

PRO HOCKEY DRAFTOLOGY 2022

A collective presentation of:
**SPORTSOLOGY,
FANTASYDRAFTHelp.COM &
THE FDH LOUNGE** under the
banner of **THE 21ST CENTURY
MEDIA ALLIANCE**

July 3, 2022

**RUSS COHEN/RICK MORRIS/
JASON JONES**



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PRO HOCKEY DRAFTOLOGY 2022 Overview

Here we go! Some of the most creative new media sports entities in existence today have joined forces to bring you the ultimate guide to the 2022 NHL Entry Draft and offseason. In these pages, you'll read in-depth assessments of top young stars, gain an insight into the thought process of some of them and gain a look at draft aspects within the sport's developmental arena. Additionally, we look at the state of the NHL — including the upcoming free agent class and the 2022 NHL Expansion Draft.

As an added bonus, you can get an early jump on next year's hockey pool with a look at how players fared according to the "Ultimate Quantitative Baseline" statistic in 2021-22. Enjoy your reading and remember the forces who came together for this publication: Sportsology, The FDH Lounge and FantasyDrafthelp.com.

FantasyDrafthelp.com/hockey

THE TOP 75 PLAYERS IN PRO BASKETBALL HISTORY

The NBA's 75th Anniversary has prompted a wave of Best-Of lists, but few with the substance to reinforce the selections. Authors Rick Morris, Ben Chew and Russ Cohen came together to create a list of the top 75 pro basketball players ever, with evidence to justify the placement of each -- as well as biographical details, comparisons of various legends, little-known-but-interesting tidbits, what-if scenarios and much more. Additionally, the book includes our year-by-year ranking of the top players in pro basketball and rosters for hypothetical "Olympic Dream Teams" had they existed prior to 1992. This is a book that is crafted for sports fans who are interested in learning more about the rich history of pro basketball.

Available on Amazon.com

The 21st Century Media Alliance

What initially began as a small coalition of like-minded growing New Media organizations has flourished into a well-rounded creative juggernaut of more than two dozen entities that transcends the notion of traditional labeling. The 21st Century Media Alliance is an umbrella of cooperative companies and professionals that is pursuing many synergistic opportunities and projects. Possessed of varying yet often complementary skill sets, Alliance members are bound by their core principles of inventiveness, communication, pragmatism and dedication to their efforts and those of the larger group. In a great many creative areas, if you're looking to have a job performed the right way, chances are that you need look no further than The 21st Century Media Alliance.

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The FDH Lounge Podcasts
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Pandora, Podbean,
RadioPublic, Stitcher, TuneIn &
YouTube.

Top 32 Overall Player Rankings

By Russ Cohen/Sporstology

- 1 Shane Wright – C – Kingston – OHL
- 2 Logan Cooley – C – USA U-18 – NTDP
- 3 Matthew Savoie – C – Winnipeg – WHL
- 4 David Jiricek – D – HC Plzen – Czechia
- 5 Juraj Slafkovsky – LW – TPS – Liiga
- 6 Jonathan Lekkerimäki – C – Djurgårdens JR – Sweden JR
- 7 Joakim Kemell – RW – JYP – Liiga
- 8 Simon Nemec – D – HK Nitra – Slovakia
- 9 Conor Geekie – C – Winnipeg – WHL
- 10 Frank Nazar – C – USA U-18 – NTDP
- 11 Brad Lambert – C/RW – JYP – Liiga
- 12 Cutter Gauthier – LW – USA U-18 – NTDP
- 13 Danila Yurov – RW – Magnitogorsk – KHL
- 14 Marco Kasper – C – Rogle BK – SHL
- 15 Pavel Mintyukov – D – Saginaw – OHL
- 16 Ryan Chesley – D – USA U-18 – NTDP
- 17 Kevin Korchinski – D – Seattle – WHL
- 18 Jimmy Snuggerud – RW – USA U-18 – NTDP
- 19 Gleb Trikozov – C – Omskie – MHL
- 20 Liam Ohgren – LW – Djurgårdens JR – Sweden JR
- 21 Rutger McGroarty – LW/C – USA U-18 – NTDP
- 22 Isaac Howard – RW/LW – USA U-18 – NTDP
- 23 Seamus Casey – D – USA U-18 – NTDP
- 24 Filip Mesar – W/C – HK Poprad – Slovakia
- 25 Owen Pickering – D – Swift Current – WHL
- 26 Denton Mateychuk – D – Moose Jaw – WHL
- 27 Owen Beck – C – Mississauga – OHL
- 28 Ty Nelson – D – North Bay – OHL
- 29 Jordan Gustafson – C – Seattle – WHL
- 30 Jiri Kulich – C – Karlovy Vary – Czechia
- 31 Adam Ingram – C – Youngstown Phantoms – USHL
- 32 Jagger Firkus – Moose Jaw Warriors – WHL

