

THE FLYER



VS



SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2024
ELITE LEAGUE



COOLEN'S COMMENTS

We certainly didn't go into last weekend looking to play well in one night and bad the next. On Saturday night against Cardiff at home it was a good contest, we got up in the game against a very good hockey team who are currently sitting in top spot and had another impressive win midweek against the defending Champions. We played what I felt was a pretty good game, we gave up the 5th goal which particularly annoyed me and we eventually lost the game without getting at least a point. It was a hard fought game and we certainly could have won it, we gave ourselves a chance. On Sunday it was like our bubble burst in the first five minutes, we obviously went in with every expectation of playing well and competing but as it turned out they scored on their first shot and quickly added one on the powerplay. Going down by four goals in the first period really pretty much killed the game as that's a hard hole to climb out of.

It's not as though we didn't try and we got a goal back to start the second and we held our own again and an early one in the fifth was good but we weren't near good enough on the night with our decision making and execution. All in all we try to learn from a game like that, what was the feeling, what did we do wrong what do we have to do better. If you are looking for a positive then sometimes those are the games that really really hit home, something that can light a fire under our club and can motivate us even more. Believe me we are giving it everything we have but that was one the certainly got away from us and we have spent the week regrouping. If you take the big package over the last 3 to 4 weeks our game has been trending in the right direction, wins haven't come as often as we would have liked but we have been picking up points and those points have been against sides who are expected to be challenging for honors in the spring. We are desperate to get that home win and again this weekend we have one of the toughest opponents we could face but hey we are both in the same league and we gotta find a way to win and that's what we have to do. The mood in the room is upbeat and I've been through spells like this before. Last season we had a similar run to end the year when we were down in the dumps until we were able to find our game and we almost flicked a switch to start the New Year and away we went. We are not that far away but it's a process, someone mentioned after last Saturday's game that the feeling was surely that wins would start coming if we continued to play the way we had in those recent games. Nothing's changed that's the direction I firmly believe we are headed. It's a matter of executing and also getting players back into the lineup and I'm delighted to say that we will have Austin Farley back after not playing in the last 6 weeks. Also we have added some depth with another two way signing of Ben Brown and along with Aiden Wilson they should both feature this weekend.





Defence first, win the battles and work.

You take those three aspects and put them into your game you are going to give yourself a chance.

Away we go.

Tom

MATCH REPORT

Saturday 23rd November 2024				4		5	Elite League	
Period Scores 3-1, 1-2, 0-2								
Line ups	Shane Owen	Starter	Noah Delmas	✓	Ryan Foss	✓	Massimo Carozza	✓
	Cameron Kenny	BackUp	Madi Dikhanbek	✓	Lucas Chiodo	✓	Phélix Martineau	✓
			Tyler Heidt	✓	Michael Cichy	✓	Maxim Musorov	✗
			Brodie Kay	✓	Johnny Curran	✗	Drake Pilon	✓
			Daniel Krenželok	✓	Austin Farley	✗	Nikolai Shulga	✓
			Patrick Kyte	✓	Fynn Page	✗	James Spence	✗
			Olivier LeBlanc	✓	Aiden Wilson	✗	Jordan Stallard	✓
	Craig	Refs	Halas		Rodger	Lines men	Thorpe	

The Flyers welcomed Cardiff to Kirkcaldy for the first time this season after having met twice on Devils ice earlier in the season. The Devils were coming off the back of a home defeat by the Glasgow Clan the previous night and continued with recently signed Taz Burman in net with Josh Batch and Hunter Shinkaruk both scratches. The Flyers gave a home debut to Jordan Stallard with Austin Farley, Janis Voris, Maxim Musorov, James Spence, Fynn Page and Aiden Wilson the scratched players.

The Flyers had an early power play chance as Andrew McWilliam was called for slashing with just 61 seconds on the clock. Burman made his first save when he stopped a shot from Noah Delmas that was redirected close in by Ryan Foss. The Flyers only other effort of note before Devils returned to full strength was a blast from the blueline that Burnam snagged with his glove. Shane Owen was in the game in the 3rd minute with his first save when he stopped a fierce shot from the circles by Cody Donaghey and the rebound was collected by Lucas Chiodo who carried the puck up the ice and gained the Devils blue line before saucerling a pass over to Phélix Martineau who chipped the puck over the sprawling Burnam to give the Flyers the lead. Owen denied Kohen Olischefski in the 7th minute as the Devils got another close in tip before he gave Josh MacDonald nothing to shoot at as he tried to go short side on the Flyers netminder. The visitors leveled the game in the 8th minute when they kept the puck in the Flyers zone and Sanford was credited with a shot that looked like it took a deflection past Owen.

There was a quick response from the Flyers as Tyler Heidt put a wrister on net a minute later and Burnam made a toe save at full stretch. The Flyers were back in front in the 11th minute when Massimo Carozza showed great strength to win a puck battle down the right wing and he passed the puck to Chiodo who took the puck to the net before deking Burnam and slotting it into the empty net. Carozza came close to extending the lead in the 13th minute when his shot caught Burnam on the shoulder but the Flyers were back on the penalty kill a minute later when Chiodo was given the gate for a trip. The Devils struggled to get much set up that was dangerous and their best effort came from a big shot by Donaghey which Owen dealt with comfortably. The Flyers doubled their lead in the 17th minute when Olivier LeBlanc let a slapshot go from the blueline which whistled wide of the net hit the backboards and Stallard was first to jump on the loose puck and bury it behind Burnam. The final shot of the period came from Brodie Kay in the 19th minute which Burnam made a kick save on.

MATCH REPORT

PERIOD 2

The opening few minutes of the second period saw the teams trade rushes as the game continued to be a bit of a track meet. Owen made the first big save in the 24th minute when he denied Ben Davies. He followed that up in the 25th minute with a huge pad save on Brett Perlini as the Devils had an odd man rush. The Devils went back on the power play in the 26th minute as Drake Pilon was called for holding the stick and the visitors made their numerical advantage count when Gleason Fournier beat Owen cleanly through the five hole with a wicked shot from the high slot.

Sanford had an attempt a minute later turned away by Owen and in the 30th minute the home side had their two goal lead back again when Daniel Krenželok put the puck on net and Carozza got a deflection on it to send it over the shoulder of Burnam. The Devils kept pushing and they had the Flyers hemmed in more and more as the period progressed and it was little surprise when their pressure paid dividends in the 35th minute when they caught the Flyers on the rush and Sam Duggan fired past Owen after the Flyers keeper had made the initial save. Owen made a shoulder save on a wrister from Joey Martin that was destined for the top corner in the 37th minute.

PERIOD 3

As we went into the third period the next goal was always going to be crucial. Madi Dikhanbek tested Burnam inside 30 seconds as the Devils netminder blockered the puck away. Jarrod Gourley let a heavy shot go in the 42nd minute that Owen did well to get a blocker on to deflect it wide. In the 44th minute Owen was busy again as he made a pad save on a Davies shot and a minute later he got a blocker to a shot after Martin had split the Flyers defence. The Devils did however get level in the 46th minute when MacDonald won a board battle behind the Flyers net and his pass out front was dispatched by Martin who was alone in the slot giving Owen no chance. The Devils had their tails up and Patrick Kyte made a pair of shot blocks in an attack in the 51st minute. The Flyers were struggling to create much down the ice in the Devils zone and with 5 minutes to play the visitors got the go ahead goal when Perlini finished another Devils rush when he picked the bottom corner on Owen from the high slot. The Flyers had a chance in the 56th minute when Chiodo and Martineau broke with the latter taking the shot that Burnam dealt with. A minute later the same player was again denied as Burnam held his shot from the circles. As the clock wound down the Flyers desperately tried to get the puck into the Devils zone and with 40 seconds remaining they managed to pull Owen for the extra skater but the Devils took the narrow win with Burnam making a fine pad save in the final few ticks from Martineau.

Flyers Stats					Devils Stats				
Shots For	Scorer	Assist	Assist	Goal	Scorer	Assist	Assist	Shots For	
For	Martineau	Chiodo		1	Sanford	Fournier		For	
28	Chiodo	Carozza		2	Fournier	Sanford	O'Brien	41	
Shots	Stallard	LeBlanc	Pilon	3	Duggan	Brandt		Shots	
Against	Carozza	Krenželok	Shulga	4	Martin	MacDonald	Barrow	Against	
41				5	Perlini	Duke	Fournier	28	
PIMS				6				PIMS	
4				7				2	
				8					
MOM				9				MOM	
Stallard				10				Sanford	

DEVILS
MATCH NIGHT
ACTION



JILLIAN MCFARLANE &
DEREK YOUNG





GETTING TO KNOW #19

Patrick Kyte

Date of Birth – March 29th 1999

Age – 25

Place of Birth – Pembroke, Ontario

Position – Defence

Shoots – Left

Height – 180cm/5'11"

Weight – 79 kg/174 lbs

Honours:

2023-24 USports (AUS) Champion

Hockey Career

2017-2020 - Halifax Mooseheads,

Chicoutimi Saguenéens (QMJHL)

2020-2023 - St. Francis Xavier Univ.

(USports)

2023-2024 - Univ. of New Brunswick

(USports)



#19 WE ASKED...

What other sports did you play growing up?

Soccer & Golf

Who has been the biggest influence on your career so far?

My mom & dad!

Who is the best player you have played with?

Otto Somppi

Who is the best player you have played against?

Alexis Lafreniere

What is the most memorable game you have played in?

International Silver Stick Finals. Peewee.

What is your favourite/least favourite rink to play in?

At home! So far it's been Cardiff

If you could make one rule change in hockey, what would it be and why?

Allow changes when icing occurs. At the end of the shift, one becomes exhausted, and a change is crucial.

Which hockey team do you cheer for/which one do you root against?

Toronto Maple Leafs/ Montreal Canadians

Most admired hockey player and why?

Sidney Crosby, his level of work ethic, professionalism and the Golden Goal in 2010 Vancouver Olympics

What would be your best piece of advice for youngsters starting in hockey?

Have fun! Enjoy the time in the locker room and on the ice with your friends/coaches/parents.

What do you consider to be the strongest part of your game and where are you trying to improve?

My skating / my stick handling in tight areas

Pre-game routine?

Nap before the game and watching parts of the TV show "Band of Brothers". Lots of water.

Pre-game meal?

Chicken and rice!

Any gameday superstitions?

Left side of gear always on first before the right.

Favourite other sport(s) to play?

Golf

Favourite other sport(s) to watch?

NBA, Golf

Favourite athlete (non-hockey)?

Lebron James

Favourite sports team (non-hockey)?

LA Lakers

Which do you prefer books or movies?

Movies

Favourite TV show(s)?

Game of Thrones, True Detective season 1, The

Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power

If you could only eat one meal for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Surf and Turf

Favourite beverage (non-alcoholic/alcoholic)?

Ice cold Mug of Root Beer from A&W

If you could share a meal with any 4 individuals, living or dead, who would they be?

Abraham Lincoln, my grandfather Tink, Sidney Crosby, Jacques Cartier

Favourite singer/music/band?

The Who, The Goo Goo dolls, Hans Zimmer

What is your favourite vacation destination?

Florida

What was your favourite and least favourite subject in school?

History/Science

What is your go to Karaoke song?

Atlantic City by The Band

If you could join any past or current music group which would it be and in what capacity? (guitar/vocals/drummer etc)

The Who and guitarist like Pete Townsend

Have you ever had a nickname? What is it?

Kyter, Stridder

If you were a super-hero, what powers would you have?

To Fly

What three items would you take with you on a desert island?

Cheesecake, picture of my loved ones, books

How many languages do you speak?





French and English

If not a hockey player what occupation would you have?

Financial portfolio manager / lawyer

MATCH

REPORT

Sunday 24th November 2024			9		2	Elite League	
Period Scores 4-0, 1-1, 4-1,							
Line ups	Shane Owen	Starter	Noah Delmas	✓	Ryan Foss	✓	Massimo Carozza ✓
	Cameron Kenny	BackUp	Madi Dikhanbek	✓	Lucas Chiodo	✓	Phélix Martineau ✓
			Tyler Heidt	✓	Michael Cichy	✓	Maxim Musorov ✗
			Brodie Kay	✓	Johnny Curran	✗	Drake Pilon ✓
			Daniel Krenželok	✓	Austin Farley	✗	Nikolai Shulga ✓
			Patrick Kyte	✓	Fynn Page	✗	James Spence ✗
			Olivier LeBlanc	✓	Aiden Wilson	✗	Jordan Stallard ✓
	Rose	Refs	Matthews		Koval	lines men	Sore

The Flyers visited the Blaze for the first time this season and indeed the Blaze were the last team that the Flyers had still to meet. The visitors went with the same roster as the previous evening meaning that Janis Voris, Austin Farley, Maxim Musorov, Fynn Page, James Spence and Aiden Wilson were all scratched. The Blaze returned home after an overtime victory in Dundee the night before and their one scratch was Alexander Kuqali as they lined up with a full bench.

The Blaze made the perfect start to the game after only 18 seconds when they gained the Flyers zone and Grayson Constable put the puck on net from the right wing, Owen got a pad on it but the puck landed on the stick of Jakob Stridsberg who had the easy task of hitting the gaping net. The Flyers were in a deeper hole after just 60 seconds when Olivier LeBlanc was forced to trip a Blaze player who was driving the net and the home side soon made their man advantage count. Owen made an initial save on Jackson Cressey before the Blaze recycled the puck and Zach Heinz's attempted pass across the crease struck a Flyers skate and landed perfectly on the stick of Chase Cresock who made no mistake from the slot giving Owen no chance. Owen made a solid save in the 4th minute when Seitz was camped on the edge of his crease and got a tip on the puck which the netminder did well to shut down. It was all Blaze at this point and they stretched their lead in the 7th minute with an individual goal when Alessio Luciani took the puck around behind the net and his wraparound attempt went into the net off the inside of Owen's pad. The Blaze went back on the powerplay in the 8th minute when Drake Pilon was called for delay of game when he shot the puck over the glass. The Blaze were once again clinical with their advantage and Michael Regush took advantage of some static defending as he toe dragged the puck around the Flyers marker and picked his spot on the glove side of Owen who had earlier made a good glove save on the same player and had shutdown Kim Tallberg who had a short side effort. In the 14th minute a giveaway in the Flyers end presented Archie Hazeldine with a chance but he was denied by a sliding block by a Flyers defenceman. The Flyers were much more in the game now but struggled to create any quality chances and their best came in the 19th minute after Phélix Martineau had put a big hit in along the boards and Lucas Chiodo retrieved the puck to play it back to his linemate but Mat Robson in the Coventry net made a solid save out at the top of his crease.

