



PLAYOFF HISTORY

* Vegas and Florida are set to meet in the postseason for the first time. This marks the 66th unique Stanley Cup Final in NHL history and 46th in the expansion era (since 1967-68).

#NHLSTATS NOTABLES

* For the second time in NHL history the Stanley Cup Final will feature two franchises that both came into existence in the 90s or later. The only other time that occurred was the 2007 Stanley Cup Final between the Ducks and Senators.

* This marks the fourth consecutive Stanley Cup Final where a team from the state of Florida will be represented. The only other states or provinces to have as many consecutive years with at least one franchise represented in the Stanley Cup Final are Quebec (10 from 1951 to 1960; 5 from 1965 to 1969 and 4 from 1976 to 1979), Alberta (8 from 1983 to 1990), New York (6 from 1979 to 1984) and Ontario (4 from 1920 to 1923).

* Florida will become the first team in NHL history to face four of the League's top five teams from the regular-season standings in one playoff year (1: Boston, 2: Carolina, 4: Toronto, 5: Vegas).

* **Jonathan Marchessault**, who was selected by Vegas from Florida in the 2017 Expansion Draft, represents the 12th instance in NHL history of a player facing his former team in the Stanley Cup Final after recording a 30-goal season with them.

* Twelve players on the Golden Knights' roster have skated in a Stanley Cup Final, including six who did so with the franchise in their inaugural season – **Phil Kessel** (12 GP), **Alec Martinez** (11 GP), **Jonathan Quick** (11 GP), **Alex Pietrangelo** (7 GP), **Ivan Barbashev** (6 GP), **Chandler Stephenson** (5 GP), **Brayden McNabb** (5 GP), **Reilly Smith** (5 GP), **William Karlsson** (5 GP), **Jonathan Marchessault** (5 GP), **Shea Theodore** (5 GP) and **William Carrier** (1 GP).

* Vegas has six players who have won a Stanley Cup during their careers, including **Phil Kessel** (2x; 2017 & 2016 w/ PIT), **Alec Martinez** (2x; 2014 & 2012 w/ LAK) and **Jonathan Quick** (2x; 2014 & 2012 w/ LAK), who have each won multiple. The others: **Ivan Barbashev** (2019 w/ STL), **Alex Pietrangelo** (2019 w/ STL) and **Chandler Stephenson** (2018 w/ WSH).

* Three players on the Panthers' current roster have skated in a Stanley Cup Final – **Eric Staal** (12 GP), **Marc Staal** (5 GP) and **Carter Verhaeghe** (3 GP).

* **Eric Staal** and **Carter Verhaeghe** are the only players on the Panthers active roster that have won a Stanley Cup. Staal helped Carolina claim their first and only championship during the 2006 postseason, leading all skaters in points and assists. Verhaeghe was a member of the Lightning, when they won the first of two back-to-back titles during the 2020 postseason.

* The 2023 Stanley Cup Final will be the seventh in NHL history to feature teams whose head coaches are in their first season with the franchise and first since 2016 (**Mike Sullivan** w/ PIT & **Peter DeBoer** w/ SJS).

* There is a total of 1,187 games difference in regular season and playoff contests coached between Florida's **Paul Maurice** (1,874 GC) and Vegas' **Bruce Cassidy** (687 GC). Only seven Stanley Cup

Finals have seen a larger discrepancy, with the most being 1,897 games – also featuring Maurice (597 GC) when he was opposite **Scotty Bowman** (2,494 GC) in 2002 as the Red Wings defeated the Hurricanes in five contests.

* Vegas holds an all-time record of 6-3-1 against the Panthers (4-5-1), including a 2022-23 regular season series split (1-1-0) that saw each team find a win on home ice.

CONNECTIONS

* Seven players have played for both the Panthers and Golden Knights franchise (min. 1 GP in regular season or playoffs), including three that have skated in at least one playoff game for both franchises. Among those seven skaters are Golden Knights forwards **Jonathan Marchessault** and **Reilly Smith**. Before being selected by Vegas in the 2017 Expansion Draft, Marchessault led the club in goals (30). Smith, who was traded to the Golden Knights during the 2017 Expansion Draft, was a member of the Panthers from 2015-16 to 2016-17 and paced the team in points (4-4—8) during the 2016 playoffs.

