longhorns' defense held firm. John Currie continued to shine, scoring a crucial goal midway through the final period to cement the Longhorns' victory. With Doc Smith making key saves in net and a relentless offensive display, the Longhorns demonstrated their resilience and firepower. The victory highlighted their depth and Currie's undeniable hockey prowess, proving they are a force to be reckoned with this season.

		1ST	2ND	3RD	
<b>Game C-WEEK 1</b> Regular Season  8:05 PM Jan 5, 2025  <a href="#">VIEW BOX SCORE</a>	 <b>Reapers</b> (0 - 1 - 0) CLASSICS	1	2	0	<b>3</b>
	 <b>Hawks</b> (1 - 0 - 0) CLASSICS	3	0	3	<b>6</b>

### Hawks Dominate Reapers with 6-3 Win Behind Strong Offensive Performance

The Hawks cruised to a convincing 6-3 victory over the Reapers in a game marked by explosive offensive plays. The game began with a flurry of goals in the first period, with both teams exchanging tallies. Jim Mulhern and Frank Elwood played pivotal roles for the Hawks, each registering multiple points as they powered their team to an early 3-1 lead. Despite the Reapers' efforts, including a goal from Brook Conley to keep them in the mix, the Hawks continued to dictate the pace of the game with strong offensive pressure.

In the second period, the Reapers managed to close the gap, with Brook Conley and Pete Tamborella finding the back of the net. However, the Hawks responded with even more firepower. Shawn Malloy netted his second goal of the game, assisted by Frank Elwood, further extending the Hawks' lead to 4-2. The Hawks' depth and quick transitions were on full display as they controlled possession, frustrating the Reapers' defense and goaltender Terry McGovern. Despite some strong saves from McGovern, the Reapers couldn't keep up with the Hawks' relentless attack.

The third period was all Hawks, with Mulhern scoring his second goal and Jim McNeill adding another for good measure. Shawn Malloy's second-period goal proved to be the game-winner, as the Hawks went on to seal the deal with a dominant 6-3 scoreline. Barry Kaiser was solid in net for the Hawks, keeping the Reapers at bay with key stops when needed. The Hawks' performance was a showcase of their offensive depth and efficiency, proving they are a force to be reckoned with this season.