PERIOD 2

The Flyers survived a scramble around their net in the opening minute of the second period. In the 22nd minute Robson made a glove save on a Jordan Stallard shot who was went down the right wing. Moments later the home goalie was again in action as he scrambled the puck away twice with Madi Dikhanbek and Drake Pilon looking to open the visitors account. In the 26th minute Pilon went inside outside on his man in the neutral zone as he went in on goal and he shot high on Robson who snapped the puck in his glove. Owen made a very good save in the 27th minute when he denied Mike Kennedy who tipped a shot in the slot as the Fife keeper was out of his crease and took away the angle. The Flyers went on their first power play of the game in the 28th minute when Morten Jurgens was called for a cross check. It took the visitors 6 seconds to find the net as they won the face off and the puck was worked over to Michael Cichy who let a wicked one timer go from the circles that whistled over the glove of Robson and into the top of the net. Less than a minute later Owen was lights out with a save on Regush who was all alone in the slot and as the Blaze man tried to deke the Fife netminder he was stoned by a great pad extension save. The Flyers were much more of an attacking force in the period and following a nice move in the 31st minute Martineau fired the puck over the cross bar from the top of the slot. Robson made a routine pad save from a Patrick Kyte point shot in the 34th minute.

MATCH REPORT

The Blaze threatened again in the 36th minute with a 2 on 1 break with Luciani holding on to the puck and trying to beat Owen at his near post, the Flyers keeper made the initial save but the puck was recycled and eventually it landed out front and with Owen sprawling Seitz lifted it into the net on the back hand. The Flyers used their Coaches Challenge for goalie interference but the call of goal on the ice was upheld and the Blaze went back on the power play. Owen made one good save when he gloved a Heintz shot but otherwise the Blaze despite lots of controlled possession were unable to create any other quality chances as the Flyers completed the kill. In the 38th minute Owen made a kick save on Brynley Capps and with a minute left in the period David Clements was called for holding as the Flyers ended the period on the power play. Robson made the final save of the period when he gloved a shot from the point.

PERIOD 3

The Flyers started the third period with the remainder of their powerplay and with time running down Robson made a save from Cichy as he connected with cross ice pass from Chiodo. The Blaze were called for another infraction as Stridsberg took a cross checking penalty with three seconds remaining and the Flyers went on a short 5 on 3. At 5 on 4 the Flyers got a goal back when Cichy controlled the puck in the Blaze zone and fed Noah Delmas who was up supporting the rush and he went bar down on Robson for a beauty of a finish. In the 43rd minute the visitors nearly got another one as Robson scrambled around in his crease but the bouncing puck just wouldn't fall to a Flyers stick. The Blaze were a man short again in the 44th minute when Jurgens took a holding penalty on Kay in the Flyers end of the ice. The visitors had numerous attempts to get set up in the Blaze zone but the home side came up with a determined kill that disrupted the Flyers attempts and Robson wasn't called upon to make a save as the Blaze completed the kill. Hazeldine was denied by a right pad save in the 46th minute as he stepped in off the blue line to get his shot away. In the 49th minute Luciani drove the net and just couldn't get a clean contact on the puck as it bobbled wide and the same player a minute later was all alone in the crease but he couldn't finish as his back hand came back off the post. The Blaze looked like they could score with every attack at this stage and Heintz blasted a shot wide from the high slot. The sixth goal did however come in the 51st minute when Jurgens held off the checking attempts of Krenželok to slip the puck over to the back post where Hazeldine had a slam dunk into the empty net. It was almost another a minute later but Terrance Amorosa was denied by his own player in behind Owen who blocked his shot with his backside on the line. The Blaze were back on the power play in the 53rd minute as Patrick Kyte was forced to hook Luciani who was about to shoot at an empty net with Owen out of position. 17 seconds later Heidt lifted the puck over the glass to give the Blaze a two man advantage. Owen smothered a shot from Gresock after the Blaze had had two big blasts that missed the net. A goal came however when Regus ragged the puck in the high slot and Seitz in the slot got a tip on his shot that beat Owen. At this point the Blaze relieved Robson by putting Will Bray in net. Still on the power play the Blaze added an eighth when Regus again put the puck towards the net and Seitz again with a deft flick of his stick redirected the puck just inside the post for his hat trick. The Flyers were in disarray and Capps missed the chance of the night in 55th minute when he skied the puck with a wide open net. In the 58th minute Gresock stick handled his way through three Flyers players and the puck was played to Regush whose back hand shot was saved by Owen. Seitz almost got his fourth in the 59th minute when he went streaking through on his own from the centre red line but he lifted his shot over the cross bar. Seitz then turned provider with just 14 seconds remaining as he set up Heintz with the Flyers again at sixes and sevens and he beat Owen to complete a torrid affair for the Flyers.

Blaze Stats					Flyers Stats				
Shots For	Scorer	Assist	Assist	Goal	Scorer	Assist	Assist	Shots For	
For	Stridsberg	Constable		1	Cichy	Delmas	Martineau	For	
51	Gresock	Heintz	Amorosa	2	Delmas	Cichy		27	
Shots	Luciani	Stridsberg		3				Shots	
Against	Regush	Stridsberg	Seitz	4				Against	
27	Seitz	McKenzie		5				51	
PiMS	Hopkins	Jurgens	Clements	6				PiMS	
8	Seitz	Regush		7				10	
	Seitz	Regush	Tallberg	8					
MOM	Heintz	Tallberg	Capps	9				MOM	
Seitz				10				Cichy	

BLAZE MATCH NIGHT ACTION



SCOTT WIGGINS



DOING THE NUMBERS

Flyers Stats 2024/25

Players	Pos	GP	Tot G	Tot A	Tot Pts	PP A	SH A	Ev A	PiMs	S	S %	GAA	SO	PS S	TOI	GC
Shane Owen	G	22	0	2	2	0	0	0	6	909	0.89	4.51	0	0	1305	98
Brython Preece	G	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jānis Voris	G	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	144	0.88	5.15	0	0	198	17
Cameron Kenny	G	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Players	Pos	GP	Tot G	Tot A	Tot Pts	PP G	PP A	PP Pts	SH G	SH A	SH Pts	Ev G	Ev A	Ev Pts	PiMS	SOG
Noah Delmas	D	25	1	7	8	1	2	3			0		5	5	6	26
Madi Dikhanbek	D	23	0	2	2			0			0		2	2	12	39
Tyler Heidt	D	24	2	8	10		2	2			0	2	6	8	22	43
Brodie Kay	D	23	0	0	0			0			0			0	2	17
Daniel Krenželok	D	24	3	4	7	1	3	4			0	2	1	3	34	89
Patrick Kyte	D	22	0	4	4		1	1			0		3	3	29	32
Olivier LeBlanc	D	19	0	8	8		1	1			0		7	7	10	16
Fynn Page	D	11	0	0	0			0			0			0		
	D	0	0	0	0			0			0			0		
	D	0	0	0	0			0			0			0		
Lucas Chiodo	F	25	10	18	28	4	3	7			0	6	15	21	6	70
Michael Cichy	F	24	11	10	21	3	2	5			0	8	8	16	6	51
Johnny Curran	F	7	2	6	8		3	3			0	2	3	5	4	22
Austin Farley	F	13	3	5	8	1		1			0	2	5	7	8	29
Artur Gatiyatov	F	12	0	1	1			0			0		1	1	0	18
Martin Látal	F	11	0	1	1			0			0		1	1	4	33
Phélix Martineau	F	25	15	12	27	3	5	8			0	12	7	19	14	107
Maxim Musorov	F	22	5	4	9		1	1			0	5	3	8	6	46
Drake Pilon	F	23	1	6	7		1	1			0	1	5	6	47	44
Nikolai Shulga	F	21	2	6	8	1	2	3			0	1	4	5	2	22
James Spence	F	10	1	0	1			0			0	1		1	0	6
Ryan Foss	F	13	3	4	7	1	3	4			0	2	1	3	8	21
Aiden Wilson	F	3	0	0	0			0			0			0	2	1
Massimo Carozza	F	4	1	1	2			0			0	1	1	2	0	6
Jordan Stallard	F	2	1	0	1			0			0	1		1	0	4
Players in BLUE are everresents Inc All Competitions Figures as at 24/11/2024																
Totals														Team	14	
			61	109	168	15	29	44	0	0	0	46	78	124	236	742
			0 SO Goals													

Legend

GP - Games Played, Tot G - Total Goals Scored, Tot A - Total Assists, Tot Pts - Total Points, PP G - Power Play Goals Scored, PP A - Power Play Assists, SH G - Shorthanded Goals Scored, SH A - Shorthanded Assists, EV G - Even Strength Goals Scored, EV A - Even Strength Assists, PiMS - Penalty Minutes, SOG - Shots on Goal, S - Shots faced, S % - Save Percentage, GAA - Goals Against Average, SO - Shut Outs, PS S - Penalty Shots Saved, TOI - Time on Ice, GC - Goals Conceded

Penalty Shots Scored	Shorthanded Goals Scored	Game Winning Goals	Empty Net Goals For	Empty Net Goals Against
		1 - Musorov Krenželok Cichy Chiodo		5

WEEK 12 – FLYERS STATS RECAP

On Saturday night.....

Fife Flyers 4 Cardiff Devils 5 - Elite League

Congratulations to Jordan Stallard on his debut goal.

He became the 19th player to make his Flyers debut this season and the 36th Flyers player in the EIHL era to score in his first game.

Other debutant scorers against the Devils have been Derek Roehl and Tim Hartung.

Congratulations also to Massimo Carozza who got his first goal/points for the Flyers.

The Flyers were ahead in this game for 38:33 which is their longest time with a lead in a game this season – the previous best being 32.56.

The Flyers have lost the second period 15 times this season and have gone on to lose the game on each occasion.

Phélix Martineau is the first Flyers player to record 100 plus shots on goal for the season.

Gleason Fournier scored the Devils first power play goal by a defenceman this season. The Nottingham Panthers remain the only team who have yet to have a goal of any type from a defenceman.

The Flyers are the first team to concede 1000 shots this season.

On Sunday night.....

Coventry Blaze 9 Fife Flyers 2 - Elite League

Congratulations to Noah Delmas who scored his first Flyers goal.

The game winning goal after 18 seconds meant that it was the longest period of time that the Flyers have been behind in a game this season.


Flyers conceded 4 power play goals which is the most this season and most since giving up the same number in a 7-6 OT win against the Dundee Stars on 18th Feb 2018. It's the 5th time that Flyers have given up that number in the EIHL era. 5 goals is the most in a game during that time against Hull in a 3-7 loss on 12th March 2014.

Including shootout goals the Flyers have now conceded 200 goals against the Blaze in all EIHL competitions.

The Flyers have now given up 2800 goals in all EIHL competitions (3.6 goals per game) and have scored an average of 2.9 goals per game during that time.

Nick Seitz with a hat trick became the 6th Blaze player to do so against the Flyers in all EIHL competitions.

It is the second time that the Blaze have scored 9 against the Flyers which is their highest total in EIHL games against the Flyers with 9-0 being their biggest win in season 2011/12.

Season 2024-25 Flyers games Officiated by the Stripey's									
	2 Dave Good	1	19 Steve Brown	7	44 Sam Anderson	1	77 James Ions	1	
	3 Tom Pering		20 Pavel Halas	7	45 Vytas Lukosevicius	1	24 Rene Jensen	1	
	9 Joe Sewell	1	23 Andrew Miller		46 Andrew Jarvie	1			
	11 Matt Rose	2	25 Andrew Dalton	3	48 Oliver Truswell				
	14 Chris Wells	3	42 Hollie Neenan		49 Daniel Ferguson	8			
	16 Alan Craig	5	43 Graham Rodger	6	52 Stephen Matthews	2			



WEEKEND PREVIEW

WEEK 13



Recent Form Guide

The teams last met three weeks ago with a league encounter in Fife which went the way of the Clan in overtime. Following that meeting the Clan in their penultimate Challenge Cup game hosted the Belfast Giants in midweek who took the decision 3-1. The Nottingham Panthers visited Braehead the following Saturday and the Clan came through with two points in an odd goal in seven win. The following night in Belfast the Giants were too strong as they picked up the two points in the league standings with a 5-1 win. Last weekend the Clan were on the road for both games and they started off with an impressive 3-2 win in Cardiff on Friday night. On Sunday however they met a Guildford Flames side who could only ice 13 skaters but who dug out a 4-2 win at the Spectrum. The Clan have made a couple of roster changes in recent weeks. Joining them has been six-foot-seven defenceman Chris Martenet. The 28-year-old American was a round 4 pick (#103 overall) for the Dallas Stars in the NHL draft back in 2015 and comes to Glasgow with over 300 games in experience in the ECHL. Martenet spent last season in Czechia, where he played alongside current Clan captain Deven Sideroff and netminder Landon Bow at Rytíři Kladno, making 51 appearances, scoring twice and adding two more assists. His career in the ECHL has seen him play with Idaho Steelheads, Brampton Beast, Indy Fuel, Toledo Walleye and Newfoundland Growlers. In midweek Canadian forward Mike Pelech departed the Clan with immediate effect, after requesting to be released from his contract. The 35-year-old, Toronto native, had received an offer in mainland Europe which he wishes to pursue for the remainder of the 2024/25 season.

LAST CHALLENGE CUP VISIT TO CLAN

Saturday 26th October 2024			3	0		Challenge Cup	
Clan Stats				Flyers Stats			
Scorer	Assist	Assist	Shots For	Scorer	Assist	Assist	Shots For
Ully	Seigo	Sideroff	47	Goal 1			25
Finlay	Schwartz	McLellan	Shots Against	Goal 2			Shots Against
Ully	Seigo	Sideroff	25	Goal 3			47
			PiMS	Goal 4			PiMS
			8	Goal 5			12
			Goalie	Goal 6			Goalie
			Bow	Goal 7			Owen
				Goal 8			
				Goal 9			
				Goal 10			

OVERALL CHALLENGE CUP AWAY RECORD AGAINST CLAN

P 11 W 2 L 9 F 30 A 47

Number Crunching

There is no doubting the player with the hot stick in recent meetings between the sides. Cole Ully has goals in his last three games for the Clan against the Flyers netting 7 times in total.

Michael Cichy and Phélix Martineau both have goals for the Flyers in three of the four games against Clan this term.

The Flyers have been shut out on their last two visits to Braehead Arena on Challenge Cup business. The Clan have given up the most empty net goals in all EIHL competitions this season with 8 so far.

Only the Flyers have a lower goals scored per game average than the Clan at 2.64 per game.

The Clan average the second most shots on goal per game at 35.28 which compares to Flyers 29.68 which is fewest amongst all teams.

The Clan have conceded 50% of their total goals in the third period and along with the Guildford Flames have fewest goals scored in the first period in all EIHL competitions this season.



