


NHL MORNING SKATE – OCT. 21, 2023



The graphic features two hockey players in action. The player on the right is wearing a white jersey with red and black accents, number 4, and is raising his right hand in a celebratory gesture. The player on the left is wearing a white jersey with red and black accents, number 86, and is looking towards the other player. The background shows a blurred crowd of spectators. In the top right corner, there is a logo for #NHLStats. The main title 'Morning Skate' is in large yellow letters, with the NHL logo to its left. Below the title, the date 'Saturday, October 21, 2023' is displayed in a yellow box. Three white boxes with black text provide key highlights from the game.

#NHLStats

Morning Skate

Saturday, October 21, 2023

- Hughes caps off four-point night with OT winner
- Martin makes 36 saves in first win for Blue Jackets
- Puck drops on the NHL's first 15-game day of 2023-24

* **Jack Hughes** recorded 2-2—4, including the winner in overtime, to become the first player to reach the 10-point mark in 2023-24 and joined rare company in the process by doing so in just four games.

* **Spencer Martin** stopped 36 of 37 shots for his first win with Columbus – one shy of the most by a goaltender in their first victory with the club.

* The NHL's first 15-game day of 2023-24 will feature 12-plus hours of action, including a four-game slate on Hockey Night Canada and a pair of games-played milestones for Kings franchise icons **Anze Kopitar** and **Drew Doughty**.

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RESULTS

FRIDAY

	1	FINAL ▶	3	
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	5	◀ FINAL OT	4	
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HOCKEY NIGHT IN CANADA HEADS TO FLORIDA FOR HALF OF SATURDAY QUARTET

For a second straight game, **Mitchell Marner** and the Maple Leafs will face a familiar playoff foe as they visit **Nikita Kucherov** and the Lightning in a rematch of back-to-back First Round postseason series in 2022 and 2023 (CBC, SNO, SNW, NHLN, BSSUN). Marner and Kucherov, who each scored Thursday, will be part of a four-game Hockey Night in Canada showcase beginning at 7 p.m. ET on Sportsnet.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

7:00 PM ET		@	
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7:00 PM ET		@	
10:00 PM ET		@	

SPORTSNET



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* Marner, who scored his first goal of 2023-24 Thursday against the Panthers, has collected a point in 12 of his past 15 regular-season games in the state of Florida dating to the start of the 2018-19 campaign. He has totaled 13-8—21 in those contests, including 4-3—7 in Tampa (6 GP).

* The star-studded Lightning lineup also includes speedy forward and 50-goal scorer **Brayden Point**, who entered Friday as the League leader with 37 sustained bursts of 20+ mph this season (via NHL EDGE) – ahead of second-place **Nathan MacKinnon** (COL).

* Two other scoring stars from this matchup are within reach of climbing all-time lists for career power-play goals: **Auston Matthews** (78) needs one to tie **Wendel Clark** (79) for fourth place in [Maple Leafs history](#), while Lightning captain **Steven Stamkos** (195) needs two to match **Jarome Iginla** (197) for 21st place in [League history](#).

* Approximately 250 miles southeast of Amalie Arena, another Hockey Night in Canada matchup will take place as NHL assists leader **Elias Pettersson** (1-7—8 in 4 GP) and the Canucks continue a five-game road trip against **Sergei Bobrovsky** and the Panthers. Pettersson can become the first Canucks player since 1987-88 to have at least eight assists through the team's first five games of a season, while Bobrovsky will look to [continue his pursuit](#) of dethroning **Roberto Luongo** from one of his multiple thrones as a franchise leader in wins.

WILL BOB DETHRONE LOU IN FLA?

Roberto Luongo (Canucks & Panthers) is one of three goaltenders in NHL history who holds the franchise wins record for multiple clubs, along with Marc-Andre Fleury (Penguins & Golden Knights) and Roy Worters (Brooklyn Americans & Philadelphia Quakers).

FLORIDA #NHLSTATS

15-GAME SATURDAY SERVES AS APPETIZER FOR FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND FRENZY

The first 15-game day of the season will include the last two home openers – with **Logan Cooley** playing his first game at Mullett Arena and **Connor Bedard** making his debut on United Center ice – with 12-plus hours of action entertaining fans and only the Flames and Devils idle. It will be the 25th day in League history with exactly 15 games and one of four on the slate in 2023-24 (also Nov. 4, Nov. 24 & March 30).

