



DATES OF INTEREST

2025 - 26



2025-26 NHL DATES OF INTEREST
All Times Eastern | As of **Sept. 19, 2025**



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OCTOBER 2025

- Tuesday, Oct. 7: **Opening day of the 2025-26 regular season features an ESPN tripleheader.** Florida Panthers, which will raise their second consecutive Stanley Cup banner, host the Chicago Blackhawks (5 p.m.); Pittsburgh Penguins visit the New York Rangers (8 p.m.); Los Angeles Kings are at home versus the Colorado Avalanche (10:30 p.m.).
- Wednesday, Oct. 8: **NHL on TNT's first broadcast of the season is a doubleheader:** Boston Bruins visit the Washington Capitals (7:30 p.m.) and Vegas Golden Knights host the Los Angeles Kings (10 p.m.). **Four Canadian teams will be in action on Sportsnet:** Montreal Canadiens at Toronto Maple Leafs (7 p.m.) and Calgary Flames at Edmonton Oilers (10 p.m.).
- Thursday, Oct. 9: New York Islanders D **Matthew Schaefer**, the No. 1 pick in the 2025 NHL Draft, could make his League debut when the Islanders visit the Pittsburgh Penguins (7 p.m.).
- Saturday, Oct. 11: **First of two 16-game days scheduled for the 2025-26 regular season** (also Oct. 28).
- The first Hockey Night in Canada broadcast of the season** features five Canadian teams in action: Toronto Maple Leafs visit the Detroit Red Wings (7 p.m.); Florida Panthers host the Ottawa Senators (7 p.m.); Montreal Canadiens at Chicago Blackhawks (7 p.m.) and Edmonton Oilers at home versus the Vancouver Canucks (10 p.m.).
- New York Rangers HC **Mike Sullivan** returns to PPG Paints Arena for the first time after spending the previous 10 seasons with the Pittsburgh Penguins (7 p.m.). Sullivan led the Penguins to back-to-back Stanley Cups in 2016 and 2017 and is the franchise's all-time leader in wins by a head coach.
- Monday, Oct. 13: **Prime Monday Night Hockey's first broadcast of the season is a doubleheader on Canadian Thanksgiving:** Detroit Red Wings visit the Toronto Maple Leafs (4 p.m.) and Vancouver Canucks host the St. Louis Blues (7:30 p.m.).
- Tuesday, Oct. 21: Florida Panthers F **Brad Marchand** returns to TD Garden for the first time after spending 16 seasons with the Boston Bruins (7:30 p.m.). Marchand sits within the top five of several franchise lists, including [games played](#) (1,090; 4th), [goals](#) (422; 4th), [points](#) (976; 5th) and [game-winning goals](#) (82; 2nd). Marchand served as captain in his final two seasons with the Bruins and won the Stanley Cup with the team in 2011.
- Potential matchup between the past two first overall picks in the NHL Draft when **Macklin Celebrini** (No. 1 in 2024) and the San Jose Sharks visit **Matthew Schaefer** (No. 1 in 2025) and the New York Islanders (7 p.m.).
- Tuesday, Oct. 28: **Frozen Frenzy returns with all 32 teams playing during the second of two 16-game days of the season.**



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New York Rangers F **J.T. Miller** returns to Rogers Arena after spending parts of his past six seasons with the Vancouver Canucks (10 p.m.). Miller ranked within the top two for [goals](#) (152; 2nd), [assists](#) (285; 2nd) and [points](#) (437; 1st) during his tenure with the Canucks, including setting career highs in goals (37) and points (103) in 2023-24.

Friday, Oct. 31: Detroit Red Wings G **John Gibson** returns to Honda Center for the first time after spending his first 12 seasons with the Anaheim Ducks (10 p.m.). Gibson ranks within the top three among goaltenders in Ducks history in [games played](#) (506; 1st), [wins](#) (204; 2nd) and [shutouts](#) (24; 3rd) and won the William M. Jennings Trophy with the club in 2015-16.