WEEKEND PREVIEW

WEEK 13



Recent Form Guide

The Steelers make a quick return to Kirkcaldy having visited just two weeks ago. Since that meeting the Steelers exited the Champions Hockey league as they lost 4-1 in Germany to Eisbären Berlin to bow out at the last 16 stage 9-5 on aggregate. Last weekend a visit to Altrincham on Saturday night yielded two league points with a comfortable 8-3 win against the Manchester Storm. Back on home ice on Sunday the Dundee Stars were visitors and shocked the home side with a 4-2 win, the first Stars win at the Utilita Arena in a little over two years and marked the Steelers' third consecutive loss on home ice, spanning domestic and European competitions. Before arriving in Fife the Steelers had a huge midweek clash against the current league leading Cardiff Devils in Wales on Wednesday night before hosting the Nottingham Panthers on Saturday night. The big story however in recent weeks has been the injury woes suffered by the Steelers who were without key players Matt Greenfield, Robert Dowd, Colton Saucerman, and Veeti Vainio last weekend. Marco De Filippo who took over in net also went down injured and the Steelers moved quickly to secure the services of Finnish goalie Jere Huhtamaa. Jere flew into Sheffield on Monday as the goaltending issue became a priority for head coach Aaron Fox. Upon Huhtamaa's arrival Fox commented "Jere is a big and athletic goalie that plays an aggressive modern style. He's looking to come in and make an immediate impact in our group especially with our current injuries. Jere was currently under contract in Liiga but not getting the game time he was hoping for so we are happy that his team has allowed him to pursue this opportunity. He's got very solid numbers while playing down in the Mestis and has some valuable minutes in Liiga as well."

LAST LEAGUE VISIT FROM STEELERS

Sunday 17th November 2024				1				4				Elite League			
Flyers Stats				Steelers Stats											
Scorer	Assist	Assist	Shots For		Scorer	Assist	Assist	Shots For		Scorer	Assist	Assist	Shots For		Shots Against
Chiodo	Foss	Cichy	34		Goal 1	Simpson	Vainio	Guimond	31						
			Shots Against		Goal 2	Shudra	Guimond	Diffley	34						
			31		Goal 3	Simpson	Golod	Watling	PIMS						
			PIMS		Goal 4	Simpson	Whistle	Diffley	8						
			4		Goal 5				Goalie						
			Goalie		Goal 6				Owen						
			Owen		Goal 7										
					Goal 8										
					Goal 9										
					Goal 10										

OVERALL LEAGUE HOME RECORD AGAINST STEELERS

Number Crunching

P 31 W 8 L 23 F 75 A 115

The Steelers have won their last six meetings with the Flyers across all EIHL Competitions which includes three wins at Fife Ice Arena.

During that stretch the Flyers have been outscored 14-32.

Including shootout goals the Steelers require two more to reach 300 against the Flyers in all EIHL competitions. They currently have an all-time average of 4.1 goals per game against the Flyers in the EIHL era with Fife averaging 2 goals per game.

The Steelers have most empty net goals with 6 on the season, the Flyers remain the only team not to hit an empty net marker.

The Steelers also have the only two penalty shot goals scored this season, one of which was against the Flyers in Sheffield.

The Steelers have the most offence from their blue line amongst all teams with 16 goals.

Steelers 4.24 goals per game average this season leads all teams, the Flyers average of 2.4 is lowest.

Steelers have given up the fewest shots per game with an average of 27.62 – Flyers have given up most with their average at 42.56 across all competitions this season.



EIHL ROUND UP - WEEK 12



A summary of all of the action from last weekend across the EIHL.

Friday 22nd November

Cardiff Devils 2 Glasgow Clan 3 Elite League

(0-0, 2-1, 0-2) SOG 40-36 PIMs 8-6 Att 3100

Glasgow Clan won their first regular season league fixture in Cardiff since 2019 thanks to a 3-2 win over the Devils at a sold-out Vindico Arena. "We had a long day travelling yesterday, and today was all about getting ready for the game and getting our preparation right," said Clan's Mitch Heard who got two assists in the game. "We had a lot of resilience in the game, scoring and then going behind and it was good for us to come out on the right side." Period one at the Vindico Arena saw an aggressive start for both teams, including many goalscoring opportunities as well as back-and-forth puck control. Clan's Keaton Jameson saw himself receive a high-sticking penalty early on, but fortunately for the visitors the man advantaged ended without score. Clan also came up empty on two powerplays as the opening period ended scoreless. Glasgow saw themselves almost immediately take the lead going into the second period as Cole Ullly scored under two minutes into period two. Shortly after, the visitors killed off a Chris McKay minor but Cardiff just seconds later, Kohen Olischefski provided Cardiff with an equaliser at 26:30. In the closing minutes of the period, Josh MacDonald found the back of Landon Bow's net to put the Devils ahead. Another quick start to a period saw the Clan back level - 20 seconds in fact for Rylan Schwartz tipping Simon Despres' shot past a screened Taz Burman. The game was still tied heading into the final ten minutes until Clan got the breakthrough. A Steven Seigo shot from the point was deflected in front by Deven Sideroff to put the visitors ahead with 5:55 to play. With Burman pulled and an offensive zone faceoff, Joey Martin was called for using his hand in a faceoff to put the home side short for the final 56 seconds. Clan kept control of the puck for the remainder of the game and held on to take the two points. "Tonight we stuck to the game plan," affirmed Heard. "We have great leadership in our room and are sure we're turn this around. Beating one of the best teams in the league tonight will definitely give us confidence that should carry over to tomorrow."

Belfast Giants 2 Guildford Flames 0 Elite League

(1-0, 0-0, 1-0) SOG 39-32 PIMs 8-27 Att 6248

Belfast Giants started Week 12 with a Friday night win over Guildford Flames in front of a 6,248-strong crowd at the SSE Arena. Tom McCollum logged his third shutout in five games in the Giants net. "I don't think it's something I'll ever get tired of! I've said before that it's really just a testament about how well the guys in front of me are playing," said the Giants goalie. "There were a lot of blocks tonight. The guys did a great job. I know the guys took a few that really hurt, and I can't express how much I appreciate it. It's great to see our team really finding a way and playing a complete 60 minutes." In a clash of two teams in the league's top five, it was the Giants who grabbed the opener through Bobo Carpenter. Elijah Barriga was found by Scott Conway. Barriga got his shot off and was well saved by Eamon McAdam. However, he could only bat the puck into the slot, and Carpenter was there to tuck away the rebound and 10:52. Tom McCollum was forced into action on a couple of occasions to keep the home side ahead. Both teams pushed for a goal in the middle period, but neither could find one. Guildford couldn't capitalise on back-to-back powerplays as the Giants' special teams stood strong to ensure that they went into the final period with the lead. 7:08 into the third, Daniel Catenacci was called for a Spearing major and ejected from the game after video review. On the resulting powerplay Scott Conway scooped home a rebound from Pierre-Olivier Morin's shot to give the hosts a two-goal lead. The Flames played the final two minutes of the game with six skaters but to no avail and were beaten by the Giants for the second time this season. "Obviously building the points in the standings is huge for us and I think continuing to build game after game of playing the right way for a full 60 minutes is just going to keep giving us more and more confidence and make it easier for our team to find that flow and keep getting better every night" added McCollum.

Department of Player Safety Outcomes

On Friday night in Belfast, Belfast forward #9 Ben Lake made knee-on-knee contact with Guildford Flames forward #14 Sean Norris. This is Kneeing. Effective immediately Ben Lake is fined and suspended for one game.

On Friday night in Belfast, Guildford forward #7 Daniel Catenacci was assessed a five-minute major penalty and a game misconduct for Spearing. Effective immediately, Flames Daniel Catenacci is fined.



EIHL ROUND UP - WEEK 12



Saturday 23rd November

Guildford Flames 4 Glasgow Clan 2 Elite League

(0-0, 2-1, 2-1) SOG 28-38 PIMs 8-8 Att 1804

Guildford Flames survived a late scare to beat Glasgow Clan 4-2 on Saturday night at the Spectrum, ensuring both sides ended the weekend with one win from two games. Cole Ullly went closest to opening the scoring when he hit the post of Jake Kupsky's net some seven minutes into the game. Matt Alvaro, driving the net, had a decent chance for the Flames as Clan controlled the opening phases. Daniel Tedesco had a couple as half chances as the Flames grew into things, but the period would end without score. The ever-lively Jake Jacome forced Joe Hazeldine into a turnover early in period two, fed the puck to Alvaro who found Josh Waller wide open at the far post of Landon Bow's net to put the Flames one up 60 seconds into period two. Almost out of nothing, the Flames went two ahead – Ethan Strang's snipe into the top corner of Bow's net doubled the home side's lead at 23:21. Mitchell Heard, who had two assists on Friday in Cardiff, beat Kupsky from a tight angle to bring Clan back into things at 27:17. Clan could have been level before the end of the period but saw a puck roll just wide of Kupsky's net to trail 2-1 through 40 minutes. 5:16 into period three, Strang was left alone in the slot and found by Lewis Hook to let another excellent shot fly past Bow and make it 3-1 to the Flames. A late interference call on Cole Ullly with 3:27 to play gave the Flames the chance to wrap the game up on the powerplay. Paul Dixon called his timeout to give his team instructions, but what wouldn't have been on his agenda was seeing Tyson McLellan pull one back for the Clan shorthanded at 58:17. It got worse for the Flames when Mike Crocock was called for tripping just seven seconds later, however, Brett Ferguson and Lewis Hook combined for the latter to score into the empty net with 1:08 to play to steady the home side's nerves.

Nottingham Panthers 3 Belfast Giants 2 Elite League

(1-0, 0-0, 1-2, 1-0,) SOG 33-30 PIMs 4-33 Att 6329

Nottingham Panthers ended a three-game loss streak with an overtime win over Belfast Giants. The visitors were heavily delayed on their flight to England, meaning that the game faced off some 80 minutes after the scheduled 7pm start. The only goal of the opening period went the way of the hosts -Jaakko Niskala finding himself in space at the point and shooting through traffic at 7:34. The Panthers stayed up by one into the third period until they were pegged back by Scott Conway early in period three. A stick save from Ryan Bednard off an Elijah Barriga shot fell to Conway to bat the puck out of the air 1:46 into the third to tie the game. Josh Tetlow's excellent pass found Reid Stefanson in space to beat Tom McCollum and put the Panthers back ahead at 44:49. However, a Mark Cooper snipe from the wing beat Bednard top shelf at 50:28 to level things once more. Late in the third, Pierre-Olivier Morin was ejected for a Check to the Head on Tim Doherty, giving the Panthers a powerplay for the final 21 seconds of regulation and most of overtime. In the bonus period, the Giants held out for over two minutes until Matt Alfaro made use of the extra space and beat McCollum to win it for the Panthers at 62:23.

Manchester Storm 3 Sheffield Steelers 8 Elite League

(1-2, 1-3, 1-3,) SOG 43-34 PIMs 4-6 Att 2450

2,540 fans at the Storm Shelter saw Sheffield Steelers overturn an early deficit to eventually run out comfortable 8-3 winners over Manchester. "The team had a bit of a slow start, but we came back out in the second period hard, really coming back to our systems and working hard, so we got a good result by the team," said Kevin Tansey, who scored a hat trick for the Steelers. "I think personally I had a pretty good game, I got some pucks in the net tonight, had some screens, some good shots, so overall it was a good game, a good team effort." Loren Ulett's neat finish off good passing from Stephen Johnson and Ryan Hughes had Storm ahead with just over five minutes played, but goals two minutes apart put the Steelers in front by the end of the period - Daniel Leavens putting home a rebound off a Sacha Guimond shot at 13:38, followed by Maxim Golod scoring straight off a faceoff win at 15:34. Kevin Tansey beat Evan Weninger from the point off another clean draw win for the Steelers wed 1:45 into period two while Daniel Ciampini finishing high exactly eight minutes later saw the end of Weninger's night in net. Alexis D'Aoust slotted home in front at 33:43 to give Storm some hope just two behind, but a Tansey shot from the blue line beat Alex Oldale low at 34:52 to put the Steelers back in control. Storm were again back to within two at the start of



EIHL ROUND UP - WEEK 12



period three as a Grant Hebert shot was spilled by Marco De Filippo into the path of Craig Martin 53 seconds into things. However, Tansey made it a hat trick with another rocket from the point at 44:40. Nathan Ripley and Golod both added to the Steelers' tally inside the final five minutes to complete an 8-3 win.

Dundee Stars 3 Coventry Blaze 4 Elite League

(2-1, 1-0, 0-2, 0-0, 0-1) SOG 50-26 PIMs 6-8 Att 1555

Coventry Blaze avenged their overtime defeat in Dundee earlier this season by coming from 3-1 down to eventually beat the Stars in a shootout on Saturday night. Nick Seitz scored two and again in the shootout to help the Blaze to the win. "I think it probably wasn't our cleanest effort, we definitely didn't have a great start, but I think we were just really resilient and kind of found an extra gear in the third and found a way to win," said the 24-year-old. "Honestly, it felt like a similar game to last time where they came out really hard and we were a little sluggish, they carried the play for a good chunk of that game. We just found a way to win, and we've been learning how to do that as the season goes on which I think is exciting." Dundee opened the scoring at 04:12, as Brett Gravelle scored his fourth goal in five games. Keanu Yamamoto took the puck behind the Coventry net and sent a pass to the high slot where Gravelle was waiting to snap the puck past Mat Robson. Brendan Harms quickly doubled the lead at 04:51, deflecting an innocent looking shot from Kyle Pouncy past Robson to make it 2-0. The 2-0 lead didn't last long, as Nick Seitz got the Blaze on the board just 10 seconds later at 05:01. After Richard Sabol made an initial save on a Coventry shot, the rebound fell to the stick of Seitz who slotted it home and made it 2-1 – where the score would stay until the end of the period. Coventry generated their best chances early in the second period, including a four-minute powerplay which put Richard Sabol to the test. However, despite this, the visitors couldn't find the back of the Stars' net and remained on the chase to tie the game. Philippe Sanche scored the only goal of the period, netting his fifth of the season and making it 3-1 in the process. After drawing a hooking call in front of the Blaze net, Sanche wasted no time in taking advantage of the delayed penalty. The Canadian sent the puck towards the Blaze net on his backhand, which took an awkward bounce and was deflected in by the pad of Mat Robson at 35:10. Seitz then had the Blaze back to within one again when he struck 5:20 into period three to pull the score back to 3-2. "I thought I played well. I thought our line played really well. We complement each other's skills in a lot of good ways and thought we got the forecheck going pretty well, and kind of stuck with it even when we were struggling in the first and second," added Seitz. Pressure was growing on Sabol in the Stars net, and Terrence Amorosa levelled the game with 4:54 to play getting on a rebound from his own attempt to throw the puck in front below behind the goal line. Both teams earned a point with the game going to overtime. Sabol denied Alessio Luciani twice in OT to keep the game level while Robson made a huge save to deny Brendan Harms in close. No goals in the bonus period saw the extra point decided in a shootout. After some excellent goals from both teams, it was Kim Tallberg who won it in round five for the visitors to send the two points back down south.

