



# NEW HEAD COACHES & GENERAL MANAGERS

2024-25



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## 2024-25 NEW HEAD COACHES & GENERAL MANAGERS

Notes on the eight head coaches and four general managers taking new roles in 2024-25:

### *Head Coaches*

Eight teams will begin 2024-25 with a head coach who did not hold the position (interim and permanent) last season: Buffalo (**Lindy Ruff**), Columbus (**Dean Evason**), New Jersey (**Sheldon Keefe**), Ottawa (**Travis Green**), Toronto (**Craig Berube**), San Jose (**Ryan Warsofsky**), Seattle (**Dan Bylsma**) and Winnipeg (**Scott Arniel**).

\* The 2024-25 season marks the third to feature multiple head coaches on new teams who have previously won a Stanley Cup (Bylsma: 2009 w/ PIT & Berube 2019 w/ STL). The other seasons are 1979-80 (**Scotty Bowman** w/ BUF & **Al MacNeil** w/ AFM) and 2015-16 (**Mike Babcock** w/ TOR & Bylsma w/ BUF).

\* **Peter Laviolette** won the Presidents' Trophy in 2023-24 with the Rangers and marked the third straight season a head coach won the award in their first campaign with a franchise, following **Jim Montgomery** (w/ BOS in 2022-23) and **Andrew Brunette** (w/ FLA in 2021-22). The only other coaches to win the award since it was introduced in 1985-86 are **Terry Crisp** (w/ CGY in 1987-88), **Mike Milbury** (w/ BOS in 1989-90), **Mike Keenan** (w/ NYR in 1993-94), **Mike Babcock** (w/ DET in 2005-06) and **Todd McLellan** (w/ SJS in 2008-09).

\* **Kris Knoblauch** made it to the Stanley Cup Final in 2024 during his first season with the Oilers. Six of the past seven championship rounds have featured at least one head coach in their first season with a franchise, including **Bruce Cassidy** (w/ VGK) and **Paul Maurice** (w/ FLA) in 2023, **Dominique Ducharme** (w/ MTL) in 2021, **Rick Bowness** (w/ DAL) in 2020, **Craig Berube** (w/ STL) in 2019 and **Gerard Gallant** (w/ VGK) in 2018.

Of the eight head coaches:

- Two have served as the head coach for a Stanley Cup-winning team (Bylsma in 2009 and Berube in 2019).
- Two have won the Jack Adams Award (Ruff in 2005-06 w/ BUF and Bylsma in 2010-11 w/ PIT) and two have been a runner-up (Ruff in 2006-07 w/ BUF, 2015-16 w/ DAL, 2022-23 w/ NJD & Evason in 2020-21 w/ MIN).
- One has been the bench boss for a Presidents' Trophy team (Ruff in 2006-07 w/ BUF) and three have been a runner-up (Bylsma in 2012-13 w/ PIT, Ruff in 2015-16 w/ DAL & Berube in 2019-20 w/ STL).
- Four have accounted for a combined total of nine seasons of 50-plus wins (Ruff in 2005-06, 2006-07 w/ BUF, 2015-16 w/ DAL & 2022-23 w/ NJD; Bylsma in 2011-12 & 2013-14 w/ PIT; Keefe in 2021-22 & 2022-23 w/ TOR and Evason in 2021-22 w/ MIN).
- Three have an all-time points percentage of .600 or higher (Keefe: .665 %, Evason: .639% & Bylsma: .615 %)

### *General Managers*

Four clubs enter 2024-25 with a new general manager, with Carolina's **Eric Tulsky**, Columbus' **Don Waddell**, Edmonton's **Stan Bowman** and Washington's **Chris Patrick** taking over for their respective teams this upcoming season. Tulsky and Patrick each have no prior experience as a general manager, while Bowman (CHI) and Waddell (CAR & ATL) previously held the position for other franchises.



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## **NEW HEAD COACHES**

Notes on the new head coaches in 2024-25:

### **Lindy Ruff, Buffalo Sabres**

\* Ranks fourth all-time in games coached with 1,774, trailing only **Scotty Bowman** (2,141), **Paul Maurice** (1,848) and **Barry Trotz** (1,812).