NOVEMBER 2025

Saturday, Nov. 1: First of three meetings between Chicago Blackhawks F **Connor Bedard** and Edmonton Oilers F **Connor McDavid** (10 p.m.). The two are also set to clash on Jan. 12 (8:30 p.m.) and April 2 (9 p.m.).

Monday, Nov. 3: The longest-standing trio of teammates in NHL history, Pittsburgh Penguins' **Sidney Crosby**, **Evgeni Malkin** and **Kris Letang** visit the Toronto Maple Leafs' **Auston Matthews**, **John Tavares** and **William Nylander** (7:30 p.m.).

Tuesday, Nov. 4: Tampa Bay Lightning F **Nikita Kucherov** and Colorado Avalanche F **Nathan MacKinnon** meet as the two top scorers in each of the past two seasons go head-to-head when Tampa Bay visits Colorado (9:30 p.m.).

Utah Mammoth F **JJ Peterka** returns to KeyBank Center for the first time after spending his first four seasons with the Buffalo Sabres (7 p.m.). Peterka established career highs in [assists](#) (41) and [points](#) (68) in 2024-25, ranking second on the team in each category (outright or tied).

Carolina Hurricanes D **K'Andre Miller** returns to Madison Square Garden for the first time after spending his first five seasons with the New York Rangers (7 p.m.). During his tenure, Miller ranked second in [goals](#) (36), [assists](#) (96) and [points](#) (132) among Rangers defensemen.

Nov. 8-11: **Hockey Hall of Fame Induction Weekend** (Toronto, Ont). The Class of 2025 inductees are **Jennifer Botterill**, **Zdeno Chara**, **Brianna Decker**, **Duncan Keith**, **Alexander Mogilny** and **Joe Thornton** in the Player category as well as **Jack Parker** and **Daniele Sauvageau** in the Builder category.

Sunday, Nov. 9: **Hockey Hall of Fame Game** (Carolina Hurricanes at Toronto Maple Leafs, 7 p.m.).

The previous two James Norris Memorial Trophy winners go head-to-head for the first time in 2025-26 when Colorado Avalanche D **Cale Makar** visits Vancouver Canucks D **Quinn Hughes** (10 p.m.).

Seattle Kraken F **Mason Marchment** returns to American Airlines Center for the first time after spending the past three seasons with the Dallas Stars (7 p.m.). Marchment recorded 56-75—131 in 211 games, ranking fifth on the team in [goals](#) during his tenure.



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- Monday, Nov. 10: Columbus Blue Jackets D **Zach Werenski**, runner-up for the James Norris Memorial Trophy in 2024-25, takes on Edmonton Oilers F **Leon Draisaitl**, reigning Maurice "Rocket" Richard winner, when Columbus travels to Edmonton (8:30 p.m.).
- Tuesday, Nov. 11: Toronto Maple Leafs F **Auston Matthews** and Boston Bruins D **Charlie McAvoy**, who will both represent Team USA at the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026, face off when Boston hosts Toronto (7 p.m.).
- Nov. 14-16: **2025 Global Series Sweden presented by Fastenal** (Nashville Predators vs. Pittsburgh Penguins). Stockholm, Se. hosts its 17th and 18th regular-season NHL games (all at Avicii Arena, previously Ericsson Globe). Sweden will host its 19th regular-season NHL game (also 2018 Global Series in Gothenburg) – the most of any country outside North America.
- Thursday, Nov. 20: **Quarter Mark of the 2025-26 regular season** (10th contest on 12-game day; 328 GP).
- Friday, Nov. 21: Carolina Hurricanes F **Nikolaj Ehlers** returns to Canada Life Centre for the first time after spending 10 seasons with the Winnipeg Jets (8 p.m.). Ehlers ranks within the top five in Jets/Thrashers history in [goals](#) (225; 5th), [assists](#) (295; 5th) and [game-winning goals](#) (39; 5th).
- Saturday, Nov. 22: **Rematch of the 2025 and 2024 Stanley Cup Final** when the Florida Panthers host the Edmonton Oilers (7 p.m.).
- Wednesday, Nov. 26: **First of seven 15-game days scheduled for the 2025-26 regular season** (also Nov. 28, Jan. 29, March 24, March 28, April 4 and April 11). Only the Edmonton Oilers and Los Angeles Kings are idle.
- Friday, Nov. 28: **Second of seven 15-game days scheduled for the 2025-26 regular season** (also Jan. 29, March 24, March 28, April 4 and April 11). Only the Edmonton Oilers and Seattle Kraken are idle.
- 2025 NHL Thanksgiving Showdown.** New York Rangers visit the Boston Bruins (1 p.m.).