NHL SCHEDULE		SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21			
1:00 PM ET		RDS, TSN5, BSEDT	4:00 PM ET		SCRIPPS, BSSD, BSSC, SN1
7:00 PM ET		MSGSN, MSG-B	7:00 PM ET		BSFL, SNP
7:00 PM ET		TVAS, CITY, SNE, MNMT	7:00 PM ET		BSSUN, NHLN, SNW, SNO, CBC
8:00 PM ET		SCRIPPS, NBCSCH	8:00 PM ET		BSSW, NBCSP
8:00 PM ET		BSWI, BSN, BSOH	8:00 PM ET		BSSO, NBCSCA
8:00 PM ET		SN-PIT, BSMW	9:00 PM ET		BSSO, ALT
10:00 PM ET		CBC, SN, CITY, TVAS2	10:00 PM ET		ROOT-NW, MSG
10:30 PM ET		BSW, NESN			

* The action-packed Saturday will serve as a precursor for “Frozen Frenzy” on Tuesday, Oct. 24, the second 16-game day in League history (previously April 8, 2023) and one of two slated for this season (also Jan. 13, 2024). It will be a first-of-its-kind day for the NHL, with all 16 games having different start times – and ESPN debuting a “whip-around” show (starting at 7 p.m. ET on ESPN+ and 8 p.m. ET on ESPN2) – beginning at 6 p.m. ET through 11 p.m. ET including a stretch of 12 straight games starting on 15-minute intervals. [Click here](#) to skate around the clock on Tuesday’s slate.

LONGTIME KINGS TEAMMATES READY FOR GAMES PLAYED MILESTONES

Longtime Los Angeles teammates **Anze Kopitar** and **Drew Doughty** – both cornerstones of the club’s first two Stanley Cup wins in 2012 and 2014 – each are expected to hit career games played milestones when the Kings seek their first home win of the season Saturday against the undefeated Bruins (3-0-0). Kings head coach **Todd McLellan** is coming off a milestone game of his own, having [reached 1,100](#) in the club’s victory Thursday in Minnesota.

* Kopitar (1,296) is set to surpass longtime teammate **Dustin Brown** (1,296) for the [most games played in Kings history](#). Among franchises that have been in the League for at least 10 seasons, only two have a current member of their club as the franchise leader in games played: [Washington](#) (**Alex Ovechkin**) and [Pittsburgh](#) (**Sidney Crosby**). In addition to Los Angeles, three others are likely to be added to that list this season in [Florida](#) (**Aleksander Barkov**; 4 away), [Columbus](#) (**Boone Jenner**; 15 away) and [Tampa Bay](#) (**Steven Stamkos**; 32 away).

* Doughty (1,099) is set to become the fourth player and first defenseman to play as many contests with the Kings, after Brown, Kopitar and **Dave Taylor** (1,111). Doughty and Kopitar have skated in 1,080 regular-season games together (546-410-124), the most among active teammates and fifth most by any pair in League history (a list upon which Kopitar and Brown rank third with 1,158).

* Doughty will surpass **Borje Salming** (1,099) on the NHL’s all-time list for games played with one franchise among defensemen and become the 12th blueliner in League history to hit the milestone with one club (and first since **Marc-Edouard Vlasic** did so with the rival Sharks on Nov. 26, 2021).

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MOST CAREER GAMES WITH ONE FRANCHISE, DEFENSEMEN
NHL HISTORY (REGULAR SEASON)

DEFENSEMAN	FRANCHISE	GP
NICKLAS LIDSTROM	RED WINGS	1,564
RAY BOURQUE	BRUINS	1,518
KEN DANAYKO	DEVILS	1,283
MARC-EDOUARD VLASIC	SHARKS	1,242
LARRY ROBINSON	CANADIENS	1,202
DUNCAN KEITH	BLACKHAWKS	1,192
TIM HORTON	MAPLE LEAFS	1,184
CHRIS PHILLIPS	SENATORS	1,179
HARRY HOWELL	RANGERS	1,160
BRIAN LEETCH	RANGERS	1,129
BRENT SEABROOK	BLACKHAWKS	1,114



*Drew Doughty (1,099) is set to become the 12th defenseman to play 1,100+ games with one franchise

HUGHES CAPS OFF FOUR-POINT NIGHT WITH OVERTIME WINNER

The Islanders tied the game three times, including a tally from **Bo Horvat** (2-0—2) with 1:11 remaining in regulation, but **Jack Hughes** (2-2—4) [serpentine](#)d his way through the offensive zone in overtime en route to a game winner, a fourth point of the evening and the first claim on the 10-point mark in the 2023-24 season.