\* One of seven coaches with 800 or more career wins (864) and enters the season with the fifth-most victories all-time behind Bowman (1,244), **Joel Quenneville** (969), Trotz (914) and Maurice (869).

\* Previously coached the Sabres from 1997-98 to 2012-13 and had a record of 571-432-162 in 1,165 career games. His 571 victories with Buffalo are the second most by a coach with a single franchise behind only **Al Arbour's** 740 wins with the Islanders.

\* Made the playoffs eight times during his previous tenure with the club which included an appearance in the 1999 Stanley Cup Final as well as trips to the Conference Finals in 1998, 2006 and 2007. He also led the team to a Presidents' Trophy in 2006-07.

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### **Dean Evason, Columbus Blue Jackets**

\* Spent the past five seasons with the Wild, qualifying for the playoffs in four of those campaigns (2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023).

\* Recorded 53 victories in 2021-22 with the Wild, which still stands as the franchise record for wins in a single season.

\* Was the runner-up for the Jack Adams Award in 2021-22

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### **Sheldon Keefe, New Jersey Devils**

\* Ranks third all-time in points percentage among head coaches (min 100 GP) with .665%, trailing only **Tom Johnson** (.738% in 208 GP) and **Jim Montgomery** (.675% in 277 GP).

\* Recorded 100 or more points in each of his past three seasons with the Maple Leafs. The only other active coaches to achieve the feat with one franchise dating back to the 2021-22 campaign are **Rod Brind'Amour** (CAR) and **Jared Bednar** (COL).

\* Has recorded 212 career wins since making his NHL coaching debut on Nov. 21, 2019, which is tied with **Jon Cooper** for the third most through that span, trailing only Bednar (225) and Brind'Amour (219).

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### **Travis Green, Ottawa Senators**

\* Spent the majority of the 2023-24 season as an assistant coach with the Devils before being promoted to head coach on March 5 and finished the season with an 8-12-1 record.

\* Previously spent five seasons as the head coach of the Canucks from 2017-18 to 2021-22 where he helped lead the team to the Second Round of the 2020 Stanley Cup Playoffs.

\* Won a Western Hockey League championship as the head coach and general manager of the Portland Winterhawks in 2012-13.

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### **Craig Berube, Toronto Maple Leafs**

\* Spent the past six seasons with the Blues and made the postseason four times, highlighted by a Stanley Cup championship in 2019.



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\* During the 2018-19 season, he became the seventh coach in NHL history to win a Stanley Cup after taking over a team mid-season. The others include **Dick Irvin** in 1931-32 (w/ TOR), **Al MacNeil** in 1970-71 (w/ MTL), **Larry Robinson** in 1999-00 (w/ NJD), Bylsma in 2008-09 (w/ PIT), **Darryl Sutter** in 2011-12 (w/ LAK) and **Mike Sullivan** in 2015-16 (w/ PIT).

\* Became the 18th head coach in Maple Leafs history to also skate for the team as a player and only the fourth in the past 30 years, joining **Pat Quinn**, **Ron Wilson** and **Randy Carlyle**.

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### **Ryan Warsofsky, San Jose Sharks**

\* Spent the past two seasons as the assistant coach for the Sharks.

\* Won the AHL Calder Cup Championship as an assistant coach with the Charlotte Checkers in 2019 and as a head coach with the Chicago Wolves in 2022.

\* Set to make his NHL debut on Oct. 10 against the Blues at the age of 36 years and 350 days and will become the youngest head coach at the time of their first NHL game since **Jeremy Colliton** (33 years and 299 days) on Nov. 8, 2018 with the Blackhawks.

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### **Dan Bylsma, Seattle Kraken**

\* Spent the past two seasons as the head coach of the Coachella Valley Firebirds of the AHL and led the team to the Calder Cup Finals in both years.

\* Spent his first eight seasons in the NHL with Pittsburgh from 2008-09 to 2013-14 and Buffalo from 2015-16 to 2016-17. During that time, he recorded 320 wins over 565 career games and won both, the Stanley Cup and Jack Adams Award, with the Penguins in 2009 and 2010-11, respectively.

\* Became the fourth coach in NHL history to win a Stanley Cup after taking over a team mid-season during the 2008-09 campaign with the Penguins. The others include **Dick Irvin** in 1931-32 (w/ TOR), **Al MacNeil** in 1970-71 (w/ MTL) and **Larry Robinson** in 1999-00 (w/ NJD).

