



NEWS RELEASE



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MAPLE LEAFS WIN LOTTERY AND FIRST SELECTION IN 2016 NHL DRAFT JETS, BLUE JACKETS LAND 2ND, 3RD OVERALL

TORONTO (April 30, 2016) -- The Toronto Maple Leafs, Winnipeg Jets and Columbus Blue Jackets own the first, second and third overall drafting positions, respectively, for the First Round of the 2016 NHL Draft as a result of the 2016 NHL Draft Lottery Drawing in Toronto.

For the first time, the 2016 NHL Draft Lottery assigned the top three slots in the first round of the NHL Draft – a change from prior years, when the Draft Lottery was used to determine the winner of the first overall selection exclusively.

Maple Leafs Win No. 1 Drafting Position

In the first drawing, the Maple Leafs had the greatest percentage likelihood of being selected based on inverse order of regular-season finish (20.0%). It marks the first time since 2010 (Edmonton) that the team with the highest percentage chance retained the first overall selection.

The Maple Leafs, selected in the NHL Draft Lottery for the first time, have made the first overall draft pick once before, in 1985 (Wendel Clark).

Jets Win No. 2 Drafting Position

In the second drawing, the Jets had the fifth-greatest percentage likelihood among the 13 remaining clubs eligible for selection (9.4%) and climbed from No. 6 to No. 2. The Jets franchise has selected No. 2 overall twice before, when the team was located in Atlanta (Dany Heatley in 2000, Kari Lehtonen in 2002).

Blue Jackets Win No. 3 Drafting Position

In the third drawing, the Blue Jackets had the third-greatest percentage likelihood among the 12 remaining clubs eligible for selection (13.1%). After dropping from No. 4 to No. 5 as a result of the second drawing, Columbus climbed to No. 3, improving its drafting position as a result of the NHL Draft Lottery for the first time in franchise history. The Blue Jackets have never selected No. 3 overall.

Three draws were held: the first drawing determined the club selecting first overall, the second drawing determined the club selecting second overall and the third drawing determined the club selecting third overall. Once a club was assigned a pick, it was ineligible for further participation in subsequent drawings, but there were no re-draws required.

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All clubs that did not qualify for this season's Stanley Cup Playoffs, or clubs that acquired the first-round picks of those non-playoff clubs, participated in the Draft Lottery.

The allocation of odds for the first Lottery draw were the same as for the 2015 NHL Draft Lottery. The odds for the remaining teams increased on a proportionate basis for the second drawing, based on which club won the first drawing, and again for the third drawing, based on which club won the second drawing.

The 11 clubs not selected in the Draft Lottery were assigned NHL Draft selections 4 through 14, in inverse order of regular-season points.

The order of selection for the first 14 drafting positions in the First Round, only, of the 2016 NHL Draft is as follows:

1. Toronto Maple Leafs
2. Winnipeg Jets
3. Columbus Blue Jackets
4. Edmonton Oilers
5. Vancouver Canucks
6. Calgary Flames
7. Arizona Coyotes
8. Buffalo Sabres
9. Montreal Canadiens
10. Colorado Avalanche
11. New Jersey Devils
12. Ottawa Senators
13. Carolina Hurricanes
14. Boston Bruins

The remaining positions are determined by the results of the Stanley Cup Playoffs.

The drawing was conducted at Rogers Sportsnet's studio in downtown Toronto and the winning teams were revealed live on CBC and TVA Sports in Canada and NBC in the U.S. prior to their broadcast of Game 2 of the Capitals-Penguins Second Round series.

For each of the three drawings, 14 balls, numbered 1 to 14, were placed in a lottery machine. The machine randomly selected four balls. The resulting four-number series (without regard to selection order) was matched against a chart that shows all possible combinations and the clubs to which each was assigned. The chart ([available at NHL.com](http://www.nhl.com)) showed that the Maple Leafs had been assigned the numbers (5-6-8-13) that were expelled in the first drawing, followed by the Jets (5-7-10-14) in the second drawing and the Blue Jackets (3-4-5-7) in the third drawing.

The 2016 NHL Draft will be held June 24-25 at First Niagara Center in Buffalo. This will be the third time the event will be held in Buffalo; the city previously hosted the NHL Draft in 1991 and 1998.

Results of 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	D Adam Larsson
2012	Edmonton	Moved from 2nd to 1st	RW Nail Yakupov
2013	Colorado	Moved from 2nd to 1st	C Nathan MacKinnon
2014	Florida	Moved from 2nd to 1st	D Aaron Ekblad
2015	Edmonton	Moved from 3rd to 1st	C Connor McDavid
2016	Toronto	Retained 1st selection	
2016	Winnipeg	Moved from No. 6 to No. 2	
2016	Columbus	Moved from No. 4 to No. 3	

* 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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