DECEMBER 2025

- Monday, Dec. 1: Buffalo Sabres D **Rasmus Dahlin**, representing Team Sweden at the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026, welcomes reigning Hart and Vezina Trophy winner, Winnipeg Jets G **Connor Hellebuyck**, to KeyBank Center (7:30 p.m.).
- Thursday, Dec. 4: Colorado Avalanche F **Brock Nelson** returns to UBS Arena for the first time after spending 12 seasons with the New York Islanders (7 p.m.). Nelson led New York in goals in each season from 2019-20 to 2023-24 and ranks within the top five in team history in [games played](#) (901; 4th), [goals](#) (295; 5th) and [game-winning goals](#) (47; 3rd).



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St. Louis Blues HC **Jim Montgomery** returns to TD Garden for the first time after spending parts of his previous three seasons with the Boston Bruins (7 p.m.). Montgomery was the recipient of the Jack Adams Award in 2022-23 after leading the Bruins to a Presidents' Trophy victory.

- Monday, Dec. 8: Tampa Bay Lightning F **Nikita Kucherov**, the two-time reigning Art Ross Trophy winner, takes on Toronto Maple Leafs F **Auston Matthews**, a three-time Maurice "Rocket" Richard winner, when Toronto hosts Tampa Bay (7:30 p.m.).
- Saturday, December 13: Toronto Maple Leafs F **Auston Matthews**, named to Team USA's roster at the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026, will go head-to-head with Edmonton Oilers F **Connor McDavid**, named to Team Canada's roster, for the first of two meetings before the Olympic break (7 p.m.).
- Sunday, December 14: First of two meetings between the three Hughes brothers during the 2025-26 regular season (12:30 p.m.). **Jack** and **Luke Hughes** of the New Jersey Devils face Vancouver Canucks captain **Quinn Hughes** for the third time and first since Oct. 30, 2024.
- Monday, Dec. 15: Anaheim Ducks F **Chris Kreider** returns to Madison Square Garden for the first time after spending his first 13 seasons with the New York Rangers (7 p.m.). Kreider ranks within the top three in franchise history in [goals](#) (326; 3rd), [game-winning goals](#) (50; 2nd) and [power-play goals](#) (116; t-1st).
- Tuesday, Dec. 16: Edmonton Oilers F **Connor McDavid** and Pittsburgh Penguins F **Sidney Crosby**, who will team up as members of Team Canada for the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026, go head-to-head when the Oilers visit the Penguins (7:30 p.m.).
- Monday, Dec. 22: Philadelphia Flyers HC **Rick Tocchet** faces his former club the Vancouver Canucks for the first time (7:30 p.m.). Tocchet spent the past three seasons with Vancouver, winning the Jack Adams Award in 2023-24 and accumulating a record of 108-65-27 in 200 games.
- Tuesday, Dec. 23: **Final day of games before the Holiday Break** with 26 teams in action. The 13-game slate includes a TNT tripleheader featuring the Pittsburgh Penguins visiting the Toronto Maple Leafs (4 p.m.); Detroit Red Wings hosting the Dallas Stars (6:30 p.m.) and Philadelphia Flyers at Chicago Blackhawks (9 p.m.).
- Dec. 24-26: **Holiday Break** (no scheduled practices – dressing rooms closed).
- Wednesday, Dec. 31: Tampa Bay Lightning HC **Jon Cooper** is expected to serve his 1,000th game as head coach when the Lightning visit the Anaheim Ducks (4 p.m.).