Sunday 24th November

Nottingham Panthers 4 Manchester Storm 1 Elite League

(2-0, 2-0, 0-1,) SOG 36-42 PIMs 39-37 Att 5846

Nottingham Panthers logged a four-point weekend with their second home win in under 24 hours, beating Manchester Storm 4-1 on Sunday afternoon. The 5,846-strong crowd at the Utilita Arena had a lot to get through in the opening 20 minutes which the Panthers finished one ahead in. The hosts thought they'd gone ahead at 12:14 only for Mike Flanagan to challenge it from the Storm bench for goalie interference - the officials agreed and chalked the goal off. Nottingham did go ahead, however, just 38 seconds later as Matt Alfaro won the puck on his own blue line and skated through to beat Evan Weninger on the breakaway. In a period that had already seen a good number of coincidental minors for scrums after whistles, Loren Ulett was ejected with 53 seconds left for boarding. Panthers captain Sam Herr made it 2-0 with 39 seconds remaining in the period. 3:43 into period two, on the same powerplay, good work from Alfaro set up Logan Neilson in front - with Mitchell Fossier putting home the rebound to make it 3-0. 33 seconds later, Didrik Henbrant stretched around Weninger to make it 4-0 just as the Storm had come back to full strength. 27 seconds into period three, Panthers goalie Ryan Bednard was ejected for spearing, meaning Hunter Vorvoa took over netminding duties for the home side. CJ Garcia got the Storm on the board with 5:21 to play, but that was where the scoring ended.



EIHL ROUND UP - WEEK 12



Sheffield Steelers 2 Dundee Stars 4 Elite League

(0-1, 2-2, 0-1,) SOG 31-21 PIMs 4-8 Att 7157

Dundee Stars logged their first win at the Utilita Arena since October 2022 with a 4-2 win over Sheffield Steelers on Sunday afternoon. The visitors started physically, a bit hit from Xavier Pouliot on Marc-Olivier Vallerand ended with both taking roughing minors. Mitchell Balmas had the best chance of the early stages but couldn't finish into a half-empty net, while a few minutes later the Stars took the lead when Brett Gravelle fed Philippe Sanche at the fast post with 6:57 played. Vallerand set up Maxim Golod for a point-blank chance towards the end of the period, only for the shot to land straight in Jarret Fiske's chest. Dundee went two up early in period two. 5:08 had been played in the second when Cole MacDonald beat Marco De Filippo top shelf on the powerplay to double the visitors' lead. Moment after the Stars should have gone three up, Maxim Golod's stretch pass sent Vallerand through 1-on-0 to score with 32:24 on the clock to cut the lead down to one. Less than a minute later, however, Domenico Alberga knocked the puck over the line in close to put the Stars two ahead again. Golod pulled another back for the Steelers with 4:44 remaining in the period to make it a one-goal game going into the final 20 minutes. Having absorbed some decent Steelers pressure to stay ahead, the Stars counter-punched to give themselves some breathing room in the closing stages. Philippe Sanche fed Keanu Yamamoto on an odd-man rush to make it 4-2 with 4:42 remaining and settle the game.

Department of Player Safety Outcomes

On Sunday night in Nottingham, Panthers goaltender #35 Ryan Bednard was assessed a five-minute major penalty and a game misconduct for Spearing. Effective immediately, Ryan Bednard is fined.





Goalies

- 30 Cameron Kenny
50 Shane Owen
36 Jānis Voris

Defencemen

- 5 Noah Delmas
71 Madi Dikhanbek
7 Tyler Heidt
9 Brodie Kay
88 Daniel Krenželok
19 Patrick Kyte
3 Olivier LeBlanc 'C'
4 Fynn Page

Forwards

- 23 Massimo Carozza
86 Lucas Chiodo 'A'
78 Michael Cichy 'A'
41 Johnny Curran 'A'
91 Austin Farley
27 Ryan Foss
22 Phélix Martineau
29 Maxim Musorov
77 Drake Pilon 'A'
66 Nikolai Shulga
61 James Spence
43 Jordan Stallard

Goal	Scorer	Assist	Assist	Time	EV/PP/SH
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

Player	Offence	PIMs	Time

Period Scores				
	1st	2nd	3rd	OT/SO
Flyers				
Visitors				

Referee :

Linesman :

Referee :

Linesman :



Goal	Scorer	Assist	Assist	Time	EV/PP/SH
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

Player	Offence	PIMs	Time

Shots on Goal				
	1st	2nd	3rd	OT/SO
Flyers				
Visitors				

Goalies

- 31 Daniel Crowe
- 30 Marco De Filippo
- Jere Huhtamaa

Defencemen

- 43 Samuel Cooper
- 58 Dominic Cormier
- 65 Brien Duffley
- 44 Sacha Guimond
- 5 Joona Huttula
- 23 Colton Saucerman
- 6 Kevin Tansey
- 42 Veeti Vaino

Forwards

- 92 Mitchell Balmas
- 12 Daniel Ciampini
- 75 Robert Dowd
- 77 Maxim Golod
- 53 Joel Janatuinen
- 63 Mikko Juusola
- 13 Daniel Leavens
- 29 Nathan Ripley
- 27 Cole Shudra
- 24 Mark Simpson
- 17 Finlay Ulrick
- 88 Marc-Olivier Valleran
- 14 Patrick Watling
- 74 Brandon Whistle

























Man of the Match Flyers:

Man of the Match Visitors:

VISITING THE BARN

STEELERS IN LEAGUE PLAY SO FAR...



				Gp	G	A	PTS	PIM	PPG	SHG	+/-	SOG	S	FOW	FOL	BS	TOI/Game
	92	Mitchell Balmas	FW	11	7	5	12	4	0	1	4	33	58	47	48	5	17:36
	6	Kevin Tansey	D	11	5	7	12	25	1	0	10	27	55	0	0	11	18:20
	63	Mikko Juusola	FW	11	5	7	12	0	0	0	13	25	33	0	0	4	18:25
	88	Marc-Olivier Vallerand	FW	11	5	7	12	4	0	0	9	35	56	0	3	8	17:18
	14	Patrick Watling	FW	10	4	7	11	2	1	0	8	20	34	38	44	1	17:11
	24	Mark Simpson	FW	11	3	6	9	4	0	0	14	18	34	109	88	1	17:40
	44	Sacha Guimond	D	11	2	7	9	2	1	0	19	17	30	0	0	12	19:01
	58	Dominic Cormier	D	11	1	8	9	0	0	0	3	26	49	0	0	5	21:28
	75	Robert Dowd	FW	9	3	5	8	9	0	0	8	22	29	69	61	3	19:09
	74	Brandon Whistle	FW	10	2	6	8	4	0	0	6	15	22	64	77	1	15:22
	13	Daniel Leavens	FW	11	2	5	7	6	2	0	0	21	33	1	0	1	16:32
	65	Brien Diffley	D	11	1	6	7	6	0	0	6	13	19	0	0	0	18:19
	77	Maxim Golod	C	3	3	3	6	2	0	0	6	5	15	0	0	1	17:19
	17	Finlay Ulrick	FW	11	3	0	3	0	0	0	3	12	12	12	14	1	08:40
	23	Colton Saucerman	D	6	1	2	3	2	0	0	6	17	34	0	0	6	20:09
	27	Cole Shudra	FW	11	1	2	3	2	0	0	3	14	23	1	3	4	11:32
	45	Veeti Vainio	D	2	1	1	2	0	0	0	2	2	3	0	0	1	13:40
	12	Daniel Ciampini	FW	9	1	1	2	29	0	0	-2	14	23	0	1	2	17:20
	5	Joona Huttula	D	11	0	2	2	4	0	0	3	11	28	0	0	2	18:18
	42	Angelo Miceli	FW	3	0	2	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	12:39
	29	Nathan Ripley	FW	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	04:43
	53	Joel Janatuinen	FW	7	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	8	12	0	0	1	11:30
				Gp	W	L	SO	SA	GA	MIN	GAA	SVS%	PIM				
	1	Matthew Greenfield		9	8	1	0	247	19	542	2.1	92.31	0				
	30	Marco De Filippo		2	1	1	0	64	7	117	3.59	89.06	0				

VISITING THE BARN

ON THEIR ROSTER

Throughout the season we will pick out a story on a player(s) on the opposition bench as well as summarise their career to date.

In this edition we feature **Robert Dowd**

S ▲	TEAM	LEAGUE	GP	G	A	TP	PIM	+/-	POST	GP	G	A	TP	PIM	+/-
2000-01	 Billingham Bears	England U16	12	2	5	7	20	-							
2001-02	 Billingham Bears	England U16	11	5	5	10	12	-							
2002-03	 Billingham Bears	England U16	12	6	10	16	48	-							
	 Billingham Wolves	England U19	10	4	1	5	4	-							
2003-04	 Billingham Bears	England U16	14	29	11	40	78	-							
	 Billingham Wolves	England U19	13	12	12	24	16	-							
	 Billingham Bombers	ENL	14	8	4	12	2	-							
2004-05	 Billingham Bombers U18	England U19	15	29	21	50	110	-							
	 Billingham Bombers	ENL	15	8	6	14	32	-							
	 Solihull Kings	EPIHL	1	0	1	1	0	-							
	 Great Britain U18	WJC-18 D1	4	0	0	0	10	-1							
2005-06	 Detroit Trackers 18U AAA	18U AAA	-	-	-	-	-	-							
	 Great Britain U18	WJC-18 D2	5	6	8	14	18	13							
2006-07	 Sheffield Scimitars	EPIHL	31	31	12	43	83	-	Playoffs	6	5	5	10	16	-
	 Sheffield Steelers	EIHL	2	0	0	0	0	-							
	 Great Britain U20	WJC-20 D1	5	3	2	5	18	1							
2007-08	 Sheffield Scimitars	EPIHL	27	20	12	32	30	-	Playoffs	5	5	3	8	2	-
	 Sheffield Steelers	EIHL	7	0	1	1	6	-	Playoffs	2	0	0	0	0	-
	 Great Britain U20	WJC-20 D1	5	1	3	4	6	-7							
2008-09	 Sheffield Steelers	EIHL	50	23	21	44	59	-	Playoffs	4	4	2	6	2	-
	 Great Britain	OGQ	3	0	0	0	0	1							
	 Great Britain	WC D1	5	1	2	3	4	2							
2009-10	 Sheffield Steelers	EIHL	56	12	24	36	28	-	Playoffs	2	0	0	0	2	-
	 Great Britain	WC D1	5	1	1	2	6	-1							
2010-11	 Sheffield Steelers	EIHL	54	25	32	57	81	-	Playoffs	3	3	0	3	11	-
	 Great Britain	WC D1	5	2	1	3	4	-1							
2011-12	 Belfast Giants	EIHL	45	32	32	64	53	-	Playoffs	3	3	3	6	2	-
	 Great Britain	WC D1A	5	5	4	9	6	0							
2012-13	 IF Troja-Ljungby	HockeyAllsvenskan	42	10	14	24	24	-8							
	 Great Britain	OGQ	6	2	2	4	2	0							
	 Great Britain	WC D1A	5	1	2	3	6	-4							
2013-14	 Sheffield Steelers	EIHL	43	22	17	39	85	-	Playoffs	4	4	1	5	4	-
	 Great Britain	WC D1B	5	2	0	2	2	0							
2014-15	 Sheffield Steelers	EIHL	47	19	16	35	70	-	Playoffs	4	3	1	4	2	-
	 Great Britain "A"	WC D1B	5	0	2	2	4	2							
2015-16	 Sheffield Steelers	EIHL	34	12	15	27	12	-	Playoffs	2	1	1	2	0	-
	 Great Britain "A"	WC D1B	4	2	3	5	0	4							
2016-17	 Sheffield Steelers	EIHL	51	22	22	44	23	-	Playoffs	4	1	2	3	0	-
	 Great Britain "A"	WC D1B	5	4	4	8	4	6							
2017-18	 Sheffield Steelers	EIHL	42	19	22	41	27	-	Playoffs	4	1	2	3	6	-
	 Great Britain "A"	WC D1A	5	3	1	4	0	-1							
2018-19	 Sheffield Steelers "A"	EIHL	44	20	14	34	34	-8	Playoffs	2	2	0	2	4	1
	 Great Britain "A"	WC	7	1	0	1	4	-7							
2019-20	 Sheffield Steelers "A"	EIHL	24	13	11	24	23	3							
2020-21	 Eppan/Appiano	Italy2	13	7	17	24	22	-	Playoffs	3	1	3	4	2	-
	 Great Britain "A"	WC	7	0	3	3	0	-10							
	 Sheffield Steelers "A"	EIHL Series	15	7	12	19	15	13							
2021-22	 Sheffield Steelers "A"	EIHL	54	29	25	54	35	19	Playoffs	2	0	2	2	0	-1
	 Great Britain "A"	WC	7	2	0	2	4	-3							
2022-23	 Sheffield Steelers "A"	EIHL	53	21	22	43	22	16	Playoffs	4	2	0	2	2	1
	 Great Britain "A"	WC D1A	5	2	3	5	2	3							
	 Great Britain (all)	International	6	3	4	7	2	-							
2023-24	 Sheffield Steelers "C"	EIHL	49	22	22	44	29	31	Playoffs	2	0	0	0	0	0
	 Great Britain "C"	OGQ	3	4	4	8	0	14							
	 Great Britain "C"	WC	7	1	2	3	8	-3							
	 Great Britain (all)	International	10	5	6	11	8	11							

VISITING THE BARN

ROBERT DOWD FACTS

Date of Birth	May 26, 1988	Position	LW
Age	36	Height	178 cm / 5'10"
Place of Birth	Billingham, GBR	Weight	80 kg / 176 lbs
Nation	England	Shoots	R
Youth Team	Billingham Stars	Contract	25/26
Highlights	 6		

ROBERT'S STORY...

Robert Dowd made history earlier this season by becoming the Elite League's all-time top point scorer before admitting his latest career achievement all felt a "bit surreal". The Sheffield Steelers' forward scored a goal in his team's 6-3 win over Glasgow Clan on Saturday October 19th, taking him to 740 points, evenly split between goals and assists and surpassing the previous total posted by former GB international, Colin Shields. Dowd played alongside Shields for a number of years for the national team, as well as David Clarke, the former Nottingham Panthers' forward who is now third on the all-time list. It was anticipated that Dowd would break Shields' record the previous weekend, having drawn level with him thanks to an assist in the 4-2 defeat at Coventry Blaze. But he had to wait another week to pass the milestone, Dowd admitting he felt a sense of relief. "I'm glad it is done now and I can just concentrate on the hockey," said the 36-year-old forward. "Obviously, to be up there in the conversation with some of those fantastic players, like Colin Shields and David Clarke – just to be up there around those numbers is a bit surreal for me to be honest. "I kind of grew up watching them play and then played alongside those guys, they are absolutely fantastic players and fantastic human beings. "Fingers crossed there's still a bit of life in the old dog. I want to keep playing and keep contributing to the team and helping the guys." Steelers' head coach Aaron Fox said Dowd was fully deserving of the accolades that came his way, having been impressed with him since he first took over behind the bench back in the Spring of 2019. "From my first moments here with Dowdy, he's led from the front from day one for me," said Fox. "His compete level on game nights especially, is what sets him apart. "He just has a fire in him, loves scoring goals, loves competing and takes care of himself away from the rink very, very well - he's just one of those guys that you pencil into your top six and

know that he's going to give everything he's got every single night. "I couldn't be happier for him – what an amazing accomplishment." Dowd's goal came at the perfect time for the Steelers, who had surrendered a two-goal lead against a dogged Glasgow Clan team looking to snap a three-game losing streak. Brien Diffley and Finlay Ulrick struck within two minutes of each other to give Steelers a 2-0 first period lead before Tyson McLellan halved the deficit just before the halfway mark.