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### **Scott Arniel, Winnipeg Jets**

\* Spent the past two seasons as an associate coach with the Jets.

\* Was the head coach of the Blue Jackets from 2010-11 to 2011-12 and finished with a record of 45-60-18 during that time.

\* Previously served as either an assistant or associate coach with the Sabres (2002-03 – 2005-06), Rangers (2013-14 – 2017-18) and Capitals (2018-19 – 2021-22).

\* Won the AHL 'Coach of the Year' award in 2008-09 with the Manitoba Moose.

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## **NEW GENERAL MANAGERS**

Notes on the new general managers in 2024-25:

### **Eric Tulsy, Carolina Hurricanes**

\* Spent the past ten seasons with the Hurricanes, holding roles as an analyst (2014-15 – 2016-17), director of analytics (2017-18 – 2019-20) and assistant general manager (2020-21 – 2023-24).

\* Notable offseason additions during his previous tenure include signing three-time 50-point scorer, **Shayne Gostisbehere**, as well as **Sean Walker**, **William Carrier** and **Jack Roslovic**.

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### **Don Waddell, Columbus Blue Jackets**

\* Spent the past ten seasons with the Hurricanes as team president and served as general manager since 2018-19, making it past the opening round in each of the past four postseasons.

\* Enters the 2024-25 season as one of four active general managers with 500 or more career wins (586). The others include **Lou Lamoriello** (1,444), **Doug Armstrong** (811) and **Kevin Cheveldayoff** (519).

\* Notable offseason additions during his previous tenure include signing seven-time 20-goal scorer **Sean Monahan** and **Jack Johnson**, who won the Stanley Cup in 2022 with Colorado.

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### **Stan Bowman, Edmonton Oilers**

\* Previously worked in the Blackhawks organization as assistant general manager (2007-08 – 2008-09) and general manager (2009-10 – 2021-22).

\* Won a Stanley Cup in 2010, 2013 and 2015 with the Blackhawks and led the team to a Presidents' Trophy in 2013.

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### **Chris Patrick, Washington Capitals**

\* Spent the past 15 seasons with the Capitals in roles such as pro scout (2009-10 – 2015-16), director of hockey operations (2015-16), director of player personnel (2016-17 – 2020-21) and assistant general manager (2021-22 – 2023-24).

\* Won a Stanley Cup in 2018 with the Capitals and worked closely with their AHL affiliate, Hershey Bears, who have won consecutive Calder Cup Championships.

\* Was promoted to senior vice president and general manager of the team on July 8.

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## **TENURE WITH CURRENT TEAM, HEAD COACHES**

A register of all head coaches in NHL history, including bio pages with individual season-by-season and career breakdowns, is available on [Records.NHL.com](https://www.nhl.com/records).

| <b>HEAD COACH</b> | <b>TEAM</b>           | <b>FIRST SEASON</b> | <b>SEASONS*</b> |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Jon Cooper        | Tampa Bay Lightning   | 2012-13             | 13              |
| Mike Sullivan     | Pittsburgh Penguins   | 2015-16             | 10              |
| Jared Bednar      | Colorado Avalanche    | 2016-17             | 9               |
| Rod Brind'Amour   | Carolina Hurricanes   | 2018-19             | 7               |
| Martin St. Louis  | Montreal Canadiens    | 2021-22             | 4               |
| Jim Montgomery    | Boston Bruins         | 2022-23             | 3               |
| Luke Richardson   | Chicago Blackhawks    | 2022-23             | 3               |
| Peter DeBoer      | Dallas Stars          | 2022-23             | 3               |
| Derek Lalonde     | Detroit Red Wings     | 2022-23             | 3               |
| Paul Maurice      | Florida Panthers      | 2022-23             | 3               |
| John Tortorella   | Philadelphia Flyers   | 2022-23             | 3               |
| Bruce Cassidy     | Vegas Golden Knights  | 2022-23             | 3               |
| Rick Tocchet      | Vancouver Canucks     | 2022-23             | 3               |
| Jim Hiller        | Los Angeles Kings     | 2023-24             | 2               |
| John Hynes        | Minnesota Wild        | 2023-24             | 2               |
| Kris Knoblauch    | Edmonton Oilers       | 2023-24             | 2               |
| Patrick Roy       | New York Islanders    | 2023-24             | 2               |
| Greg Cronin       | Anaheim Ducks         | 2023-24             | 2               |
| Ryan Huska        | Calgary Flames        | 2023-24             | 2               |
| Andrew Brunette   | Nashville Predators   | 2023-24             | 2               |
| Peter Laviolette  | New York Rangers      | 2023-24             | 2               |
| Spencer Carberry  | Washington Capitals   | 2023-24             | 2               |
| Drew Bannister    | St. Louis Blues       | 2023-24             | 2               |
| Travis Green      | Ottawa Senators       | 2024-25             | 1               |
| Sheldon Keefe     | New Jersey Devils     | 2024-25             | 1               |
| Lindy Ruff        | Buffalo Sabres        | 2024-25             | 1               |
| Dan Bylsma        | Seattle Kraken        | 2024-25             | 1               |
| Ryan Warsofsky    | San Jose Sharks       | 2024-25             | 1               |
| Scott Arniel      | Winnipeg Jets         | 2024-25             | 1               |
| Craig Berube      | Toronto Maple Leafs   | 2024-25             | 1               |
| Dean Evason       | Columbus Blue Jackets | 2024-25             | 1               |
| Andre Tourigny    | Utah Hockey Club      | 2024-25             | 1               |

