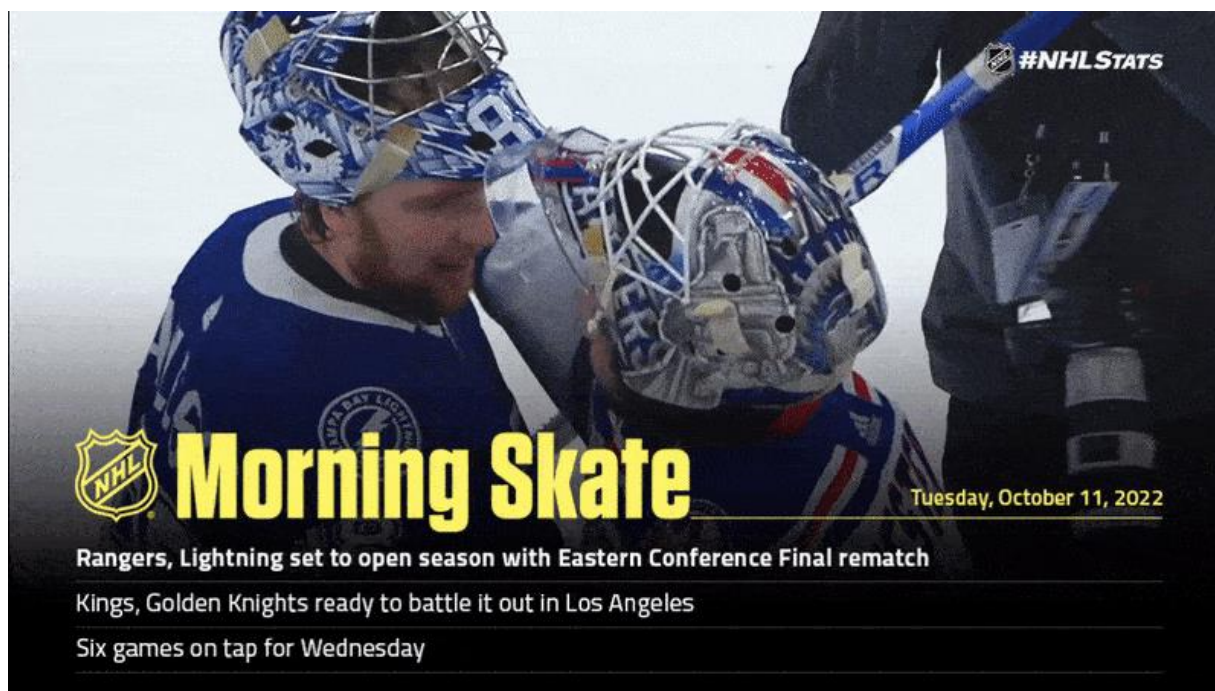


NHL MORNING SKATE – OCT. 11, 2022



* As teams unveiled their [season-opening rosters](#) on Monday, anticipation continued for the North American debut of the 2022-23 regular season, which starts with a double bill Tuesday on ESPN, ESPN+, SN1 and TVA Sports.

* After advancing to the Stanley Cup Final for the third time in as many seasons, the Lightning travel to Madison Square Garden to take on the Rangers in a rematch of the Eastern Conference Final.

* The second game of the night will feature a pair of Pacific Division rivals as the Golden Knights open a regular season on the road for just the second time when they travel to Los Angeles to battle the Kings.

* A range of documents pertaining to the 2022-23 NHL season are available on the League's Media site, including a [season preview](#) and #NHLStats Packs for [season openers](#) and [approaching milestones](#). Registered users can also access more information [here](#).



TONIGHT'S SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2022

7:30 PM ET



@



ESPN+, ESPN, SN1, TVAS

10:00 PM ET



@



ESPN+, ESPN, SN1, TVAS

ESPN

TNT

SN

TVA
SPORTS

Stream on ESPN+, Hulu and SN NOW

Blackouts and other restrictions apply

FAMILIAR FOES FACE OFF AS RANGERS HOST LIGHTNING IN SEASON OPENER...

Three days after the Sharks and Predators concluded the 2022 Global Series, the NHL's 2022-23 regular season will have its first puck drop in North America tonight at Madison Square Garden with a rematch of the 2022 Conference Finals between the Lightning and Rangers.