Record Setting Goal - Pic Credit Dean Wooley



VISITING THE BARN

But where did it all start. Born in the North East of England Dowd played for his local junior teams in Billingham before making the grade with the senior Bombers 20 years ago. He had a season in North America playing triple A junior with the Detroit Trackers before returning to the UK to start his association with hockey in Sheffield. As a 18 year old he made a strong showing in the EPIHL with the Sheffield Scimitars. Playing alongside such names as Les Millie, Ron Shudra and Steve Robeers he returned 32 goals and 13 assists in 34 games but he also had a fiery side to his game as his team leading 87 PIMs attests. He played a handful of games for the Steelers over that season and the next as he was once again with the Scimitars. Season 2008/09 saw him make the step up to the EIHL. And the following article from his home town paper accounts his rookie professional season as follows: Robert Dowd is hoping his "surreal" first full season in professional ice hockey will end with further honours after helping Sheffield Steelers win the Elite League title. The 20-year-old Teessider scored his 22nd goal of the campaign as Sheffield claimed the title thanks to a 4-1 win at Newcastle, combined with Hull's defeat of Coventry. Dowd is now aiming to help them retain their play-off title in the coming weeks - when the top eight teams face off. And the former Billingham Campus pupil is in line to top it all off with a World Championship debut in April after being named in Great Britain's provisional 30-man squad. Dowd, who is also shoe-in for the Rookie of the Year award and a candidate for the Man of Ice prize, said: "It's been surreal for me. "I've got to pinch myself and ask myself if it's really happening because it has gone so well. It's a great achievement to win the league and I can't thank the club enough for how much they've helped me come on. "It's nice to win the title but we can't afford to relax too much with the play-offs coming up. "It would be awesome to do the league and Play-off double and we can't afford to relax too much. "If I could make the World Championships as well it would be the icing on the cake. "If I did I would be looking to establish myself as a real senior part of the side." Dowd, whose early release shots often catch goaltenders unawares, comes from a distinguished family background when it comes to ice hockey. Older brothers Mark and Garry were professionals and younger brother Jack, 13, is also showing signs of promise with Robert's former club Billingham Bombers. But despite his impressive exploits, he says Sheffield's success has been a real team effort and credits their Canadian coach Dave Matsos for giving him a free rein. "I don't know what my own success is down to really - it's all just clicked," said Dowd, who also has 24 assists in 52 games "All three of our lines can score goals. We haven't just got one or two up top who have scored 10 goals. We have got so many goals spread around the team. There are six or seven guys on 20 goals. "And Dave Matsos is a great coach, one of the best I've played under. He really knows how to handle his players. With a first-year player you can break them in slowly but he has thrown me in at the deep end and let me get on with it." Dowd, who was playing semi-pro in the second tier English Premier League for Sheffield last season, sees his one-year contract expire at the end of the current campaign. Although he has ambitions to play abroad in future, he says he would love to extend his stay in the Steel City. "I'd love to go abroad and try my luck, if not in the USA then in Sweden or France," he added. "But I'd like to stay at Sheffield and we've got to talk contracts and sit down at the end of the season."

Dowd was indeed awarded the Vic Batchelder Memorial Trophy for the best young player and also did take his senior GB bow. Talking of playing internationally let's move forward a number of years to the spring of 2021 and we pick up through the following interview another highlight chapter in Dowd's career to date.

Throughout Great Britain's rise to the top division, the team's motto had been 'Dare to Dream'. Now, buoyed by a victory over the host Nation Belarus in the 2021 tournament the next instalment could of, at least theoretically, have mean a trip to the quarter-finals. It's was a long shot, but in a tournament where the unthinkable seemed to happen more often than the predictable, it's was a possibility that forward Robert Dowd was relishing. "We're absolutely still daring to dream," he said. "When we came in in 2019 I felt we were a bit in awe of the situation and were soaking it all in rather than taking the bull by the horns. We were happy to be there, and kind of content with whatever happened. "After that, we're back with a different attitude.

VISITING THE BARN

Now, if a couple of results go our way and we keep playing the way we have and get a couple more results, you never know what could happen.” If that sounds like a bold statement, then bold is a big part of Britain’s game in Riga. After several heavy losses in Kosice two years ago, this time the Brits have been competitive in three of their four games. “I think we’ve proved in this tournament that we can play with these teams,” Dowd added. “We’re making our own plays instead of just sitting back and letting them come at us, trying to defend all night. “We’ve been making good hockey plays and going at some teams. I thought there were large stages of the game against Belarus when we were taking it at them and they were on their heels, and that was a nice feeling.” The only exception was the opening game against Team ROC. Britain was down 4-0 after 11 minutes and eventually lost 7-1. But that was the team’s first game since Olympic qualification action in February 2020 and represented a sharp change of pace for a roster that had limited opportunities to play in a COVID-affected season. “I went away to play but the majority on the team weren’t fortunate enough to get overseas and play anywhere, so it’s been very tough,” Dowd added. “That was reflected in the first game. We were still trying to get up to speed against teams that have been together. The Russians played all year and they were together for a month as a unit, playing warm-up games. We had none of that, just a week or so together and most guys only played about 15 games all years. “That first game we had to try to get up to speed with this tournament, to adjust to the pace of play and I think once we adjusted you could see even in that third period we looked better. We’re getting better, game in, game out, period after period, and we need to keep striving in that direction.”











Alas there was to be no progression for team GB who lost their remaining three games but the interview concluded as follows:

Dowd who is now 33 began his career began in his hometown of Billingham and has taken in spells in the USA, Sweden and, this season, Italy. But most of his career has been in the UK with the Sheffield Steelers of the Elite Ice Hockey League. However, if British hockey had enjoyed a higher profile when he was making his senior debut in the 2008/09 season, there might have been more opportunities – something the forward is hoping might inspire the next generation. “I would have loved an opportunity like this to strive towards when I was younger,” he said. “We were never at this level when I was younger, we didn’t have a shop window like this. If some of the younger guys have a good tournament here, they could end up in one of the best leagues in the world but when I was coming through, even if you had a good tournament, agents were still very unwilling to look around Europe for you. “Now we have such a shop window for young kids to strive towards. If they can make it to this level, they can make it anywhere. If we can build a system where we’re going to stay here for a sustainable amount of time and get young kids into the best leagues in the world that would be great for British hockey.” With that in mind, Dowd is serious about his responsibilities towards the emerging players on GB’s roster. With the threat of relegation removed this season, it means the likes of Josh Tetlow, Sam Jones, Dave Clements and Lewis Hook got their first international call-ups, while there’s a World Championship debuts for Sam Duggan. Wearing the ‘A’, Dowd is enjoying a bigger leadership role in his 12th senior IIHF tournament. He’s also looking to a future in coaching. “I enjoy doing the coaching side in the summer,” he said. “I love working with the younger generation, it’s fun to see people develop in such a short time. Once my playing career finishes, I’d definitely be interested in bringing on the next players.” But it’s not all responsibility. While Dowd’s performances on the ice are catching the eye – he’s second in scoring for GB with 3 assists so far – his tattoo has also captured attention. A number 75 on the back of the forward’s neck matches the number on his jersey – but it turns out to be a legacy of a holiday. “To be honest, it was a drunken night out in Magaluf [in Mallorca],” he laughed. “It seemed like a good idea at the time but I woke the next morning with a sore head and sore neck and I was panicking! I just hoped it wasn’t a butterfly or a unicorn, something ridiculous like that on the back of my neck. “Luckily, when I saw it, it was a 75 so I thought ‘OK, I can live with that’.”

With over 100 GB appearances now Dowd has worn the C for his country the last couple of seasons and is keeping pace with all-time leader in appearances Mark Richardson who of course still suits up for the Devils. That might be one record that is just out of reach for the “Golden Child”, his adopted nickname amongst the Steelers faithful.

LEAGUE STATS

SEASON 2024/25

										
Total Games Played	24	22	21	26	25	25	25	22	21	21
Challenge Cup Games	12	8	8	12	11	11	10	9	9	10
League Games	12	14	13	14	14	14	15	13	12	11
Biggest Win	7-0 v Flyers	6-1 v Stars	9-2 v Flyers	7-0 v Flyers	4-1 v Stars	8-5 v Flyers	6-0 v Blaze	7-3 v Clan	5-1 v Flyers v Giants	8-3 v Storm
Biggest Loss	1-5 v Panthers	3-5 v Blaze	0-6 v Flames	1-6 v Devils v Steelers	2-9 v Blaze	0-6 v Blaze	2-6 v Devils	3-8 v Steelers	2-5 v Stars	3-5 v Devils
Longest Win Streak	6	4	6	2	1	4	3	2	4	6
Longest Loss Streak	2	2	4	6	12	4	4	3	3	2
Current Streak	1 Loss	1 Win	4 Wins	1 Win	3 Losses	1 Loss	1 Win	3 Losses	2 Wins	1 Loss
Fastest Goal	00:58	00:50	00:18	01:08	02:08	00:08	00:21	00:29	02:12	00:14
Shut Out For	5	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0
Shut Out Against	0	0	2	2	3	2	1	1	0	0
Empty Net Goals For	3	3	5	1	0	3	4	2	1	6
Empty Net Goals Against	3	3	0	4	5	8	1	1	2	1
Penalty Shots Scored	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Penalty Shots Conceded	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Total Goals Scored scored by Forwards	81	75	63	61	55	59	57	64	64	70
Powerplay	21	13	21	11	13	14	11	16	20	11
Even Strength	58	60	38	48	42	41	43	46	43	56
Shorthanded	2	2	4	2	0	4	3	2	1	3
Total Goals Scored scored by Defencemen	11	6	10	11	6	7	11	5	0	16
Powerplay	2	1	1	3	2	3	2	2	0	4
Even Strength	9	5	7	8	4	2	8	3	0	12
Shorthanded	0	0	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	0
Total Goals Conceded scored to Forwards	47	51	54	83	106	77	60	80	48	49
Penalty Kill	15	10	15	10	19	22	16	20	9	12
Even Strength	30	40	35	70	85	52	43	57	35	37
Shorthanded	2	1	4	3	2	3	1	3	4	0
Total Goals Conceded scored to Defencemen	8	2	5	11	14	10	6	12	8	7
Penalty Kill	1	2	3	0	4	2	1	2	2	2
Even Strength	7	0	2	11	8	6	5	10	6	4
Shorthanded	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	1
Goals Scored Period 1	30	17	16	27	20	14	14	25	25	25
Goals Scored Period 2	26	35	20	23	21	23	23	24	21	28
Goals Scored Period 3	34	29	36	22	18	28	31	16	15	33
Goals Scored OT/SO	2	0	3	3	1	1	0	2	4	3
TOTAL Goals Scored	92	81	75	75	60	66	68	67	65	89
Goals Scored Per Game	3.83	3.68	3.57	2.88	2.40	2.64	2.72	3.05	3.10	4.24
Goals Conceded Period 1	16	16	24	25	38	20	23	26	9	19
Goals Conceded Period 2	16	17	14	35	40	23	26	38	26	17
Goals Conceded Period 3	20	19	19	33	41	44	18	31	21	18
Goals Conceded OT/SO	3	1	3	2	3	1	2	1	1	2
TOTAL Goals Conceded	55	53	60	95	122	88	69	96	57	56
Goals Against Per Game	2.29	2.41	2.86	3.65	4.88	3.52	2.76	4.36	2.71	2.67
Shots For P1	314	239	202	268	268	293	265	218	225	226
Shots For P2	290	305	230	297	250	277	270	221	221	250
Shots For P3	257	231	220	271	218	312	215	237	193	215
Shots For OT	5	0	15	12	6	0	7	4	13	11
TOTAL Shots For	866	775	667	848	742	882	757	680	652	702
Shots for Per Game	36.08	35.23	31.76	32.62	29.68	35.28	30.28	30.91	31.05	33.43
Shots Against P1	208	229	265	279	349	262	241	269	197	213
Shots Against P2	219	225	224	302	378	262	267	279	263	188
Shots Against P3	236	211	227	257	325	246	228	245	233	167
Shots Against OT	11	2	11	14	12	3	2	3	8	12
TOTAL Shots Against	674	667	727	852	1064	773	738	796	701	580
Shots Against Per Game	28.08	30.32	34.62	32.77	42.56	30.92	29.52	36.18	33.38	27.62

League & Cup games played as at 24/11/2024

ANDI IN THE ATTIC



WE DON'T PLAY YOU ANYMORE: MURRAYFIELD RACERS

There is often talk about the great rivalry Flyers have with their fellow Scottish teams in the Elite League, Dundee Stars and Glasgow Clan. This may well be the case, but I consider Flyers' greatest rivalry over the last 40 years to be the one with/against Murrayfield Racers until this version of senior hockey in the capital went into terminal decline.

In my first season of watching Flyers, 1983/84 was a poor one for Fife with Racers winning five of the six league and Autumn Cup games between the teams. The following season was considerably different as Flyers recruited three quality imports, Dave Stoyanovich, Ron Plumb and Danny Brown, leading Flyers to a more successful year. Racers had in their ranks, the fast emerging Tony Hand and ex and future Flyer Jim Lynch, while their blue line was patrolled with venom by 60 minute man Chris Kelland.

The league fixtures resulted in Flyers winning at home 8-2 and 9-3 in a televised match, and losing 6-7 at Murrayfield. The other one was one which lives long in my memory a 3-3 draw on 27/01/85 in Edinburgh, with the rink packed full to the rafters. The atmosphere was electric, with no prompting by a DJ or music blaring and the game itself was one of my favourites of the Heineken era.

The queue to get into the rink that night stretched back across the car park, and across the bridge towards the Murrayfield Hotel, where undoubtedly many fans from both sides were "warming up" prior to the game. Our seats were high up in the "away side", giving us a great view of proceedings. It was Racers who struck first though and were two up in 12-1/2 minutes with goals from Paul Heavey and Tony Hand, but Stoyanovich pulled one back, scoring on one of Flyers' 16 first period shots on Moray Hanson.



