

CAR/WSH: 3-3...Game 7: Tonight, 7:30 ET
BOS def. TOR 4-3 ... will host CBJ
CBJ def. TB 4-0 ... will face BOS
NYI def. PIT 4-0 ... will face WSH/CAR



2019 STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS UPDATE April 24, 2019

SJ def. VGK 4-3 ... will host COL
COL def. CGY 4-1 ... will face SJ
DAL def. NSH 4-2 ... will face STL
STL def. WPG 4-2 ... will host DAL

First Round Concludes with Game 7

The First Round ends tonight with the defending Stanley Cup champion Capitals hosting the Hurricanes for the right to move on to the next round where the NY Islanders await the winner.

- After last night's two winner-take-all affairs, the First Round will feature three Game 7s in the opening round for the first time since 2014.

Last year's postseason saw 3 Game 7s in the entire playoffs, including just 1 in the First Round (TOR vs BOS)

Today's Action - 1 game

CAR vs. WSH - Game 7 (7:30PM, NBCSN)

Washington has been pushed to the brink as Carolina held serve on home ice and forced Game 7 back in D.C. *The home team has won each game in this series.*

Carolina is in the postseason for the first time since 2009 and look to become the 4th team to eliminate a division champion in the opening round this postseason (CBJ over TB; COL over CGY; DAL over NSH).

- **Experience a Factor?** For Washington, this will be the 12th Game 7 since 2008 – the most in the NHL in that span. Carolina has not played in a Game 7 since that 2009 postseason – when they won two such series, led by then captain (now coach) **Rod Brind'Amour**, en route to making the East Final.
 - **Alex Ovechkin & Nicklas Backstrom** are set to play in their 12th career Game 7 (4-7 record). The only players in NHL history who have appeared in more such games are **Patrick Roy, Scott Stevens** and, after last night, **Zdeno Chara** – who have all competed in 13.
 - Caps deadline acquisition **Carl Hagelin** holds an 8-1 record in Game 7s – tied for the most Game 7 wins in NHL history (**Brad Richards, Ray Bourque, Glenn Anderson**).
 - **Mr. Game 7 the X-Factor?** Hurricanes captain **Justin Williams** – a.k.a. “Mr. Game 7” – is the leading Game 7 scorer in NHL history (14 points). He'll be playing in his first Game 7 with CAR since 2006 – when he notched the insurance goal in a 3-1 win over EDM to win the Stanley Cup.



CAR coach Rod Brind'Amour on Game 7s: “Yeah, I remember those. It's the stuff that still gives you goose bumps thinking about it. And when you watch the emotions of the guys after scoring last night, that's why I'm [coaching]. I feel great for those guys. I've been there, I know how exciting it is. It's hard work, but it's worth it. I want it for those guys.”

- **Will there be overtime like in San Jose last night?** Remember, Ovechkin has yet to score an overtime goal in the postseason (tonight will be his 128th career playoff game).
- **Will Upsets Continue?** This is already the first postseason since the 1967-68 expansion in which the top seed in each conference has lost in the opening round. On top of that, Central Division winner Nashville has also been knocked out. Will the ‘Canes add to the upsets and send the last division winner left home for the offseason?

Postseason By The Numbers

45 games played

- 25 home wins; 20 road wins
- Teams that entered this postseason as the “worse” seed are 25-20 (4 series wins)
- 19 one-goal games
- 4 shutouts (**Mike Smith, Petr Mrazek, Marc-Andre Fleury, Braden Holtby**)
- 9 OT games (**Bailey, Orpik, Smith, MacKinnon, Connor, Rantanen, Hertl, Klingberg, Goodrow**)
 - 1 game has gone to 2OT – SJ/VGK Game 6
 - There were only 10 OT games last season

Looking Ahead to the Second Round

What a Difference a Year Makes:

7 of the 8 Second Round teams are set. 5 of those are 7 were not in the Second Round last postseason (CBJ, NYI, STL, DAL, COL).

- Boston is the top remaining regular-season team:

Top Regular-Season Teams	Reg. Season Pts	Playoff Result
Lightning*	128	Elim. in First Round
Flames*	107 (50 ROW)	Elim. in First Round
Bruins	107 (47)	Advanced to Second Round
Capitals*	104	Tied in First Round w/ CAR 3-3
Islanders	103	Advanced to Second Round
Sharks	101	Advanced to Second Round
Toronto	100 (46)	Elim. in First Round
Predators*	100 (43)	Elim. in First Round
Penguins	100 (42)	Elim. in First Round

> *Division Winner

- The Second Round will begin on Thursday with a doubleheader on NBCSN – CBJ at BOS (7pm ET) followed by DAL at STL (9:30pm ET).
 - COL at SJ & NYI vs. WSH/CAR is set for Friday.



Postseason Leaders Through 14 days

- Goals: 6 – **Tomas Hertl** (SJ), **Logan Couture** (SJ), **Mark Stone** (VGK)
- Points: 12 – Stone (VGK)
- Save %: .956 - **Robin Lehner** (NYI)
- Saves: 225 – **Frederik Andersen** (TOR)

3 Stars of Tuesday

- **Kevin Labanc & Barclay Goodrow**: LaBanc (1G-3A) gave SJ the lead in the 3rd period and his 4-point night matched the NHL record for points in a playoff period (all came in the 3rd). Goodrow's only point of the night was the biggest, scoring the winner 18:19 into overtime.
- **Tuukka Rask (BOS)**: Stopped 32 of 33 shots, defeating TOR in a Game 7 for the second time in as many years.
- **Game 7 – Series Comeback Winners**: The Sharks (trailed series 3-1) and Bruins (trailed 3-2) both staved off elimination on the road in Game 6 and returned home with series-clinching wins in Game 7.

Bruins 5 Maple Leafs 1

BOS wins series 4-3

- In a game that was much closer than the final score indicates, the Bruins defeated the Maple Leafs in an opening round Game 7 for the second straight season. Boston jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the 1st period and **Sean Kuraly's** goal early in the 3rd put them up 3-1 before a pair of empty-netters sealed things.
 - Boston will host Columbus in the Second Round – Game 1 is set for Thursday, 7pm ET.

Sharks 5 Golden Knights 4 (OT)

SJ wins series 4-3

- For the second straight game in this series overtime was required as the Sharks rallied from a 3-0 third-period deficit to take the lead before **Jonathan Marchessault** forced OT with 47 seconds left in regulation. Barclay Goodrow ended things, spoiling Vegas' first-ever Game 7, and giving SJ the comeback win – the franchise's first series victory after trailing 3-games-to-1.
 - In a regular season that had the most multi-goal comeback wins in NHL history, the Sharks added to the narrative last night becoming the 2nd team ever to overcome a 3-goal, 3rd-period deficit to win a Game 7 (BOS – 2013).
 - San Jose will host Colorado in the Second Round – Game 1 is set for Friday, time TBD.