2022-23 SEASON

The Lightning and Rangers are the fourth set of teams in the NHL's expansion era (since 1967-68) to share a mutual season-opening game after meeting in the Conference Finals/Semifinals the year before. The others: Hurricanes and Sabres (2006-07), Avalanche and Stars (2000-01) as well as the Flyers and Canadiens (1987-88).



#NHLSTATS

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

* After **Igor Shesterkin** and the Rangers each extended their home win streaks to eight games to help the Rangers take a 2-0 series lead in the [2022 Eastern Conference Final](#), the Lightning rallied with four straight victories capped by captain **Steven Stamkos** scoring twice in a series-clinching 2-1 victory in Game 6. In doing so, the Lightning earned their 11th consecutive series victory (before falling to Colorado in the Final) while advancing to the Final for the third straight season and preventing the Rangers a chance to play in the championship series for the first time since 2014.

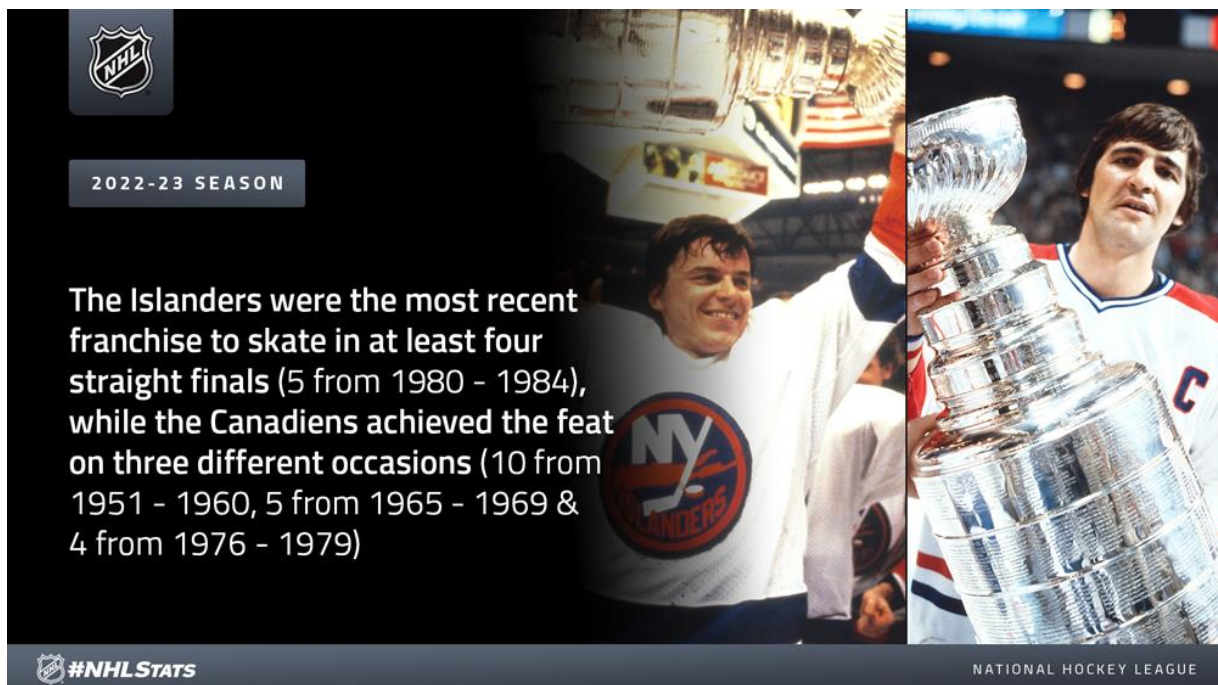
* Tampa Bay enters the contest with an all-time record of 19-8-2 (.690%) in season-opening games – the [highest points percentage](#) in such contests in NHL history (min 10 GP). Of note: Vegas owns a .800 points percentage in five contests (4-1-0).

