

CBJ leads BOS 2-1 ... Gm 4, Tonight, 7:30 ET
CAR leads NYI 3-0 ... Gm 4, Friday, 7 ET



SJ leads COL 2-1 ... Gm 4: Tonight, 10 ET
DAL/STL tied 2-2 ... Gm 5: Friday, 9:30 ET

2019 STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS UPDATE May 2, 2019

Today's Action – 2 games

BOS vs CBJ – Game 4 (7:30 PM ET, NBCSN)

After losing Game 1 in OT, the Blue Jackets have reeled off two straight 1-goal wins to take the series lead. They'll put their undefeated home record this postseason (3-0) on the line as they look to take a 3-1 series lead.

- CBJ deadline acquisition **Matt Duchene** has scored the game-winning goal in each of the last 2 games.

Duchene on the team's success: *"I'm not surprised. This is definitely what we're capable of."*

- 2-time Vezina winner **Sergei Bobrovsky** has stopped 99 of 105 shots in the series thus far.
- Production from Boston's "Big 3" will likely be needed for the B's to win this series:
- Boston is 1-10 on the power play in this series after going 7-16 in the First Round vs. Toronto.

BOSTON'S BIG THREE – THIS SERIES			
	MARCHAND	BERGERON	PASTRNAK
GAME 1	--	--	--
GAME 2	--	--	1 goal
GAME 3	--	--	--

BOS Patrice Bergeron: *"I think we've got to execute better, that's the bottom line. The plays that we want to make are there in a way, but I think we're forcing a lot of them too. We've just got to go back to taking what's there in front of you."*

- **Must win for BOS?...**The Bruins have never come back to win a series after trailing 3-1 (0-24).

SJ vs COL – Game 4 (10 PM ET, NBCSN)

Fresh off his first career playoff hat trick, **Logan Couture** will lead the Sharks as they look to take both games in Colorado and improve their series lead.

- Couture: 43 playoff goals since his playoff debut in 2010 – only **Alex Ovechkin** has more in that span.
- Colorado's 8-game home winning streak was snapped in Game 3.
- **Nathan MacKinnon** has recorded a point in 7 straight games (12 pts) – the longest playoff streak by an Avs player since **Peter Forsberg** in 2004. Forsberg is also the last Avs player to run a postseason streak to 8 games (2002).

COL coach Jared Bednar on the Game 3 loss: *"We made some bonehead decisions with the puck, too, at times. The bulk of their scoring chances come off turnover plays and mismanaging the puck and just poor execution."*

Couture: *"This is what you play hockey for. This is what you play 82 games for. I've been fortunate enough to play on some very good teams and we've only missed the playoffs once since I've been in SJ, and these games are so much fun."*

Postseason By The Numbers

59 games played

- 31 home wins; 28 road wins
- 28 one-goal games
- 5 shutouts (**Petr Mrazek x2, Mike Smith, Marc-Andre Fleury, Braden Holtby**)
- **13** OT games (10 OT games in the First Round; 3 so far in the Second Round)
 - There were only 10 OT games total last postseason
 - 3 games have gone to 2OT

Postseason Leaders Through 22 days

- Goals: 9 – **Logan Couture** (SJ)
- Assists: 12 – **Jacob Slavin** (CAR)
- Points: 12 – **Nathan MacKinnon** (COL), **Mark Stone** (VGK), **Couture** (SJ), **Slavin** (CAR)
- GAA: 1.69 – **Robin Lehner** (NYI) ... (**Curtis McElhinney** 1.28 GAA in 2 GP)
- Save %: .946 – **Lehner** (NYI) ... (**McElhinney** .957 SV%)



3 Stars of Wednesday

- 1) **Curtis McElhinney:** The 35-year-old backup has the Canes 1 win away from the Conference Finals. In two appearances this postseason, he's stopped 45 of 47 shots and has 2 wins.
- 2) **Ben Bishop:** 27 saves on 29 shots ... improved to 12-3 following a loss within a postseason
- 3) **Justin Williams:** Mr. Game 7 scored the game-winning goal in Game 3

Hurricanes 5 Islanders 2 (Game 4: Friday at 7 pm – NBCSN) CAR leads series 3-0

- Back home for the first time in over a week, Carolina captain **Justin Williams** broke a 2-2 tie midway through the 3rd period and the Canes added two empty-net goals in the final minute for the win and 3-0 series lead. Carolina improved to 4-0 at home this postseason – Columbus is the only other team to not lose at home in these playoffs.
- **Teuvo Teravainen**, who won a Cup with CHI in 2015, scored twice, and **Jacob Slavin** had 2 assists to move his total to 12 points this postseason – tied for the playoff lead.
- **Curtis McElhinney** (35yo) became the oldest goalie to make his first career playoff start and stopped 28 of 30 shots for the victory.
- Carolina will now host Game 4 on Friday as they aim to sweep a best-of-7 series for the first time in franchise history.
- The Islanders will look to avoid becoming the 4th team in NHL history to sweep a best-of-7 opening round series and then get swept in the next round – something that most recently happened in 1993 to the Sabres.

NYI coach Barry Trotz: *“It's a big mountain, but we've dug in many times this year when people doubted us. So we're just going to have to dig in. ... We have to earn the right to keep playing. That's it. It's do or die.”*

Needing to make history...*In order to win the series, the Islanders will now have to become the 5th team in NHL history to overcome a 3-0 series deficit – although it's something they did in 1975.*

Stars 4 Blues 2 (Game 5: Friday at 9:30 pm – NBCSN) Series tied 2-2

- **Vladimir Tarasenko** scored on the power play 5:02 into the game but Dallas responded with 4 straight goals en route to doubling up the Blues and evening the series at two games apiece.
- **Ben Bishop** stopped 27 of 29 shots and **Tyler Seguin**, **Mats Zuccarello** and **Alexander Radulov** each had 2 assists for the Stars.
- For St. Louis, it was its first road loss this postseason (4-1).
- **Just like the First Round...**DAL also lost Game 3 at home to fall behind 2-1 in the opening round against Nashville before winning 3 straight to advance, will the same happen in this series?

Importance of Game 5...*When a best-of-7 series is tied 2-2, the winner of Game 5 goes on to win the series (78.4%) of the time – including both the Stars & Blues in the First Round.*

STL coach Craig Berube: *“They were desperate and we didn't match that desperation in the first two periods.”*

DAL Jason Dickinson: *“This is exactly where we're supposed to be at this point, right? Supposed to be 2-2. Now it's a three-game series. The only thing I think we can take from that is confidence. I don't think we can read too much into how the last series went because it's a whole new thing now.”*