* Hughes (4-6—10 in 4 GP) – who didn't reach a double-digit point total until his 10th game of the 2022-23 campaign en route to a franchise-record 99 points – became the fastest to reach the mark in Devils/Scouts/Rockies history, besting **John MacLean** (5 GP in 1988-89).

FEWEST GAMES TO 10 POINTS IN A SEASON

ACTIVE PLAYERS

PLAYER	TEAM	SEASON	GP
JACK HUGHES	DEVILS	2023-24	4
CONNOR McDAVID	OILERS	2022-23	4
ARTEMI PANARIN	RANGERS	2022-23	4
CONNOR McDAVID	OILERS	2021-22	4
CONNOR McDAVID	OILERS	2019-20	4
TYLER SEGUIN	STARS	2018-19	4
MORGAN RIELLY	MAPLE LEAFS	2018-19	4
AUSTON MATTHEWS	MAPLE LEAFS	2018-19	4
NICKLAS BACKSTROM	CAPITALS	2009-10	4



* **Luke Hughes** (1-0—1) also recorded his first goal of the season, making the Hughes brothers the first pair of siblings to score in the same game for the Devils. Only two other pairs of brothers have scored in the same game for the same team since 2017-18: **Eric Staal** and **Marc Staal** on Feb. 20, 2023 (w/ FLA) as well as **Seth Jones** and **Caleb Jones** on Feb. 10, 2023 (w/ CHI).


* Jack picked up the primary helper on Luke's goal after also assisting on his first career tally on April 13 and became the fourth player in NHL history to factor on each of his brother's first two or more career goals. The others: **Henrik Sedin** (3 w/ **Daniel Sedin**), **Doug Bentley** (2 w/ **Max Bentley**) and **Ron Sutter** (2 w/ **Rich Sutter**).


#NHLSTATS: LIVE UPDATES FEATURES MARTIN'S FIRST WIN IN BLUE JACKETS UNIFORM

Spencer Martin earned a nod in the [Friday edition of #NHLStats: Live Updates](#) as he stopped 36 of 37 shots to record his first win with Columbus and help his team conclude its four-game season-opening homestand with a victory.

MARTIN MARVELLOUS IN FIRST BLUE JACKETS WIN

Spencer Martin tied Mathieu Garon (36 on Oct. 10, 2009) and Elvis Merzlikins (36 on Dec. 31, 2019) for the second-most saves by a goalie in their first win with the Blue Jackets – one shy of Curtis McElhinney’s mark on Oct. 20, 2013 (37)



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RINK BUILD UNDERWAY FOR 2023 TIM HORTONS NHL HERITAGE CLASSIC

The rink at Commonwealth Stadium, home of the CFL’s Edmonton Elks, for the *2023 Tim Hortons NHL Heritage Classic* [is starting to take shape](#) as the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the first regular-season outdoor game in League history continues ahead of the Oilers-Flames showdown on Oct. 29 (7 p.m. ET on SN, TVAS, TBS, MAX).

* [Click here](#) for the #NHLStats Pack: 2023 Tim Hortons NHL Heritage Classic and everything you need to know about the 38th regular-season outdoor game in League history.



QUICK CLICKS

- * [Connor Bedard's home opener with Blackhawks has excitement 'off the charts'](#)
- * [Anze Kopitar on cusp of becoming Kings' all-time games played leader](#)
- * [Tkachuk brothers surprise Dad with Blues Hall of Fame induction news in video](#)
- * [Patrik Laine giving an assist to mental health resources](#)
- * [Coyotes earning respect in latest phase of rebuild](#)

NHL PODCASTS WEEKLY ROUNDUP

- * **NHL Fantasy on Ice** (Oct. 16): [Fantasy waiver wire pickups: Week 2](#)
- * **The Chirp** (Oct. 19): [Brian Boyle joins; Peter Laviolette's touch; Kuzy stirs pot; Torts lore](#)
- * **La Tasse de Café LNH** (Oct. 19): [Déjà de mauvaises nouvelles chez les Canadiens](#)
- * **NHL @TheRink** (Oct. 19): [Ryan Huska & Jack Eichel join; Red Wings revival; Frozen Frenzy](#)
- * **NHL Fantasy on Ice** (Oct. 19): [Fantasy mailbag: Week 2](#)



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