

BOS def CBJ 4-2
CAR def. NYI 4-0



COL/SJ tied 3-3 ... Gm 7: Tomorrow, 9 ET
DAL/STL tied 3-3 ... Gm 7: Tonight, 8 ET

2019 STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS UPDATE May 7, 2019

First of two Game 7s in the Western Conference Second Round

- The Avalanche beat the Sharks in Denver last night in overtime to win Game 6 and force the 5th Game 7 of these playoffs.
- Tonight's Game 7 – between the Stars & Blues – will be the 4th Game 7 of these playoffs and first of the Second Round.
- There were 3 Game 7s in the First Round... 2 of the 3 needed overtime
- There were just 3 Game 7s *all of last postseason*... Last postseason with 5+ Game 7s: 2016 (5)

Tonight's Action – Stars & Blues fight to advance to Western Conference Final

Stars vs Blues – Game 7 (8 PM ET, NBCSN)

With the Eastern Conference Final set between the Hurricanes & Bruins, the Stars & Blues will meet tonight in St. Louis to see who will become the first team to advance to the Western Conference Final. These franchises are meeting in a Game 7 for the 5th time, with the Blues owning a 3-1 edge.

- **3 of their previous 4 Game 7s have needed OT.**
- For the 2nd time in 4 years, the two Central Division rivals will meet in Game 7 (Blues def. Stars 6-1 in Dallas in 2016 Second Round)

Despite taking a **Colton Parayko** slapshot to the collarbone in Game 6, **Ben Bishop** is expected to start in net for Dallas tonight. Bishop is 1 of 4 NHL goalies with two Game 7 shutouts... no goalie has 3 career Game 7 shutouts.

- Bishop: *"I'm good, I'm good ... I just took one pretty hard there and that's it. Move on. Get ready for Game 7... You have padding (there), but it doesn't matter when the guy has probably the second-hardest shot in the League. It's all right though. Obviously, didn't turn out the way we wanted to and we have an opportunity to play a Game 7. Obviously, got to go out there and do our job."*
- Bishop, a St. Louis native, on facing his hometown team on the road in Game 7: *"I guess it's neat. But once the game starts and what not, you're not thinking about anything like that. It's all business. Once the game starts, you're not thinking about where you are or who you're playing. It's just going out there and doing your thing."*

Postseason By The Numbers

68 games played

- 36 home wins; 32 road wins
- 32 one-goal games
- 7 shutouts
- **14** OT games (10 OT games in the First Round; 4 so far in the Second Round)
 - There were only 10 OT games total last postseason
 - 3 games have gone to 2OT

Postseason Leaders Through 27 days

- Goals: 9 – **Logan Couture** (SJ)
- Assists: 12 – **Erik Karlsson** (SJ)
- Points: 14 – **Couture**
- GAA: 1.56 – **Curtis McElhinney** (CAR) in 3 GP
- Save %: .947 – **McElhinney**



3 Stars of Monday

- 1) **Tuukka Rask** – 39-save shutout to help lead the Bruins back to the Eastern Conference Final
- 2) **J.T. Compher** – Factored on 3 of Colorado's 4 goals (2 goals & an assist) ... also had 4 hits
- 3) **Gabriel Landeskog** – Colorado's captain scored the OT winning goal, the first of his playoffs career

Bruins 3 Blue Jackets 0

BOS won 4-2

Tuukka Rask was sensational in Game 6, stopping all 39 shots he faced, including 17 in the 2nd period. **David Krejci**, **Marcus Johansson** and **David Backes** scored the goals for Boston. The Bruins will face the Hurricanes in the Eastern Conference Final.

- Boston is in the Conference Finals for the first time since 2013 (lost Stanley Cup vs CHI)
- This is the 5th postseason meeting between the Hurricanes franchise and the Bruins. Two of their series came when the Hurricanes were still in Hartford. Boston owns a 3-1 edge in the previous 4 series.
- Boston won 2 of 3 meetings in the regular season
- Rask is 8-5 this postseason with 2.02 GAA & .938 SV%

Bruins coach **Bruce Cassidy** on Rask: *"You could tell this whole playoff he's been in a real good place. Been consistent, just solid and composed. Comes to the bench, there's no issues between periods, any little thing. He doesn't seem to be bothered by anything. He really seems to be in his own zone right now, where he's just going to go out and stop the puck, not worry about all of the banging in the crease or if a goal is disallowed, allowed, any of that stuff. He's done a terrific job for us in that regard. Hopefully it continues."*

Backes: *"We are halfway to our goal. You need to relish the plateaus along the way. We are certainly at one of those to be among the final four teams. We've had to sacrifice to win some games against some really good teams. Toronto was a different beast than Columbus was. They each bring their own challenges. We were able to answer both challenges."*

Avalanche 4 Sharks 3 (OT)

(Game 7: Wednesday at 9 pm ET – NBCSN)

Series tied 3-3

The Sharks overcame deficits of 1-0, 2-1 and 3-2, but Colorado's captain **Gabriel Landeskog** scored just 2:32 into OT to even the series at 3-3 and force a Game 7. This will be Colorado's first Game 7 of these playoffs, and San Jose's 2nd (defeated VGK in First Round).

- Colorado improved to 3-0 in overtime this postseason

Landeskog: *"Never had an OT goal in the playoffs before, so to do that on home ice, no doubt is very exciting. And for me, as I said before, I haven't been happy with my offensive output this time of year, I haven't been dangerous enough, I haven't been a threat enough, so it was nice to definitely get this one tonight, and hopefully we can build off of this for Wednesday."*

J.T. Compher: *"It was a huge effort by our team tonight. We knew it was win or go home, and a bunch of guys stepped up tonight ... The plan was to force Game 7, and we were able to do that."*

Sharks **Timo Meier**: *"We didn't play good enough to win this one. We got to bring a better effort. It's a Game 7 now, we know want to do. It's going to be loud in our building, we're going to come out, and we're going to bring our best hockey."*