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JANUARY 2026

- Friday, Jan 2: **2026 Discover NHL Winter Classic** (New York Rangers at Florida Panthers). The Rangers and Panthers square off at loanDepot Park in Miami, FL. in the NHL's 44th regular-season outdoor game and first of two scheduled for the 2025-26 campaign (8 p.m.).
- Saturday, Jan. 3: **Halfway mark of the 2025-26 regular season** (13th game on 13-game day; 656 GP).

Colorado Avalanche D **Brent Burns** returns to Lenovo Center for the first time after spending the past three seasons with the Carolina Hurricanes (7 p.m.). Burns led Carolina defensemen in [goals](#) (34), [assists](#) (99) and [points](#) (133) during his tenure with the club.
- Saturday, Jan. 10: Los Angeles Kings F **Corey Perry** returns to Rogers Place for the first time after spending his past two seasons with the Edmonton Oilers (10 p.m.). Perry was a member of an Oilers team that made back-to-back Stanley Cup Final appearances and matched a career high in goals during the 2025 postseason (10).
- Sunday, Jan. 11: **Boston Bruins contest the 7,000th regular-season game in franchise history** at home against the Pittsburgh Penguins (5 p.m.).
- Monday, Jan. 12: **Detroit Red Wings retire Sergei Fedorov's No. 91** before hosting the Carolina Hurricanes (7 p.m.). Fedorov played 13 seasons with Detroit, winning three Stanley Cups, two Frank J. Selke Trophies, a Hart Memorial Trophy as well as a Ted Lindsey Award. He ranks fourth in [goals](#) (400) in franchise history.

Seattle Kraken F **Kappo Kakko** returns to Madison Square Garden for the first time after spending parts of his first six seasons with the New York Rangers (7 p.m.). Kakko, drafted No. 2 overall in 2019 by New York, recorded 61-70—131 in 330 games with the franchise.
- Thursday, Jan. 15: Vegas Golden Knights F **Mitch Marner** and Toronto Maple Leafs F **Auston Matthews** meet as NHL opponents for the first time when Toronto visits Vegas (9:30 p.m.).
- Saturday, Jan. 17: **26th annual Scotiabank Hockey Day in Canada from Moncton, New Brunswick**, with all seven Canadian teams in action: New York Islanders at Calgary Flames (3 p.m.); Montreal Canadiens at Ottawa Senators (7 p.m.); Toronto Maple Leafs at Winnipeg Jets (7 p.m.) and Edmonton Oilers at Vancouver Canucks (10 p.m.).
- Monday, Jan. 19: Winnipeg Jets F **Jonathan Toews** returns to United Center for the first time after spending 16 seasons with the Chicago Blackhawks (8:30 p.m.). Toews served as captain of the Blackhawks for 15 seasons, a span which included three Stanley Cup victories as well as capturing a Conn Smythe and Frank J. Selke Trophy. Toews ranks sixth in franchise history in [goals](#) (372) and [points](#) (883).



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- Friday, Jan. 23: Vegas Golden Knights F **Mitch Marner** returns to Scotiabank Arena for the first time after spending his first nine seasons with the Toronto Maple Leafs (7 p.m.). Marner ranks within the top five in franchise history in [assists](#) (520; 4th) and [points](#) (741; 5th), having established career highs in each category in 2024-25.
- Second of two meetings between the three Hughes brothers during the 2025-26 regular season (10 p.m.). Vancouver Canucks captain **Quinn Hughes** hosts New Jersey's **Jack** and **Luke Hughes**.
- Sunday, Jan. 25: Florida Panthers D **Seth Jones** returns to United Center for the first time after spending parts of his past four seasons with the Chicago Blackhawks (7 p.m.). Jones led all Blackhawks skaters in [assists](#) (114) and [points](#) (146) and was tied for the most [game-winning goals](#) (7) during his tenure with the club.
- Thursday, Jan. 29: **Third of seven 15-game days scheduled for the 2025-26 regular season** (also March 24, March 28, April 4 and April 11). Only the Columbus Blue Jackets and Ottawa Senators are idle.
- Saturday, Jan. 31: Dallas Stars GM **Jim Nill** is expected to serve his 1,000th game as general manager when the Stars visit the Utah Mammoth (9 p.m.).