ANDI IN THE ATTIC

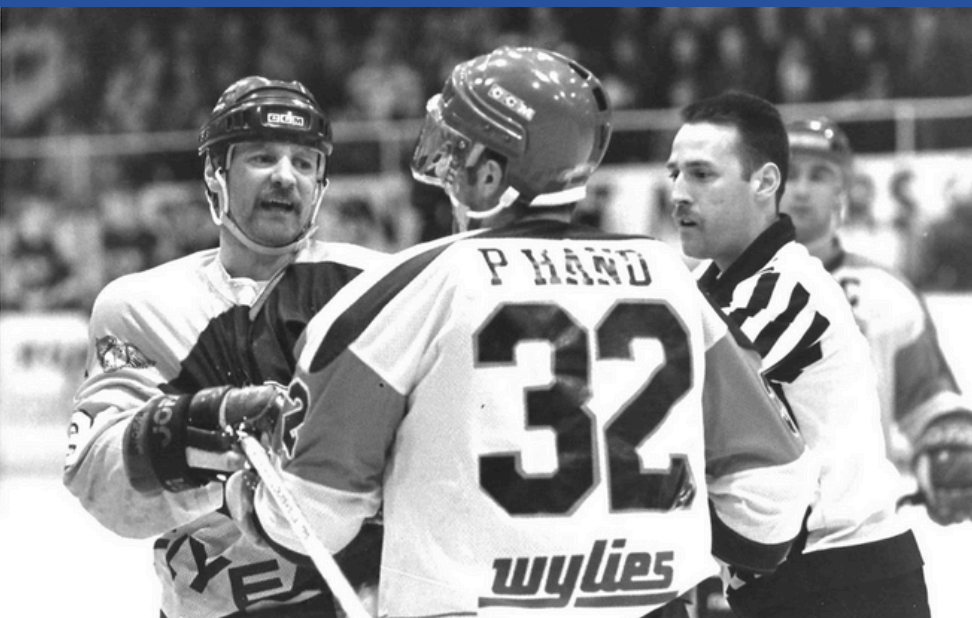


The second period was goalless, but not short of chances as the teams went at each other in the customary high octane fashion, as goalies Andy Donald and Hanson held firm with the help of their defences. Two minutes into the third period and future Flyers Lindsay Lovell made it 3-1 to Racers, but Flyers refused to give up as they pressurised the home defence and pummelled Hanson with 20 shots in the final 20 minutes.

Gordon Latto finally beat Hanson on the powerplay about half way through the period and the noise from the Flyers fans urging their team was matched by the home support on the other side of the rink. Another powerplay for Flyers was converted by former Racer Jimmy Pennycook and as the goal went in it seemed as if every one of the 1800 or so away fans jumped up as one. I read a description of that moment being likened to the rink tipping up on its side, which was what it felt like. There was no more scoring and a 3-3 draw was a fair result in a cracking game.

In Racers' line up that night were future Flyers Lindsay Lovell, Moray Hanson and Paul Hand alongside former Flyers Jimmy Jack, Gordon MacDougall and Jim Lynch, who would return to Kirkcaldy as a player and coach in the years to come. The rivalry continued through the 1980's and into the 90's with some really tight games and the occasional hidings including the 2-14 thrashing at Murrayfield that Racers dished out the night after Flyers had lost in overtime to Nottingham in the Autumn Cup Final. It was apparent in the Heineken era that the fans of Flyers and Racers had little affection for their opposite numbers, with Flyers' fans directing their "banter" at Tony and Paul Hand's mother, who was gleefully giving it back from the other side of the rink. Things occasionally got out of hand, like when some Racers fans hung a mannequin dressed in Flyers' import Mike Rowe's jersey, from a lighting gantry at Murrayfield, but really any animosity was mainly limited to the 60 minutes of the game, although I remember supporting Slavia Sofia in a European Cup tie at Edinburgh along with a large number of Flyers fans.

In 1993/94 Racers spent more than they could afford and were fined £5K for breaching wage cap rules and threatened to move to Livingston to play. The club ended up at Livingston after rink management "locked the team out of the rink" at Murrayfield. A consequence of the upheaval surrounding Racers was the last game between the teams was a play-off game on 10/04/94, scheduled to be Racers' home game, but was switched to Kirkcaldy, effectively giving Flyers home advantage for a second time, with Flyers having beaten Racers 5-2 the previous night at Kirkcaldy. The last ever meeting had a close first period with Iain Robertson and Neil Smith netting for Flyers before two powerplay goals brought Racers level. Steven King and a short-handed goal from Doug Smail made it 4-2 then two Racers tallies and another from Smail in 101 seconds around the second period break saw Flyers 5-4 in front. Former and future Flyers favourite Frank Morris made it 5-5 at 51.06, but 19 seconds later Smail sealed the game with his hat-trick marker.



Racers had a number of former and future Flyers in their team that night, Richard LaPlante, Chris Palmer, Moray Hanson, Paul Hand, Scott Plews, and Dean Edmiston. Racers changed their name to Edinburgh Racers for 1994/95 before the formation of Murrayfield Royals and Edinburgh Capitals, whose games v Flyers will feature in later articles.

ANDY
RENSON



RULES CORNER



We now move into the different types of infractions which result in penalties being called, over the next two issues we will look at Physical Infractions which are covered by rules 41 to 53.

Again the full text of the IIHF rule is provided along with any annotations as per the EIHL Casebook.

RULE 41 BOARDING

41.1 BOARDING

A boarding penalty shall be imposed on any Player who checks or pushes a defenceless opponent in such a manner that causes the opponent to hit or impact the Boards violently or dangerously. The severity of the penalty, based upon the impact with the Boards, shall be at the discretion of the Referee. There is a considerable amount of judgment involved in the application of this rule by the Referees. The responsibility is on the Player applying the check to ensure their opponent is not in a defenceless position and if so, they must avoid or minimize contact. However, in determining whether such contact could have been avoided, the circumstances of the check, including whether the opponent put themselves in a vulnerable position immediately prior to or simultaneously with the check or whether the check was unavoidable can be considered. This balance must be considered by the Referees when applying this rule. Any unnecessary contact with a Player playing the puck on an obvious "icing" or "off-side" play which results in that Player hitting or impacting the Boards is "boarding" and must be penalized as such. In other instances where there is no contact with the Boards, it should be treated as "charging".

41.2 MINOR PENALTY

The Referee shall, at their discretion, assess a Minor Penalty, based on the degree of force and violence of the impact with the Boards, to a Player guilty of "boarding" an opponent.

41.3 MAJOR PENALTY

The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty to a Player guilty of "boarding" an opponent, and who recklessly endangers the fouled Player in a way that at the discretion of the Referee such Player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Minor Penalty.

41.4 MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY

The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major and a Game Misconduct Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by "boarding" and the player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Major Penalty. Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.

41.5 DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion. Rule 28 – Supplementary Discipline.

EIHL Annotation RULE 41-BOARDING

Game Misconduct Penalty- When a major penalty is imposed under this rule for a foul resulting in an injury to the face or head of an opponent, a game misconduct shall be imposed.

RULE 42 CHARGING

42.1 CHARGING

A penalty shall be imposed on a Player who skates, jumps into an opponent, or charges an opponent in any manner. Charging shall mean the actions of a Player who either jumps to check an opponent, builds up speed by taking multiple strides immediately prior to making contact and / or travels an excessive distance with the sole purpose of delivering such a hit and / or violently checks an opponent in any manner. A "charge" may be the result of a check into the Boards, into the goal frame or in open ice. Any unnecessary contact with a Player playing the puck on an obvious "icing" or "off-side" play which results in that Player hitting or impacting the Boards is "boarding" and must be penalized as such. In other instances where there is no contact with the Boards, it should be treated as "charging." This rule is superseded by all similar actions



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regarding an “illegal hit to the head”, except those related to “fighting”. A penalty shall be imposed on a Player who charges a Goalkeeper while the Goalkeeper is within their Goal Crease. A Goalkeeper is not “fair game” just because they are outside the Goal Crease area. The appropriate penalty should be assessed in every case where an opposing Player makes unnecessary contact with a Goalkeeper. However, incidental contact, at the discretion of the Referee, will be permitted when the Goalkeeper is in the act of playing the puck outside their Goal Crease, provided the attacking Player has made a reasonable effort to avoid such contact.

42.2 MINOR PENALTY

The Referee shall, at their discretion, assess a Minor Penalty, based on the degree of force and violence of the check, to a Player guilty of “charging” an opponent.

42.3 MAJOR PENALTY

The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty to a Player guilty of “charging” an opponent, and who recklessly endangers the fouled Player in a way that at the discretion of the Referee such Player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Minor Penalty.

42.4 MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY

The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and a Game Misconduct Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by “charging” and the player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Major Penalty. Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.

42.5 DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion. Rule 28 – Supplementary Discipline.

EIHL Annotation RULE 42–CHARGING

Game Misconduct Penalty- When a major penalty is imposed under this rule for a foul resulting in an injury to the face or head of an opponent, a game misconduct shall be imposed.

RULE 43 CHECKING FROM BEHIND

43.1 CHECKING FROM BEHIND

A check from behind is a check delivered to a vulnerable Player who is not aware of the impending hit, therefore unable to protect or defend themselves from such a hit and contact is made on the back part of the body. A Player who hits an opponent from behind into the Boards, the Goal Net, or on open ice in any manner (i.e., high-sticking, cross-checking, etc.) shall be penalized according to this rule. When a Player being bodychecked, intentionally turns their back towards an opponent and puts themselves in a vulnerable position immediately before a bodycheck, to create a “checking from behind” situation, no penalty for “checking from behind” shall be assessed. However, other penalties may still be assessed.

43.2 MINOR PENALTY

This infraction is considered serious and dangerous, therefore there is no option to award a Minor Penalty for “Checking from Behind”.

43.3 MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY

The Referee, at their discretion, shall assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty to a Player guilty of “checking from behind” an opponent, and who recklessly endangers the fouled Player.

43.4 DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion, Rule 28 – Supplementary Discipline.



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RULE 44 CLIPPING

44.1 CLIPPING

“Clipping” or a “low-hit” is the act of throwing the body across or below the knees of an opponent from any direction. A Player may not deliver a check in a “clipping” manner, nor lower their own body position to deliver a check on or below an opponent’s knees. An illegal “low-hit” is a check that is delivered by a Player who may or may not have both skates on the ice, with their sole intent to check the opponent in the area of their knees. A Player may not lower their body position to deliver a check to an opponent’s knees. A Player may not crouch down near the Boards to avoid being bodychecked and as a result, causes an opponent to tumble over them.

44.2 MINOR PENALTY

The Referee shall, at their discretion, assess a Minor Penalty, based on the degree of violence to a Player guilty of “clipping” check an opponent.

44.3 MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY

The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by “clipping” and the player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Minor Penalty. Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.

44.4 DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion. Rule 28 – Supplementary Discipline.

RULE 45 ELBOWING

45.1 ELBOWING

Elbowing shall mean the use of an extended elbow to strike / check an opponent in a manner that may or may not cause injury.

45.2 MINOR PENALTY

The Referee shall, at their discretion, assess a Minor Penalty, based on the degree of force and violence, to a Player guilty of “elbowing” an opponent.

45.3 MAJOR PENALTY

The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty to a Player guilty of “elbowing” an opponent, and who recklessly endangers the fouled Player in a way that at the discretion of the Referee such Player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Minor Penalty.

45.4 MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY

The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and a Game Misconduct Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by “elbowing” and the player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Major Penalty. Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.

45.5 DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion. Rule 28 – Supplementary Discipline.



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EIHL Annotation RULE 42-ELBOWING

Game Misconduct Penalty- When a major penalty is imposed under this rule for a foul resulting in an injury to the face or head of an opponent, a game misconduct shall be imposed.

RULE 46 FIGHTING

46.1 FIGHTING / FIGHTER – WILLINGNESS TO FIGHT AND CONTINUING TO FIGHT

"Fighting" is not part of international ice hockey's DNA. Players who willingly participate in a "brawl / fight", so-called "willing combatants", shall be penalized accordingly by the Referee(s) and may be ejected from the game. Further Supplementary Discipline may be imposed. A "fight" shall be deemed to have occurred when at least one (1) Player punches or attempts to punch an opponent repeatedly or when two (2) Players wrestle in such a manner as to make it difficult for the Linespersons to intervene and separate the combatants. Any Player who persists in continuing or attempting to continue a "fight or altercation" after they have been ordered by the Referee to stop, or who resists a Linesperson in the discharge of their duties shall, at the discretion of the Referee, incur at least a Major Penalty ("Fighting") plus an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty (5'+GMP) in addition to any additional penalties imposed. The Referees are provided very wide latitude in penalties they may impose under this rule. This is done intentionally to enable them to differentiate between the obvious degrees of responsibility of the participants either for starting the "fight or persisting in continuing the fight". The discretion provided should be exercised rationally. For Players, Coaches or Team Personnel leaving the Players' Benches or the Penalty Boxes, see Rule 70 – Leaving the Players' Bench or Penalty Box.

46.2 ALTERCATION

An "altercation" is a situation involving at least two (2) Players with at least one Player (1) to be penalised.

46.3 INSTIGATOR / INITIATOR

An "Instigator / Initiator" of an "altercation" shall be a Player who by their actions or demeanour demonstrates any/some of the following criteria: distance travelled; gloves off first; first punch thrown; menacing attitude or posture; verbal instigation or threats; conduct in retaliation to a prior game incident; obvious retribution for a previous incident in the game. A Player who is deemed to be the "Instigator / Initiator" of an "altercation" shall be assessed a Minor Penalty (Instigator / Initiator) plus a Major Penalty ("Fighting") and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty (2'+5'+GMP). A Player who is deemed to be both the "Instigator / Initiator" and the "Aggressor" of an "altercation" shall be assessed a Minor Penalty ("Instigator / Initiator") plus a Minor Penalty ("Aggressor") plus a Major Penalty ("Fighting") and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty (2'+2'+5'+GMP).

46.4 AGGRESSOR

The "Aggressor" in an altercation shall be the Player who continues to throw punches in an attempt to inflict punishment on their opponent who is in a defenseless position or who is an "unwilling combatant". A Player must be deemed the "Aggressor" when they have clearly won the "fight", but they continue throwing and landing punches in a further attempt to inflict punishment and/or injury on their opponent who is no longer in a position to defend themselves. A Player who is deemed to be the "Aggressor" of an altercation shall be assessed a Minor Penalty ("Aggressor") plus a Major Penalty ("Fighting") and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty (2'+5'+GMP). A Player who is deemed to be the "Aggressor of an altercation" will have this recorded as an "Aggressor" of an altercation for suspension purposes – refer to Rule 28 Supplementary Discipline. A Player who is deemed to be both the "Aggressor" and the "Instigator / Initiator" of an altercation shall be assessed a Minor Penalty ("Aggressor") plus a Minor Penalty ("Instigator / Initiator") plus a Major Penalty ("Fighting") and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty (2'+2'+5'+GMP).

46.5 DANGEROUS PUNCHER – "SUCKER PUNCHER"

Any Player wearing tape or any other material on their hands (below the wrist) who cuts or injures an opponent during an altercation will receive a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty (5'+GMP) in addition to any other penalties imposed including for "fighting" under this rule.



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A Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty (5'+GMP) shall be assessed to a Player who punches an unsuspecting or "unwilling combatant / opponent" (i.e., "sucker punch") and could cause an injury.