*\*Includes 2024-25*



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| <b>GENERAL MANAGER</b> | <b>TEAM</b>           | <b>FIRST SEASON</b> | <b>SEASONS*</b> |
|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Doug Armstrong         | St. Louis Blues       | 2010-11             | 15              |
| Kevin Cheveldayoff     | Winnipeg Jets         | 2011-12             | 14              |
| Jim Nill               | Dallas Stars          | 2013-14             | 12              |
| Don Sweeney            | Boston Bruins         | 2015-16             | 10              |
| Rob Blake              | Los Angeles Kings     | 2017-18             | 8               |
| Lou Lamoriello         | New York Islanders    | 2018-19             | 7               |
| Julien Brisebois       | Tampa Bay Lightning   | 2018-19             | 7               |
| Steve Yzerman          | Detroit Red Wings     | 2019-20             | 6               |
| Bill Guerin            | Minnesota Wild        | 2019-20             | 6               |
| Tom Fitzgerald         | New Jersey Devils     | 2019-20             | 6               |
| Kelly McCrimmon        | Vegas Golden Knights  | 2019-20             | 6               |
| Kevyn Adams            | Buffalo Sabres        | 2020-21             | 5               |
| Bill Zito              | Florida Panthers      | 2020-21             | 5               |
| Chris Drury            | New York Rangers      | 2020-21             | 5               |
| Kent Hughes            | Montreal Canadiens    | 2021-22             | 4               |
| Ron Francis            | Seattle Kraken        | 2021-22             | 4               |
| Kyle Davidson          | Chicago Blackhawks    | 2021-22             | 4               |
| Pat Verbeek            | Anaheim Ducks         | 2021-22             | 4               |
| Patrik Allvin          | Vancouver Canucks     | 2021-22             | 4               |
| Chris McFarland        | Colorado Avalanche    | 2022-23             | 3               |
| Mike Grier             | San Jose Sharks       | 2022-23             | 3               |
| Daniel Briere          | Philadelphia Flyers   | 2022-23             | 3               |
| Steve Staios           | Ottawa Senators       | 2023-24             | 2               |
| Kyle Dubas             | Pittsburgh Penguins   | 2023-24             | 2               |
| Brad Treliving         | Toronto Maple Leafs   | 2023-24             | 2               |
| Craig Conroy           | Calgary Flames        | 2023-24             | 2               |
| Barry Trotz            | Nashville Predators   | 2023-24             | 2               |
| Don Waddell            | Columbus Blue Jackets | 2024-25             | 1               |
| Chris Patrick          | Washington Capitals   | 2024-25             | 1               |
| Eric Tulsky            | Carolina Hurricanes   | 2024-25             | 1               |
| Stan Bowman            | Edmonton Oilers       | 2024-25             | 1               |
| Bill Armstrong         | Utah Hockey Club      | 2024-25             | 1               |

\*Includes 2024-25

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