

**NHL MORNING SKATE – DEC. 14, 2021**

**MORNING SKATE**  
 Tuesday, December 14, 2021

#NHLSTATS

- ▶ Wild, Avalanche, Stars look to extend home win streaks
- ▶ McDavid, Matthews set for 14th all-time head-to-head
- ▶ Canucks aim to remain undefeated under Boudreau

- \* A trio of teams will try to extend lengthy home winning streaks during Tuesday's 13-game slate.
- \* **Connor McDavid** and **Auston Matthews** are set to go head-to-head for the first time this season.
- \* Vancouver vies for another victory since naming **Bruce Boudreau** its head coach Dec. 5.

**TONIGHT'S SCHEDULE** TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2021

7:00 PM ET		@		ATTSN-RM, NESN, SNP	7:00 PM ET		@		BSSUN, BSW
7:00 PM ET		@		BSFL, TSN5, RDS2	7:00 PM ET		@		NBCSP, MSG
7:00 PM ET		@		ATTSN-PT, TSN2, RDS	7:30 PM ET		@		BSDet, MSG+
8:00 PM ET		@		HULU, ESPN+	8:00 PM ET		@		TSN3, MSG-B
8:30 PM ET		@		BSMW, BSSW	9:00 PM ET		@		HULU, ESPN+
9:00 PM ET		@		SNW, TSN4	10:00 PM ET		@		SNP, BSOH
10:30 PM ET		@		ROOT-NW, NBCSCA					

Stream on ESPN+ and NHL LIVE. Blackouts and other restrictions apply.


## **CENTRAL DIVISION CLUBS PUT LENGTHY HOME WINNING STREAKS ON THE LINE**


Minnesota (19-8-1, 39 points), Colorado (16-7-2, 34 points) and Dallas (13-10-2, 28 points) each look to extend noteworthy home winning streaks Tuesday:

\* The Western Conference-leading Wild host the Hurricanes (19-7-1, 39 points) at Xcel Energy Center and can earn wins in seven consecutive home games for the [fifth time in franchise history](#). **Kirill Kaprizov** has 5-10—15 at Xcel Energy Center through Minnesota's current home streak, which includes three of his four three-point games on the season. Only one player has recorded more three-point outings at home this season: **Leon Draisaitl** (5).

\* The Avalanche clash with the Rangers (18-6-3, 39 points) at Ball Arena, where the hosts are [7-0-0 since Nov. 11](#) and have outscored visitors by a 41-17 margin over that span (5.86 GF/GP). **Mikko Rantanen** leads the Avalanche in scoring over their run, averaging 1.86 points per game (6-7—13 in 7 GP) and has found the score sheet in all but one of those contests.


\* The Stars shoulder the longest active home winning streak in the NHL at [eight games dating to Nov. 13](#) and welcome the Blues (15-8-5, 35 points) to American Airlines Center. **Roope Hintz** (9-3—12 in 8 GP) has scored nine home goals including three game winners [during the Stars' current streak](#).



 STARS

**The Stars (8-0-0 at American Airlines Center since Nov. 13) can record a nine-game home winning streak for the first time since the club relocated to Dallas.**

**The longest such run in franchise history is 11 games, achieved by the Minnesota North Stars from Nov. 4-Dec. 27, 1972.**

 **#NHLSTATS**

## **McDAVID, MATTHEWS TO MEET IN 14TH HEAD-TO-HEAD GAME**

Oilers captain **Connor McDavid** (16-29—45 in 26 GP) and Maple Leafs forward **Auston Matthews** (18-13—31 in 26 GP) are set to meet in their 14th all-time head-to-head game and seventh since the start of the 2020-21 campaign when Canadian-based clubs competed only against domestic opponents as part of the NHL's Scotia North Division. McDavid manufactured 2-7—9 in the six meetings last season as Edmonton went 3-2-1 (7 points), while Matthews amassed 5-1—6 with Toronto going 3-1-2 (8 points).

\* Matthews, who was chosen by the Maple Leafs with the [No. 1 pick in the 2016 NHL Draft](#) a year after McDavid went first overall, has 217-165—382 in 360 career games. McDavid managed 167-316—483 through the first 360 games of his NHL career.

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**AUSTON MATTHEWS**  
C | TORONTO

G	8	A	3
P	11	GP	13
RECORD	9-2-2		

CAREER HEAD-TO-HEAD vs McDAVID

**TONIGHT**  
**9PM ET**  
SNW, TSN4

**CONNOR McDAVID**  
EDMONTON | C

5	G	14	A
19	P	13	GP
4-7-2	RECORD		

CAREER HEAD-TO-HEAD vs MATTHEWS

\* McDavid leads all skaters with 29 assists, one shy from becoming the third player in Oilers history to start his NHL career with Edmonton and reach 30 assists in each of his first seven seasons with the franchise. He would join **Jari Kurri** (10 from 1980-81 to 1989-90) and **Wayne Gretzky** (9 from 1979-80 to 1987-88).

\* Matthews, meanwhile, is tied for third in the NHL with 18 goals this season and sits two tallies away from becoming the second player in franchise history to start his career with the Maple Leafs and score 20 or more goals in each of his first six seasons with the franchise. The other: **Dave Keon** (6 from 1960-61 to 1965-66).

**CANUCKS LOOK TO REMAIN UNDEFEATED UNDER BOUDREAU**

The Canucks will aim for their fifth straight win, all under the helm of newly-named head coach **Bruce Boudreau**. Should Vancouver conclude Tuesday victorious, it would mark the club's first five-game win streak in two years, after doing so twice in 2019-20 (7 GP from Dec. 19, 2019 – Jan. 4, 2020 & 5 GP from Jan. 16 – Feb. 1, 2020).



**LONGEST WIN STREAK FROM START OF TENURE WITH CLUB**  
▶ HEAD COACHES, NHL HISTORY

HEAD COACH	TEAM	SEASON	GP
GEOFF WARD	CGY	2019-20	7
JACQUES LEMAIRE	NJD	1993-94	7
PATRICK ROY	COL	2013-14	6
BRYAN MURRAY	OTT	2005-06	6
MARIO TREMBLAY	MTL	1995-96	6
DAVE TIPPETT	EDM	2019-20	5
JOHN PADDOCK	OTT	2007-08	5
MARC CRAWFORD	QUE	1994-95	5
BEP GUIDOLIN	BOS	1972-73	5

\*BRUCE BOUDREAU (4-0-0) CAN JOIN THIS LIST

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**STATS AND INFORMATION**

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\* **Thatcher Demko**, who was named the NHL's First Star of the Week Monday, has been in net for each of Vancouver's four games on their current run and has the [most wins by any goaltender dating to the start of their streak on Dec. 6](#). With a win Tuesday, Demko can establish a career high and can become the first Canucks goaltender since **Jacob Markstrom** in 2019-20 (6 GP from Dec. 19, 2019 – Jan. 4, 2020) to post a win streak of five or more games.

## **QUICK CLICKS**

- \* [Thatcher Demko, Sebastian Aho, Devon Toews Named NHL 'Three Stars' of the Week](#)
- \* [Flames have three games postponed due to COVID-19 concerns](#)
- \* [Robby Fabbri signs three-year, \\$12 million contract with Red Wings](#)
- \* [Devils auction off special sweaters in honor of Jimmy Hayes](#)
- \* [2022 NHL All-Star Game fan vote now open](#)