* The Rangers, one win shy of becoming the [sixth team in NHL history](#) to win at least 40 season-opening games (39-42-14), enter the campaign with newly-named captain **Jacob Trouba** leading the charge. Trouba, the 28th captain in franchise history and the 12th defenseman to hold the honor, is one of three new players to don a 'C' for a club ahead of 2022-23 (also **Kyle Okposo** w/ BUF & **Nick Suzuki** w/ MTL).

ICYMI: NHL.com's **Dan Rosen** [penned a feature](#) on the new Rangers captain in which Trouba revealed at age 13, while writing life goals in a school notebook, one of his entries was to "Become an NHL captain." Fifteen years later, and that goal becomes a reality once the puck drops on tonight's game.

... WHILE TAMPA BAY SETS SIGHTS ON FOURTH STRAIGHT FINAL APPEARANCE

In the aftermath of falling just short of their third consecutive championship, the Lightning begin their quest to advance to the Stanley Cup Final for the fourth straight season – a feat only two other franchises in NHL history have accomplished.



The Islanders were the most recent franchise to skate in at least four straight finals (5 from 1980 - 1984), while the Canadiens achieved the feat on three different occasions (10 from 1951 - 1960, 5 from 1965 - 1969 & 4 from 1976 - 1979)



#NHLSTATS NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

* Another trip to the Stanley Cup Final would be the sixth overall for Tampa Bay, which would trail only Edmonton (7x) for the most by any franchise in the past 40 years.

KINGS, GOLDEN KNIGHTS READY TO RENEW RIVALRY

Anze Kopitar and the Kings welcome **Mark Stone** and Golden Knights to Crypto.com Arena to cap the doubleheader. The two clubs have alternated victories through their past five meetings while combining for 7.6 goals per game. Los Angeles has 12 all-time victories against Vegas, tied with Minnesota [for the most among all clubs](#).

* After a five-point performance against the Golden Knights on opening night last year, Kopitar has collected 9-12—21 in 15 career season-opening games which trails only **Alex Ovechkin** (13-11—24 in 17 GP) for the most among all active players.

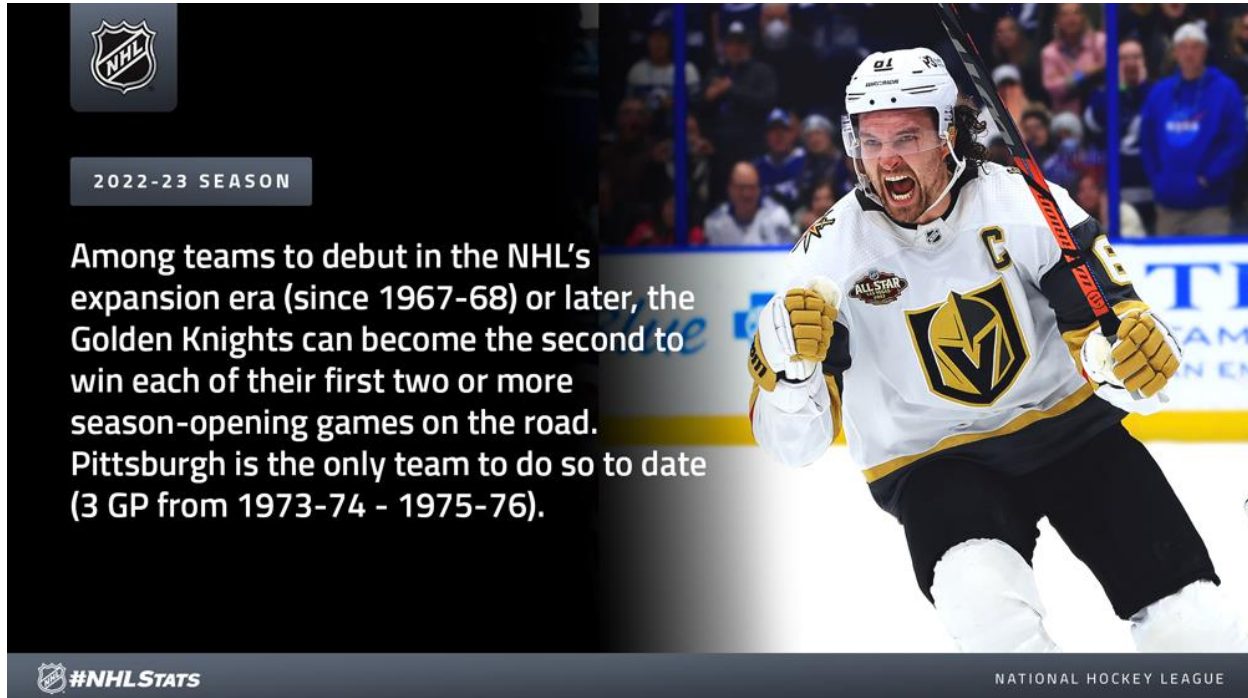
 MOST CAREER POINTS IN SEASON OPENERS ACTIVE PLAYERS			
PLAYER	GP	G-A-P	
Alex Ovechkin	17	13-11—24	
Anze Kopitar	15	9-12—21	
Patrick Kane	15	7-11—18	
Joe Pavelski	15	5-13—18	
Nicklas Backstrom	13	1-15—16	
Steven Stamkos	14	3-13—16	
Zach Parise	16	10-6—16	