46.6 DEFENDER – UNWILLING COMBATANT

A Player who "defends" themselves with a "few punches" against an Aggressor, an Instigator / Initiator or a fighter shall be considered as an "unwilling combatant". This Player does not want to continue or prolong a "fight" or "let a fight get out of hand" – it is clear to the Referees that this player does not want to "fight" irregularly. A Player who retaliates to being punched will be assessed at least a Minor Penalty ("Roughing") or a Major Penalty ("Fighting", without a Game Misconduct Penalty), if the criteria for "fighting back" with a few punches is not fulfilled.

46.7 THIRD PLAYER IN

A Game Misconduct Penalty, at the discretion of the Referee, shall be imposed on any Player who is the first to intervene ("third Player in") in an altercation already in progress, except when a Game Misconduct Penalty is being imposed in the original altercation. This penalty is in addition to any other penalties incurred in the same incident. This rule also applies to subsequent Players who elect to intervene in the same or other "altercations" during the same stoppage of play. Generally, this rule is applied when a "fight" occurs.

46.8 CLEARING THE AREA OF A FIGHT

When a "fight" occurs, all Players not engaged shall go immediately to the area of their Players' Bench and in the event the altercation takes place at a Players' Bench, the Players on the ice from that Team shall go to their Defending Zone. Goalkeepers shall remain in their Goal Crease, except in the event the altercation takes place in the vicinity of the Goal Crease, and therefore shall obey the directions of the Referee. Failure to comply can result in penalties incurred for their involvement in and around the area and Disciplinary Measures.

46.9 FIGHTING OTHER THAN DURING THE PERIODS OF THE GAME

Any Teams whose Players become involved in an altercation, other than during the periods of the game, will be investigated by proper authorities and supplementary discipline can be applied in addition to any other appropriate penalties that may be imposed upon the participating Players by Supplementary Discipline or otherwise. Players involved in "fighting" other than during the periods of the game shall be assessed a Major Penalty ("Fighting") and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty (5'+GMP). An "Aggressor" and/ or an "Instigator / Initiator" shall be penalized according to the respective Rule 46.3 and/or Rule 46.4. In the case of altercations taking place after the period or game will be reported to the Proper Authorities for further Supplementary Disciplinary action. Should Players come onto the ice from their Players' Benches after the period ends and prior to the start of an altercation, they shall not be penalized if they remain in the vicinity of their Players' Bench and provided, they do not get involved in any altercations.

46.10 FIGHTING PRIOR TO THE DROP OF THE PUCK

Unless this occurs prior to the start of the game or any period, a "fight" that occurs prior to the drop of the puck during the course of normal "face-off", the altercation shall be penalized as if it occurred during the regular playing time refer to Rule 46.9 – Fighting. When, in the opinion of the Referee that, specific personnel changes have been made by one or both Teams late in a game and an altercation ensues, the appropriate penalties are to be assessed and the incident reported to the Proper Authorities immediately following the game for review and possible Supplementary Disciplinary actions.

46.11 FIGHTING OFF THE PLAYING SURFACE

A Game Misconduct Penalty shall be imposed on any Player involved in "fighting off the playing surface" or with another Player who is "off the playing surface". These penalties are in addition to any other time penalties assessed, including the Major Penalty ("Fighting"). Whenever a Coach or other team personnel becomes involved in an altercation with an opposing Player, Coach or other team personnel on or off the ice, they shall be assessed with a Game Misconduct Penalty and automatically suspended from the game,



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ordered to the Dressing Room and the matter will be reported to Proper Authorities for Supplementary Disciplinary actions.

46.12 HELMETS

No Player may remove their helmet prior to engaging in a fight. If they should do so, they shall be assessed a Minor Penalty for "Unsportsmanlike Conduct". Helmets that come off in the course of and resulting from the altercation will not result in a penalty to either Player.

46.13 JERSEYS

A Player who deliberately removes their jersey prior to participating in an altercation or who is clearly wearing a jersey that has been modified and does not conform to Rule 9 – Uniforms, shall be assessed a Minor Penalty for "Unsportsmanlike Conduct" and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty (2' +GMP). This is in addition to other penalties to be assessed to the participants of an altercation. If the "altercation" never materializes, the Player would receive a Minor Penalty for "Unsportsmanlike Conduct" and a ten-minute (10') Misconduct Penalty for deliberately removing their jersey.

EIHL Annotation RULE 46–FIGHTING

46.1 Fighting / Fighter– Willingness to Fight and Continue to Fight

A "fight" shall be deemed to have occurred when at least one (1) Player punches or attempts to punch an opponent repeatedly or when two (2) Players wrestle in such a manner as to make it difficult for the Linespersons to intervene and separate the combatants. EIHL Clarification: Willing combatants will be penalised with at least a Major Penalty ("Fighting"). Note for their 2nd Major Penalty an Automatic Game misconduct will be assessed.

46.2 Altercation

EIHL- Fighting After the Original Altercation- A game misconduct penalty shall be imposed on any player who is assessed a major penalty for fighting after the original altercation has started. Notwithstanding this rule, at the discretion of the Referee, the automatic game misconduct penalty may be waived for a player in the altercation if the opposing player was clearly the instigator of the altercation. All fighting penalties that involve a Game Misconduct penalty assessed under this rule will be reviewed and subject to further game suspensions through the EIHL Department of Player Safety.

46.3 Instigator

An instigator of an altercation shall be a player who by his actions or demeanour demonstrates any/some of the following criteria: distance travelled; gloves off first; first punch thrown; menacing attitude or posture; verbal instigation or threats; conduct in retaliation to a prior game (or season) incident; obvious retribution for a previous incident in the game or season.

EIHL- A player who is deemed to be the instigator of an altercation shall be assessed an instigating minor penalty, a major for fighting and a ten-minute misconduct. (2 minor + 5 major + 10 misconduct).

EIHL- Instigator in Final Five Minutes of Regulation Time (or Anytime in Overtime)- A player who is deemed to be the instigator of an altercation in the final five (5) minutes of regulation time or at any time in overtime shall be assessed an instigator minor penalty, a major penalty for fighting, and a game misconduct penalty, (2 minor + 5 major +20Gamemischconduct).

Example: A player engages an opposing player in a manner where the opposing player was unsuspecting or did not have a fair opportunity to initially engage back. * If the same player is deemed to be the instigator of a second altercation in the same game, he shall be assessed an instigating minor penalty, a major penalty for fighting and a game misconduct. (2 minor + 5 major + 20 Game misconduct).

All fighting penalties that involve an instigator penalty will be reviewed and subject to further game suspensions through the EIHL Department of Player Safety.



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46.4 Aggressor

EIHL- A player who is deemed to be both the instigator and aggressor of an altercation shall be assessed an instigating (2) minor penalty, a (5) major penalty for fighting, a (10) ten-minute misconduct (instigator) and a (20) game misconduct penalty (aggressor). All fighting penalties that involve an aggressor penalty will be reviewed and subject to further game suspensions through the EIHL Department of Player Safety.

46.13 Jerseys

EIHL- A player who deliberately removes his jersey prior to participating in an altercation or who is clearly wearing a sweater that has been modified, shall be assessed a minor penalty for Unsportsmanlike Conduct and a game misconduct. This is in addition to other penalties to be assessed to the participants of an altercation. (2 minor + Game Misconduct).

A player who is involved in an altercation and does not have his sweater properly tied down (the sweater is not removed) shall be assessed a minor penalty for Unsportsmanlike Conduct. This is in addition to other penalties to be assessed to the participants of an altercation. (2 minor).

A player who engages in a fight and whose jersey is removed (completely off his torso), other than through the actions of his opponent in the altercation or through the actions of the linesman shall receive a minor penalty for Unsportsmanlike Conduct and a game misconduct. (2 minor + Game Misconduct). If the player loses his jersey despite the tie down remaining intact and attached to the pants, the game misconduct is not applicable, however this must be reported to the League office so that the jersey and the tie down can be examined.

A player who is involved in an altercation, when the opponent has been identified as an instigator, shall not be assessed a game misconduct penalty if his jersey should be removed by an opponent or an official in the discharge of his duties, regardless as to whether he was properly "tied-down" (jersey properly fastened to pants).

FINES AND SUSPENSIONS

1- Instigator/Aggressor in Final Five Minutes of Regulation Time (or Anytime in Overtime)

a. A player who is deemed to be the instigator/aggressor of an altercation in the final five (5) minutes of regulation time or at any time in overtime shall be suspended for one additional game, pending a review of the incident.

b. When the one-game suspension is imposed, the coach shall be subject to supplementary discipline and may be fined and or issued a 1 game- a suspension that will double for each subsequent incident.

c. The suspension shall be served unless, upon review of the incident, the Department of Player Safety, at their discretion, deems the incident is not related to the score, previous incidents in the game or prior games, retaliatory in nature, "message sending", etc. This suspension shall be served in addition to any other automatic suspensions a player may incur.

Note: If a player is not the instigator, the fighting major is not included in the player's total number of fights.

Note: appeals will be permitted either verbally or in writing regarding the assessment of this automatic suspension as all incidents are reviewed by DOPS as outlined above.

2 - Leaving the Player / Penalty Bench (Also see Rule 70)

a. A Player who leaves the players' or penalty bench to join an altercation will receive either a 20 (Game Misconduct) penalty or 2 + 20 (Game Misconduct) penalty and shall be automatically suspended for the minimum of three (3) games, pending a review of the incident

3 - Fighting Prior to the Drop of the Puck

a. When, in the opinion of the Referee, that specific personnel changes have been made by one or both teams late in a game and ultimately an altercation ensues, the appropriate penalties are to be assessed and the incident reported to the League immediately following the game for review by DOPS and possible supplementary discipline.

4 - Any teams whose players become involved in an altercation, other than during the periods of the game, shall be assessed all appropriate penalties that may be imposed at the time and shall also be subject to automatic supplementary discipline.

a. Any Player who would be deemed to be an instigator pursuant to this rule at a time other than during the periods of the game shall be suspended for a minimum one (1) game pending a review of the incident

HOCKEY VIEWS FROM SECTION 'C' AND BEYOND

Darrian Wilson

Saturday Challenge Cup action in Renfrewshire is scheduled for Flyers in the Braehead shopping centre and after a dismal run in the competition I think having some Costa Cup action would be more enjoyable.

Sunday will see Steelers return to Fife and will likely have secured the services of an emergency goalkeeper to cover a series of injuries they have had in that area. No doubt Steelers will have looked at last weekend's results and be keen to have another punt at Flyers whilst we struggle to find the answers.

Two excellent periods of competitive play against Devils were undone in a single period where Flyers offered less resistance than wet loo roll whilst simultaneously failing to clear the puck out the zone. I've seen fewer turnovers in Greggs the bakers and you cannot give any team in this league possession cheaply or you will be made to suffer.

No idea what happened down in Coventry apart from being on the receiving end of a (checks notes) thrashing according to the Elite League website. That alone is acutely embarrassing and should be printed off and nailed to the dressing room door as a motivator. Blaze are a decent team but they aren't nine goals to two decent but of concern is that wasn't the first thrashing this team has been on the end of. I'm not keen to accept the excuses that we run with three lines, have lots of travel and play back-to-back. It's been like that from day one in this league, it was like that last season and this team has been built with full knowledge of that.

Of course, there may be other factors at play that we don't know about or indeed we could chance it and chip in for a catering pack of Bisto gravy granules to aid with consistency.

It doesn't matter if you're a first year or fifty-year long supporter, we all want the team to do well, be competitive and be worthy of wearing the colours of the oldest team in the country. We realise we aren't going to be owning every other team in the league though we do have an expectation that a competitive team will ice.

There should also be recognition that under every lid is a human being and they will know the results and performances haven't been good enough and whilst there is huge frustration with some tetchiness throughout the fanbase there is no need for the constant stream of abuse being meted daily. I do miss the good old days where you'd let your team know your thoughts on the night and that would be it done and dusted as there was no public platform to keep chiselling away at the team or individual players. Even Sunday evening's visitors could not escape the wrath of their fans when Aaron Fox first arrived in Sheffield and didn't deliver immediate success.

Factoids if you need them: Flyers are a good weekend behind Clan and Storm in the league with four points between us. Indeed, a decent run of form could take us into mid table by the turn of the year. If we can get sponsored by Imodium it should help with the leaky back end that is seeing Flyers lose 5 goals a game on average. At the other end of the ice wee Lucas Chiodo leads the way with eighteen points from fourteen games whilst Michael Cichy sits on nine goals and a total of sixteen points as Flyers top goal getter. Whilst Phelix Martineau also gets into some pretty decent points scoring there are a number of players that aren't getting the points expected from them in this league so if, well when, the Cichy line gets shut down there is little to no offence left to offer.

Identifying the glitches in Flyers matrix is one thing, fixing them is another and since we are all budding armchair coaches from time to time I'm sure we will all have our own opinions on how the ship will be steadied.

The team has seen periods like this before but coming into December with only four points from a possible twenty-eight banked feels like a new low. Then again, if we can see a full sixty minutes like the first two periods against Devils then Flyers will do themselves a solid and start gaining momentum and points. In the meantime it is a hard ask to be optimistic and my letter to Santa may have "two points" scribbled in as a p.s.

Thank goodness for stovies.

Darrian

Matchnight PRESENTATIONS

CARDIFF DEVILS NOVEMBER 23RD 2024



DEVILS MOM
COLE SANFORD



FLYERS MOM
JORDAN STALLARD



50/50 WINNER



WEMBLEY WIZARDS SEASON 1984/85

This season is the 40th Anniversary of the Fife Flyers British Championship Wembley win. In a weekly feature we will recap, with thanks to the Fife Free Press for use of their reporting, the events of that historic occasion.

Diary of the Bluecol Cup Final

FRIDAY

4.30 pm Official Flyers' party meets at Kirkcaldy Ice Rink and boards coach for Edinburgh Airport. 7.15 pm Flight leaves Edinburgh en route for Heathrow.

8.15 pm Arrival at Heathrow from where party is collected by coach and taken to team headquarters at the Queen's Hotel, Crystal Palace.

10 pm Players attend official reception in hotel given by Kirkcaldy Ice Hockey Club for British Ice Hockey Association and Press.

11 pm Kirkcaldy party disperses for long overdue meal before returning to hotel for the night.

SATURDAY

1.30 am Early morning drama as doctor is summoned to treat netminder Craig Dickson, whose foot has swollen up after sustaining a welding burn earlier in the week. Craig is given pain-killers and tablets to reduce the swelling.

9 am Breakfast in hotel. Players are looking forward to the match with no trace of nerves.

11 am Coach arrives at hotel to transport Flyers two miles to Streatham Ice Rink.

12 noon Doors of Rink open to fans, who within minutes have occupied every available vantage point. Both teams appear on the ice for their warm-up and receive a great reception.

12.45 pm. After the National Anthem, the Bluecol Cup Final gets under way with the supporters creating a superb atmosphere.

3 pm It's all over and Pete Johnson collects the Bluecol trophy on behalf of Durham Wasps. Bitter disappointment for Flyers, but they accept defeat sportingly, and the appearance of Kirkcaldy darts ace Jocky Wilson at the after-match reception helps cheer everyone up.

5 pm Back on board the coach which goes direct to Heathrow.