FEBRUARY 2026

- Sunday, Feb. 1: **2026 Navy Federal Credit Union NHL Stadium Series** (Boston Bruins at Tampa Bay Lightning). The Bruins and Lightning square off at Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, Fl. in the NHL's 45th regular-season outdoor game and second of two scheduled for the 2025-26 campaign (**time TBD**).
- Monday, Feb. 2: Second all-time meeting between San Jose Sharks F **Macklin Celebrini** and Chicago Blackhawks F **Connor Bedard** (8:30 p.m.). The two previously met on March 13, 2025, when Celebrini (0-1—1) and the Sharks defeated the Blackhawks 4-2.
- Tuesday, Feb. 3: Toronto Maple Leafs F **Auston Matthews**, representing Team USA at the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026, and Edmonton Oilers F **Connor McDavid**, representing Team Canada, go head-to-head in a pre-Olympic showdown when Toronto visits Edmonton (8:30 p.m.).
- Thursday, Feb. 5: **A seven-game slate makes up the final day of play before the 19-day break for the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026.**
- Wednesday, Feb. 25: NHL regular season schedule resumes.

MARCH 2026

- Friday, March 6: **2026 NHL Trade Deadline** (3 p.m.).



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Three-Quarter Mark of the 2025-26 regular season (second contest on 7-game day; 984 GP).

- Friday, March 13: **Expected to be the 70,000th game played in NHL history (regular season and playoffs)** when the Edmonton Oilers visit the St. Louis Blues (8 p.m.).
- Monday, March 16: Pittsburgh Penguins F **Sidney Crosby** faces off against Team Canada teammate Colorado Avalanche F **Nathan MacKinnon** when Pittsburgh travels to Colorado (9:30 p.m.).
- Wednesday, March 18: Philadelphia Flyers F **Trevor Zegras** returns to Honda Center for the first time after spending his first five seasons with the Anaheim Ducks (10 p.m.). Zegras ranked second in [assists](#) (119) and [points](#) (186) during his tenure with Anaheim, including setting rookie benchmarks for [assists](#) (38) and [points](#) (61) in a season.
- Tuesday, March 24: **Fourth of seven 15-game days scheduled for the 2025-26 regular season** (also March 28, April 4 and April 11). Only the Buffalo Sabres and New York Rangers are idle
- Florida Panthers HC **Paul Maurice** is expected to serve his 2,000th game as head coach when Florida takes on the Seattle Kraken (7 p.m.).
- Saturday, March 28: **Fifth of seven 15-game days scheduled for the 2025-26 regular season** (also April 4 and April 11). Only the Chicago Blackhawks and New York Rangers are idle

APRIL 2026

- Saturday, April 4: **Sixth of seven 15-game days scheduled for the 2025-26 regular season** (also April 11). Only the Philadelphia Flyers and St. Louis Blues are idle
- Saturday, April 11: **Final 15-game day scheduled for the 2025-26 regular season.** Only the Anaheim Ducks and Buffalo Sabres are idle
- The potential 100th all-time meeting between Pittsburgh Penguins F **Sidney Crosby** and Washington Capitals F **Alex Ovechkin** (regular season and playoffs, 3 p.m.). This is the second of three meetings between the two rivals in 2025-26, with the others taking place on Thursday, Nov. 6 (7:30 p.m.) and Sunday, April 12 (3 p.m.).
- Sunday, April 12: Montreal Canadiens D **Noah Dobson** returns to UBS Arena for the first time after spending his first six seasons with the New York Islanders (6 p.m.). Dobson ranks within the top six in [goals](#) (50; 6th), [assists](#) (180; 5th) and [points](#) (230; 6th) among Islanders defensemen.
- Thursday, April 16: **Final day of the 2025-26 regular season.**

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