



NEWS RELEASE



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DEVILS WIN DRAFT DRAWING, GAIN FOURTH PICK FOR 2011 ENTRY DRAFT

NEW YORK (April 12, 2011) -- The New Jersey Devils, who had only a 3.6% likelihood of prevailing, won the National Hockey League Draft Drawing tonight and gained the fourth overall drafting position for the 2011 NHL Entry Draft, June 24 and 25 at Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul, Minnesota. The Edmonton Oilers retain the first overall selection in the Draft.

This marks the first time the Devils have won the Draft Drawing. At No. 4, they hold their highest selection since claiming defenseman Scott Niedermayer third overall in 1991.

The Devils would have picked eighth based on inverse order of regular-season finish. They had been accorded only 36 of the 1,001 possible numbered sequences assigned under the lottery system. Fourteen balls, numbered 1 to 14, were placed in a lottery machine. The machine expelled four balls, forming a series of numbers. The four-digit series was matched against a probability chart that divided the possible combinations among the 14 participating clubs. The chart showed that the Devils had been assigned the numbers (3-8-9-13) that were expelled.

Only the five teams with the fewest points had the chance to win the first overall selection; no team could move up more than four spots and no team could move backward more than one. Thus the Devils moved up the maximum number of positions, from eighth to fourth.

The order of selection for the first 14 drafting positions in the first round, only, of the 2011 Entry Draft is as follows:

1. Edmonton Oilers
2. Colorado Avalanche
3. Florida Panthers
4. New Jersey Devils
5. New York Islanders
6. Ottawa Senators
7. Atlanta Thrashers
8. Columbus Blue Jackets
9. Boston Bruins (from Toronto)
10. Minnesota Wild
11. Colorado Avalanche (from St. Louis)
12. Carolina Hurricanes
13. Calgary Flames
14. Dallas Stars

The remaining positions will be determined by results of the 2011 Stanley Cup Playoffs.

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The Draft Drawing is a weighted system to give the teams that finished with the fewest points during the regular season the greatest chance of having their combination selected. The Edmonton Oilers finished the regular season with the fewest points in the League (62) and were assigned the greatest number of combinations, representing a 25% likelihood that their combination would emerge. Colorado was assigned 18.8% of the combinations, followed by Florida (14.2%), NY Islanders (10.7%) and Ottawa (8.1%). The remaining teams had the following chances: 6.2%, 4.7%, 3.6%, 2.7%, 2.1%, 1.5%, 1.1%, 0.8% and 0.5%.

The 2011 NHL Entry Draft will take place at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul, Minnesota. The first round will take place on Friday, June 24 commencing at 7 p.m., ET, and the subsequent rounds (two through seven) will begin at 11 a.m., ET, on Saturday, June 25.

Results of Previous Draft Drawings

Year	Selected	Effect On Draft Order	Player Selected
1995	Los Angeles	Moved from 7th to 3rd	D Aki Berg
1996	Ottawa	Retained 1st selection	D Chris Phillips
1997	Boston	Retained 1st selection	C Joe Thornton
1998	Tampa Bay	Moved from 3rd to 1st via trades	C Vincent Lecavalier
1999	Chicago	Moved from 8th to 4th	RW Pavel Brendl *
2000	NY Islanders	Moved from 5th to 1st	G Rick DiPietro
2001	Atlanta	Moved from 3rd to 1st	LW Ilya Kovalchuk
2002	Florida	Moved from 3rd to 1st	LW Rick Nash **
2003	Florida	Moved from 4th to 1st	G Marc-Andre Fleury ***
2004	Washington	Moved from 3rd to 1st	LW Alex Ovechkin
2005	Pittsburgh	n/a	C Sidney Crosby
2006	St. Louis	Retained 1st selection	D Erik Johnson
2007	Chicago	Moved from 5th to 1st	RW Patrick Kane
2008	Tampa Bay	Retained 1st selection	C Steven Stamkos
2009	NY Islanders	Retained 1st selection	C John Tavares
2010	Edmonton	Retained 1st selection	LW Taylor Hall
2011	New Jersey	Moved from 8th to 4th	

* NY Rangers obtained Chicago's pick in a trade (via Vancouver and Tampa Bay). The Rangers selected RW Pavel Brendl fourth overall.

** Columbus obtained Florida's pick in a trade. The Blue Jackets selected LW Rick Nash first overall.

*** Pittsburgh obtained Florida's pick in a trade. The Penguins selected G Marc-Andre Fleury first overall.

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