8.30 pm After a meal at the airport, it's time to fasten the seat-belts for the return flight.

9.30 pm Arrival at Glasgow Airport to board bus for journey back to Kirkcaldy.

11 pm Coach reaches Ice Rink, then it's on to a party organised by Ron Plumb's wife, Barbara, to salute Flyers' achievement of reaching the Bluecol final.

The experience of having appeared in a major final will be to Flyers' long-term advantage — auguring well for the rest of the season. Kirkcaldy Ice Hockey Club have made no secret of the fact that Wembley is their top priority and Flyers can now concentrate fully on reaching the play-offs. Player-coach Ron Plumb was making no excuses for the Bluecol Cup final defeat but pointed out that the size of the Streatham rink was more suited to Durham's style of play. "Durham are used to a smaller rink and they were able to play their normal game" he said. "Our style is freewheeling style skating with the puck which did not suit the conditions. Dave and Danny found it hard to get themselves in the clear — not for the lack of trying, but simply because it was hard to find them with the puck. Durham deserved to win on the night but I still think we are a better hockey club" Plumb went on. "The breaks did not go our way and when the chances did come the puck kept bouncing off our sticks. It was very disappointing because we would have loved to win the trophy for the fans but you have to accept losing in the way you handle winning. You gain from your experiences and the whole team will have matured tremendously simply by having been in the final. We will have to put this defeat behind us but it is important to learn from the experience and not forget it. The players handled themselves like professionals and I am proud of the way they conducted themselves in saluting the fans and congratulating Durham after the match" he added. Although naturally disappointed Flyers manager John Haig pointed out "we have come from nowhere last season to being the runners up in a major competition and that is a big plus.



WEMBLEY WIZARDS SEASON 1984/85

We know we can play so much better than we did today but the players will have learned a lot from the experience.

Most of the team were playing in a final for the first time and there was a lot of tension during the game", Danny Brown whose two goals in the last period gave Flyers hope of saving the match admitted "I found it hard to get going because of the ice conditions. We have struggled on small rinks before this season and we were up against a good team who play a different style of hockey than we are used to. Dave and I did not click too well but we have learned to taste defeat and that will add character to the club. Flyers captain Gordon Latto added "We are all a bit suck. Durham worked harder than we did and we just could not get going" With the Bluecol final now behind them. Flyers can get on with the business of reaching the Heineken Premier League playoffs. Streatham Redskins visit Kirkcaldy Ice Rink tomorrow night and Flyers will be looking for two points to keep in touch with league leaders Murrayfield Racers. A major incentive for Flyers in the fact that Streatham are the only side they have failed to beat in three seasons of the British League Flyers boss John Haig has been reappointed manager of the Great Britain Under-20 side for the World Under-20 'C' Pool Championships to be held in Belgium from February 21-27.

08/12/1984 Fife Flyers v Streatham Redskins Premier League

The Streatham jinx which has haunted Fife Flyers for three years as well and truly shattered at Kirkcaldy Ice Rink on Saturday night. Flyers shrugged off the disappointment of having lost the Bluecol Cup Final the previous week to record their first victory over Redskins since the British League was set up. After a sluggish first period in which they lost Dougie Latto with a back injury, Ron Plumb's men moved into top gear and got better as the game progressed. Danny Brown who had been suffering from flu all week grabbed five goals and three assists while Dave Stoyanovich returned to form by scoring four times. Indeed, it was Brown who put Flyers ahead after just 47 seconds when he deflected a Murray McLellan shot into the net. The match was held up for five minutes midway through the period when Dougie Latto fell awkwardly against the boards and lay prostrate on the ice. Latto was eventually lifted off the ice using two hickey sticks and taken to Victoria Hospital where nothing more than bad bruising was diagnosed. The injury interrupted Flyers rhythm and within seconds of the resumption Quiney forced the puck past Andrew Donald at the third attempt for the equaliser. Two minutes later however Stoyanovich set up a simple chance for Brown to restore the home side's lead but Goldstone skated half the length of the ice to level the scores before the end of the period. Stoyanovich put Flyers 3-2 ahead just 15 seconds into the second period when he scored from close range but the Kirkcaldy side were in trouble four minutes later when Stoyanovich and Ron Plumb took penalties. With Gordon Latto, Danny Brown and Neil Abel on the ice Flyers held out for more than a minute before Melancon found the net from the blueline. Murray McLellan again put Flyers in front with a shot high into the net and two minutes from the buzzer Gordon Latto cut in from the right to fire a great effort past netminder Brine to make it 5-3. The Fife side went further ahead early in the final period when Stoyanovich got the final touch to a Brian Peat shot before Stuart Drummond scored Flyers seventh with Streatham shorthanded. Although Redskins pulled one back through Coonan just 20 seconds later Danny Brown scored the goal of the night when he skated past three men and then beat the netminder at the second attempt. Brown again then took advantage of a mistake by Rich to make it 9-4 with Stefan hitting back for Streatham 90 seconds later. Flyers went into double figures when Stoyanovich took a pass from Brown to round the keeper and score and with two minutes remaining it was Brown who brought up his nap hand converting the rebound of a Stoyanovich effort.



WEMBLEY WIZARDS SEASON 1984/85



Sunday's attempt to set up the first world record for the shooting speed of a puck at Kirkcaldy Ice Rink was abandoned because of technical difficulties. Fife Flyers had set up an experiment with the science department of Kirkcaldy College of Technology to measure how fast the puck could be struck under controlled conditions. But with 500 spectators in the Rink ready to watch Ron Plumb, Dave Stoyanovich, Danny Brown, Neil Abel or Brian Peat create a world record, sensors which should have registered the speed of the puck were found to be faulty. Attempts were made to correct the fault, but after 45 minutes, the record bid had to be abandoned. "It was very disappointing," commented Jack Dryburgh, general manager of Kirkcaldy Ice Rink. "We are now hoping to rearrange the event for early in the New Year, possibly on January 19."

Our picture shows College staff examining the defective equipment, watched by Flyers (from left) Brian Peat, Danny Brown, Ron Plumb, Neil Abel and Dave Stoyanovich.



KIRKCALDY ICE HOCKEY CLUB



Fife Falcons maintained their excellent form in the Scottish U19 League with an impressive 6-1 home victory over Murrayfield.

Joe Somerville (3), Callum McLaren, Jack Malcolmson and Cole Wallace were on target as the Falcons produced an excellent team performance.

Guest netminder Braiden Howat picked up the MVP award after turning away 17 of the 18 shots he faced during the game.

All other games and events were postponed over the weekend due to the adverse weather conditions.

The club was well-represented at the latest Elite British Selects talent camp in Nottingham over the weekend.











Rory Morris, Stanley Hudson, Jenson Reid, Matthew McGroarty, Kobi Wishart, Lucas Scarborough and Kaiden Coles!



TABLES & FIXTURES





SEASON 2024/25

ELITE LEAGUE

	GP	PTS	W	OTW	L	OTL/SOL	GF	GA	PTS %	
Cardiff Devils	14	22	11	0	3	0	49	28	0.79	
Coventry Blaze	13	19	8	1	3	1	52	33	0.73	
Guildford Flames	14	19	9	0	4	1	45	33	0.68	
Sheffield Steelers	11	18	8	1	2	0	51	26	0.82	
Belfast Giants	12	16	7	0	3	2	43	32	0.67	
Dundee Stars	14	13	4	2	7	1	44	56	0.46	
Nottingham Panthers	13	12	4	2	7	0	38	34	0.46	
Manchester Storm	13	8	4	0	9	0	42	61	0.31	
Glasgow Clan	14	8	3	1	10	0	31	56	0.29	
Fife Flyers	14	4	1	0	11	2	35	71	0.14	

As at 25th November 2024

CHALLENGE CUP GROUP B

	GP	PTS	W	OTW	L	OTL/SOL	GF	GA	PTS %	
Q - Belfast Giants	12	21	8	2	1	1	49	24	0.88	
Y - Glasgow Clan	11	13	6	0	4	1	35	32	0.59	
Dundee Stars	12	9	3	1	7	1	38	41	0.38	
Fife Flyers	11	7	2	1	7	1	26	51	0.32	

As at 25th November 2024

WHAT'S ON TAP THIS WEEK

67	Wed	27-Nov-2024	Cardiff Devils	Sheffield Steelers	19:30
68	Fri	29-Nov-2024	Glasgow Clan	Belfast Giants	19:30
69	Sat	30-Nov-2024	Guildford Flames	Coventry Blaze	18:00
70	Sat	30-Nov-2024	Dundee Stars	Belfast Giants	19:00
CC52	Sat	30-Nov-2024	Glasgow Clan	Fife Flyers	19:00
71	Sat	30-Nov-2024	Manchester Storm	Cardiff Devils	19:00
72	Sat	30-Nov-2024	Sheffield Steelers	Nottingham Panthers	19:00
73	Sun	1-Dec-2024	Nottingham Panthers	Dundee Stars	16:00
74	Sun	1-Dec-2024	Fife Flyers	Sheffield Steelers	17:15
CC53	Sun	1-Dec-2024	Coventry Blaze	Manchester Storm	17:30
75	Sun	1-Dec-2024	Cardiff Devils	Guildford Flames	18:00

FLYERS SCHEDULE 2024/25

Date	Opposition	Competition	Venue	FO Time	Result	Score
Saturday Aug 24th	Dundee Stars	Pre Season	H	19:00	Lost	2-4
Sunday Aug 25th	Dundee Stars	Pre Season	H	17:15	Lost	4-6
Saturday Aug 31st	UQTR	Pre Season	H	19:15	Won	2-0
Saturday Sep 7th	Glasgow Clan	Challenge Cup	H	19:15	Won	4-3
Sunday Sep 8th	Belfast Giants	Challenge Cup	H	17:15	Lost	2-4
Saturday Sep 14th	Manchester Storm	League	H	19:15	Lost	5-6
Sunday Sep 15th	Dundee Stars	Challenge Cup	A	17:00	Lost SO	2-3
Saturday Sep 21st	Cardiff Devils	League	A	19:00	Lost	1-5
Sunday Sep 22nd	Glasgow Clan	Challenge Cup	H	17:15	Lost	5-8
Saturday Sep 28th	Dundee Stars	Challenge Cup	H	19:15	Won	4-1
Sunday Sep 29th	Guildford Flames	League	A	18:00	Lost	1-4
Saturday Oct 5th	Manchester Storm	League	H	19:15	Won	3-2
Sunday Oct 6th	Nottingham Panthers	League	A	16:00	Lost	1-5
Wednesday Oct 9th	Belfast Giants	Challenge Cup	H	19:30	Lost	0-7
Friday Oct 11th	Cardiff Devils	League	A	19:30	Lost	2-5
Friday Oct 18th	Dundee Stars	Challenge Cup	A	19:30	Lost	0-7
Saturday Oct 19th	Guildford Flames	League	H	19:15	Lost	4-7
Saturday Oct 26th	Glasgow Clan	Challenge Cup	A	19:00	Lost	0-3
Sunday Oct 27th	Dundee Stars	Challenge Cup	H	17:15	Lost	2-7
Wednesday Oct 30th	Sheffield Steelers	League	A	19:30	Lost	2-5
Saturday Nov 2nd	Belfast Giants	Challenge Cup	A	19:00	Lost	3-5
Sunday Nov 3rd	Nottingham Panthers	League	H	17:15	Lost SO	3-4
Saturday Nov 9th	Glasgow Clan	League	H	19:15	Lost OT	4-5
Sunday Nov 10th	Dundee Stars	League	A	17:00	Lost	2-5
Saturday Nov 16th	Belfast Giants	Challenge Cup	A	19:00	Won OT	4-3
Sunday Nov 17th	Sheffield Steelers	League	H	17:15	Lost	1-4
Saturday Nov 23rd	Cardiff Devils	League	H	19:15	Lost	4-5
Sunday Nov 24th	Coventry Blaze	League	A	17:30	Lost	2-9
Saturday Nov 30th	Glasgow Clan	Challenge Cup	A	19:00		
Sunday Dec 1st	Sheffield Steelers	League	H	17:15		
Saturday Dec 7th	Manchester Storm	League	A	19:00		
Sunday Dec 8th	Guildford Flames	League	H	17:15		
Saturday Dec 14th	Nottingham Panthers	League	A	19:00		
Sunday Dec 15th	Coventry Blaze	League	H	17:15		
Saturday Dec 21st	Belfast Giants	League	H	19:15		
Sunday Dec 22nd	Belfast Giants	League	A	16:00		
Thursday Dec 26th	Dundee Stars	League	H	18:30		

FLYERS SCHEDULE 2024/25

Date	Opposition	Competition	Venue	FO Time	Result	Score
Saturday Dec 28th	Dundee Stars	League	A	19:00		
Monday Dec 30th	Glasgow Clan	League	H	19:15		
Tuesday Dec 31st	Glasgow Clan	League	A	14:00		
Saturday Jan 4th	Coventry Blaze	League	H	19:15		
Sunday Jan 5th	Guildford Flames	League	A	18:00		
Saturday Jan 11th	Dundee Stars	League	H	19:15		
Sunday Jan 12th	Sheffield Steelers	League	A	16:00		
Saturday Jan 18th	Manchester Storm	League	A	19:00		
Sunday Jan 19th	Nottingham Panthers	League	H	17:15		
Friday Jan 24th	Glasgow Clan	League	A	19:30		
Saturday Jan 25th	Cardiff Devils	League	H	19:15		
Saturday Feb 1st	Belfast Giants	League	H	19:15		
Sunday Feb 2nd	Coventry Blaze	League	A	17:30		
Saturday Feb 8th	Glasgow Clan	League	A	19:00		
Sunday Feb 9th	Dundee Stars	League	H	17:15		
Friday Feb 14th	Belfast Giants	League	A	19:00		
Sunday Feb 16th	Cardiff Devils	League	H	17:15		
Wednesday Feb 19th	Sheffield Steelers	League	A	19:30		
Saturday Feb 22nd	Manchester Storm	League	A	19:00		
Sunday Feb 23rd	Glasgow Clan	League	H	17:15		
Saturday Mar 1st	Cardiff Devils	League	A	19:00		
Sunday Mar 2nd	Nottingham Panthers	League	H	17:15		
Saturday Mar 8th	Guildford Flames	League	A	18:00		
Sunday Mar 9th	Coventry Blaze	League	H	17:15		
Saturday Mar 15th	Belfast Giants	League	H	19:15		
Sunday Mar 16th	Nottingham Panthers	League	A	16:00		
Saturday Mar 22nd	Guildford Flames	League	H	19:15		
Sunday Mar 23rd	Coventry Blaze	League	A	17:30		
Saturday Mar 29th	Belfast Giants	League	A	19:00		
Sunday Mar 30th	Sheffield Steelers	League	H	17:15		
Saturday Apr 5th	Manchester Storm	League	H	19:15		
Sunday Apr 6th	Dundee Stars	League	A	17:00		



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Pettycur Bay Holiday Park

For information on commercial opportunities with Fife Flyers, please email: commercial@fifeflyers.co.uk