#NHLSTATS NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

* Kopitar (365-702—1,067 in 1,210 GP), already one of four players to notch [at least 1,000 points for the Kings](#), sits three shy of passing **Dave Taylor** (431-638—1,069 in 1,111 GP) for sole possession of third place on the franchise's all-time list.

* Meanwhile, newly-minted head coach **Bruce Cassidy** leads Vegas into 2022-23. The Golden Knights have [opened a season on the road](#) just one other time, doing so against the Stars during their inaugural season in 2017-18 (Oct. 6: [2-1 W at DAL](#)). **Marc-Andre Fleury** recorded 45 saves that evening – the most ever recorded by a goaltender in an expansion franchise's first win (since 1967-68).

* The Golden Knights are one of [10 teams to enter 2022-23 with a new head coach](#) (also **Jim Montgomery**: BOS, **Luke Richardson**: CHI, **Peter DeBoer**: DAL, **Derek Lalonde**: DET, **Paul Maurice**: FLA, **Lane Lambert**: NYI, **John Tortorella**: PHI, **David Quinn**: SJS & **Rick Bowness**: WPG) – matching 1997-98 for the highest total to start a season in NHL history.



The graphic features a dark background on the left with the NHL logo at the top. Below it, a grey box contains the text "2022-23 SEASON". The main text on the left reads: "Among teams to debut in the NHL's expansion era (since 1967-68) or later, the Golden Knights can become the second to win each of their first two or more season-opening games on the road. Pittsburgh is the only team to do so to date (3 GP from 1973-74 - 1975-76)." On the right, a photograph shows a Vegas Golden Knight player in a white jersey with gold and black accents, celebrating with his mouth open and arms raised. The bottom of the graphic has a dark bar with the "#NHLStats" logo on the left and "NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE" on the right.

NHL

2022-23 SEASON

Among teams to debut in the NHL's expansion era (since 1967-68) or later, the Golden Knights can become the second to win each of their first two or more season-opening games on the road. Pittsburgh is the only team to do so to date (3 GP from 1973-74 - 1975-76).

#NHLStats

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

QUICK CLICKS

- * [NHL.com's storylines to watch in 2022-23](#)
- * [Juraj Slafkovsky](#) to start season with Canadiens
- * [Connor McDavid, Leon Draisaitl](#) feel "time is now" for Oilers
- * [NHL, Zamboni introduce electric ride-on toy for children](#)
- * [Coyotes succeeding in outreach to Hispanic youth](#)
- * [Women in Hockey: Lyndsey Fry](#)



ARIZONA COYOTES



LYNDSEY FRY

President, Arizona Kachinas Girls
Hockey Association & Radio Color Analyst



**LYNDSEY
FRY**

JOB TITLE

President, Arizona Kachinas Girls Hockey Association
& Radio Color Analyst

EDUCATION

BA History of Science, Harvard Univ.
MBA, Arizona State University

YEARS OF HOCKEY EXPERIENCE

23 Years

Q & A

What motivates you to keep pushing and be successful?

I think having been a girl/woman in a male dominant field my whole life, I've always striven to break barriers. There is still so much for women to achieve in hockey & being part of that push to make things more equitable for the next generation of girls is what keeps me going!