

Ice Blacks vs HC Storm - Game 3

Game 3 of the series was on the smaller ice at the Queenstown Fun Center and the pace was frantic right from the start. Quick direction changes and lots of shots meant for a thrilling game, and the first period ended at only 1-1 despite lots of scoring chances. After making some adjustments at the break, the Ice Blacks came out firing in the second period and outscored the Finns 8-1 to lead 9-2 at the second break. From there, both teams put on an offensive showcase and the game finished 15-6 in front of a sold-out, and thoroughly satisfied, Queenstown crowd.

"I've never seen the Ice Black offense look so potent," said Andreas Kaiser, the Ice Blacks Assistant Coach. "It was an amazing display of skill from the boys."

"I'd like to see us tighten up a bit in our own zone," added Jeff Bonazzo, the Head Coach, "but you can't find fault with our ability to put the puck in the net tonight."

Ten players scored goals and 18 players scored points for the Ice Blacks in the game, who were lead by veteran Danny Smith and rookie Damian Watson, each of whom scored 3-goal hat-tricks. Braden Lee chipped in with two goals and Soffer, Challis, Speirs, Rout, Eaden, Argyle, and Harrop all had one. Stefan Speck had 3 assists, as did Brett Speirs and seven other players had two assists for the team, making it one of the most productive offensive displays in Ice Black history. Zak Nothling made 26 saves in net for NZ.