

Cougars stumble with back-to-back losses

By Jeff Doner

The Schomberg Cougars were handed their first back-to-back losses of the season by the Erin Shamrocks and Stayner Siskins last week.

The losses helped the Alliston Hornets vault over top of the Cougars in the Georgian Mid-Ontario Jr. C standings for second place. The Cougars currently sit third with 33 points, two behind Alliston and eight behind Penetang.

On Thursday night at the Trisan Centre, the Cougars battled hard with the Erin Shamrocks. Brandon Falsarella got them on the board first at 13:19 on a goal assisted by John Gage and Blake Culley.

Erin came back in the second period with three goals (one on the power play). Justin Formenton also scored for the Cougars on the power play in what was listed as an unassisted goal.

Down 3-2 going into the third period, the Cougars offence tried to equalize. Erin added another power play marker to extend their lead at the 13:15 mark.

In the remaining seven minutes, the Cougars tried to mount a comeback and had a chance with Mitch Safaric netting a power play goal of his own at 16:05.

But it wasn't meant to be as Erin left town with a hard-fought 4-3 win.

Garett Taylor was tagged with the loss, but faced a tough fight in a second period where Erin outshot the Cougars 14-7.

Stayner wins at home

On Saturday night the Cougars travelled to Stayner looking to put their previous loss behind them.

But the Siskins had another idea in mind and took the lead eight minutes in on the power play.

John Gage evened things up five minutes later on a goal assisted by Blake Culley and Spenser Jones.

The second period featured a lot more scoring, with Stayner connecting three times, once on the power play.

Gage also scored on the power play and Ryley Egerton earned a rare shorthanded goal with two minutes left in the period to make it 4-3 heading into the third. Captain Christian Muenz notched the assist on Egerton's goal.

The Cougars tried to even things up in a penalty filled third period, but an empty netter for Stayner with just over a minute left sealed the Cougars' fate.

The Siskins badly outshot the Cougars in this one, firing 50 shots at goalie Taylor Ewart.

The Cougars will now play their next three games at home starting with Orillia on Thursday night at 8:30 p.m. and then a rematch with Stayner at 7:30 p.m. on Monday.

For more information, visit <http://jrccougars.pointstreaksites.com>.