* **Jack Eichel** and **Sam Reinhart** skated 368 games together with the Sabres from 2015-16 to 2020-21. They would be the seventh pair of players in the last half-century to go head-to-head in a Final after appearing in 350-plus regular-season games as teammates, following **Andrew Cogliano** and **Corey Perry** in 2022 (561 GP), **Marc-Andre Fleury** and **Brooks Orpik** in 2018 (468 GP), **Martin Brodeur** and **Petr Sykora** in 2003 (390 GP), **Joel Otto** and **Mike Vernon** in 1997 (427 GP), **Brent Sutter** and **Bryan Trottier** in 1992 (560 GP) as well as **Ralph Backstrom** and **Henri Richard** in 1973 (742 GP).

* **Jonathan Marchessault** played 75 games with the Panthers in 2016-17 before being claimed by Vegas from Florida in 2017 NHL Expansion Draft.

* **Reilly Smith** skated 162 regular-season and six playoff games with the Panthers from 2015-16 to 2016-17. He was traded to Vegas by Florida on June 21, 2017.

* **Nick Cousins** played seven regular-season and 17 playoff games with the Golden Knights in 2019-20.

* **Jack Eichel** and **Matthew Tkachuk** played for the USA Hockey's National Team Development Program in 2013-14.

No Vegas skaters or goaltenders have playoff experience against the Panthers

Florida Panthers Playoff Experience vs Vegas Golden Knights

Player	Pos.	Playoff					
		Team	GP	Record	G	A	P
Eric Staal	C	MTL	6	4-2 (W-L)	1	0	1
Lucas Carlsson	D	CHI	1	0-1 (W-L)	0	0	0

* No Florida goaltenders have played a playoff game against Vegas

* Minimum 1 GP in 2022-23 regular season or playoffs.

Florida Panthers Stanley Cup Final Experience

Player	Pos.	Playoff					
		Team	GP	Record	G	A	P



STATS AND INFORMATION

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Eric Staal	C	CAR/MTL	12	5-7 (W-L)	2	6	8
Patric Hornqvist	R	PIT	12	8-4 (W-L)	3	1	4
Marc Staal	D	NYR	5	1-4 (W-L)	0	0	0
Carter							
Verhaeghe	C	TBL	3	2-1	0	0	0

* Minimum 1 GP in 2022-23 regular season or playoffs.

Vegas Golden Knights Stanley Cup Final Experience

		Playoff									
Player	Pos.	Team	GP	Record	G	A	P				
Phil Kessel	R	PIT	12	8-4 (W-L)	2	6	8				
Alex Pietrangelo	D	STL	7	4-3 (W-L)	1	5	6				
Reilly Smith	R	VGK	5	1-4 (W-L)	3	3	6				
Alec Martinez	D	LAK	11	8-3 (W-L)	2	1	3				
Jonathan Marchessault	R	VGK	5	1-4 (W-L)	0	3	3				
Shea Theodore	D	VGK	5	1-4 (W-L)	1	2	3				
William Karlsson	C	VGK	5	1-4 (W-L)	1	1	2				
Ivan Barbashev	C	STL	6	4-2 (W-L)	1	0	1				
Brayden McNabb	D	VGK	5	1-4 (W-L)	0	0	0				
Chandler Stephenson	C	WSH	5	4-1 (W-L)	0	0	0				
William Carrier	L	VGK	1	0-1 (W-L)	0	0	0				
Goaltender	Pos.	Playoff Team	GP	GS	Decisions	SO	SA	SV	G A	GAA	SV%
Jonathan Quick	G	LAK	11	11	8-3 (W-L)	2	278	261	17	1.36	.939

* Minimum 1 GP in 2022-23 regular season or playoffs.