



## PLAYOFF HISTORY

\* This marks the second all-time meeting between the Stars and Golden Knights in the Stanley Cup Playoffs. The previous matchup between the two clubs was in the 2020 Conference Finals, a series won in five games by Dallas, which saw the first instance in the NHL's modern era (since 1943-44) of a Conference Finals or Semifinals series opening with each team earning a shutout within the first two contests.

\* The Western Conference Final represents the fourth instance in the past 25 years of head coaches, both in their first season with a team, meeting in the penultimate round of the playoffs. The last occurrence was also between Dallas and Vegas in 2020 (DAL: **Rick Bowness**; VGK: **Peter DeBoer**). The others: 2010 (PHI: **Peter Laviolette**; MTL: **Jacques Martin**) and 1998 (WSH: **Ron Wilson**; BUF: **Lindy Ruff**).

\* A Dallas-Vegas Western Conference Final ensured this will be the southernmost final four in Stanley Cup Playoffs history (VGK: +36.1, CAR: +35.8, DAL: +32.7 & FLA: +26.1). The previous benchmark was in 2016 (PIT: +40.4, STL: +38.6, SJS: +37.3 & TBL: +27.9).

## #NHLSTATS NOTABLES

\* **Peter DeBoer** will face off against his former club in the Conference Finals. DeBoer served as head coach of the Golden Knights when the team made the Stanley Cup Semifinals in 2021 and Conference Finals in 2020. Only four other head coaches in NHL history have taken a team to the round before the Final then later *opposed* that team in the same round – **Darryl Sutter** (2013 vs. CHI), **Mike Babcock** (2007 vs. ANA), **Sid Abel** (last; 1966 vs. CHI) and **Dick Irvin** (last; 1953 vs. CHI & 1945 vs. TOR).

\* Three players, currently on one of the team's active rosters, have played for both the Stars and Golden Knights: **Reilly Smith**, **Colin Miller** and **Evgenii Dadonov**.

\* **Reilly Smith** was selected by the Stars with the No. 69 pick in the 2009 NHL Draft. He skated his first 40 career NHL games with Dallas before being traded to Boston on July 4, 2013, in a blockbuster deal which included **Tyler Seguin** being sent to the Stars.

\* **Reilly Smith** can become the fourth active player to win a Conference Finals/Semifinals against the franchise that drafted him (min. 1 GP in the series). The others: **Nick Suzuki** in 2021 (w/ MTL; 13th overall in 2017 by VGK), **Ryan McDonagh** in 2014 (w/ NYR; 12th overall in 2007 by MTL) and **Andrew Cogliano** in 2022 (w/ COL; 25th overall in 2005 by EDM).

\* **Phil Kessel**, **Joe Pavelski** and **Ryan Suter** were all born in Wisconsin and represented the United States at the 2010 and 2014 Winter Olympics. Kessel has credited Suter's father, **Bob**, for his development as a player (the elder Suter was a "Miracle on Ice" veteran & coached Kessel with the Madison Capitols minor hockey program).

**Vegas Golden Knights with Playoff Experience vs. DAL**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Pos.</b>	<b>Playoff Team</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>Record</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>P</b>
Alex Pietrangelo	D	STL	15	8-6	2	4	6
Mark Stone	R	VGK	6	2-4	2	2	4
William Karlsson	C	VGK	6	2-4	2	2	4
Chandler Stephenson	C	VGK	6	2-4	2	1	3
Shea Theodore	D	VGK	6	2-4	1	2	3
Ivan Barbashev	C	STL	7	4-3	0	2	2
Reilly Smith	R	VGK	6	2-4	1	1	2
Nicolas Roy	C	VGK	6	2-4	0	2	2
Alec Martinez	D	VGK	6	2-4	1	0	1
Brayden McNabb	D	VGK	6	2-4	0	1	1
Jonathan Marchessault	R	VGK	6	2-4	0	1	1
William Carrier	L	VGK	6	2-4	1	0	1
Zach Whitecloud	D	VGK	6	2-4	0	1	1

**Dallas Stars with Playoff Experience vs. VGK**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Pos.</b>	<b>Playoff Team</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>Record</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>P</b>
Joe Pavelski	C	SJS/DAL	19	10-9	5	5	10
Jamie Benn	L	DAL	6	4-2	3	2	5
Miro Heiskanen	D	DAL	6	4-2	0	4	4
Roope Hintz	C	DAL	6	4-2	0	2	2
Ryan Suter	D	MIN	7	3-4	0	1	1
Tyler Seguin	C	DAL	6	4-2	0	1	1
Esa Lindell	D	DAL	6	4-2	0	1	1
Joel Hanley	D	DAL	5	4-1	0	1	1
Joel Kiviranta	L	DAL	5	4-1	1	0	1
Radek Faksa	C	DAL	4	2-2	0	1	1

<b>Goaltender</b>	<b>Pos.</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>GS</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>SV</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>GAA</b>	<b>SV%</b>
Jake Oettinger	G	DAL	1	0	0-1	0	5	5	0	0	1.000