Sportsology.com <http://twitter.com/TheFDHLounge>

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OptionB.org

Remembering Emile Francis

By Russ Cohen/Sportsology

Emile was my hockey friend. An NHL legend, most notably with the New York Rangers front office from 1964-1976. He was the head coach and general manager for much of that time. We would have long chats about hockey and baseball. Everything that he told me about hockey is in my books. There was a time I wrote to the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame to try and get him inducted. He had a great baseball career.

Here's how it started. "The Cat" told me an amazing story. It started in the Canadian armed forces.

"I was in the army and I lied about my age. I told them I was 18 when I was 16. During my tour there as a Sargeant, we were in camp and everybody had to register and you had to show them a birth certificate," Francis revealed. "Here I was a Sargeant, and I knew I was going to get caught, so I got up and said to myself, 'I'm going to get the hell out of here. So, I took three steps, and the Sargeant Major said, 'Where the hell are you going?' I said I had to go to the toilet, and he responded, 'Get back in line, you can go to the toilet after. I was caught."

"I had to go in front of the Colonel and commanding officer, and when they asked why I lied about my age, I told them I wanted to help fight for my country. They didn't throw me out because they said I was doing too good of a job. But they stopped paying me as a Sargeant. They made \$1.80 a day. We're going to pay you as a "boy" soldier, 60 cents a day. I had always been in charge of something in my life."

Francis was proud to talk about his baseball career.

"What happened all the years I played hockey, I played baseball for a living," Francis recalled. "We certainly didn't make enough in the winter to take summers off. When I was 24, I was also asked to be the manager of the team. So, I was a player/manager for ten years. I won seven championships with the North Battleford Beavers. I had everybody, Canadians, Americans, Blacks, Cubans. I think there were only six teams in the National League (NHL) when I retired and three of them made me offers to come to join their organizations. I had offers from Detroit, Chicago, and I selected the New York Rangers because I'd been with them as a player longer than anybody."

The man was bigger than life and I was lucky enough to hear some of his stories and he enjoyed talking to me. I'll miss him, but I'll never forget him. You'll never find a nicer man and a better promoter for the game of hockey. He was 95.

THE WINTER CLASSIC: THE NHL'S SAVIOR – available through Barnes & Noble, Amazon & other fine sellers

Nicholas Vantassell Has Some Interesting Tools

By Russ Cohen/Sportsology

Nicholas Vantassell is a 6-3 $\frac{3}{4}$, 190-pound right wing who plays for the Green Bay Gamblers in the USHL and hails from Basking Ridge, New Jersey. It's a town known for having the corporate headquarters for Verizon Wireless and a few more companies. Surely, it must have a bit more allure than just that. "I didn't know that. Everything is pretty close. There are some nice towns like Morristown and Summitt. It's all near you. Not too far drive of a to the Jersey Shore and not too far of a drive to New York," Vantassell said. "Green Bay has a lot less traffic than New Jersey."

Being named to play in the 2022 All American Game was a boost to his profile. Teams that are looking for a mid to late-round pick in the 2022 NHL Draft, one with upside, will look at Vantassell. His second half will count, but he's young, big and a few more of his attributes are solid. This prospect is an accurate passer, he's good in transition and he has a good two-way game. "It was surreal. It's a great honor. You can't take anything for granted," said Vantassell. "It's such a great event. There are so many scouts and people. It's great to be a part of."

Vantassell starred at Morristown High School. He had to overcome some adversity and that seemingly has made him stronger. "Last year, I wasn't able to play any games. I had a knee injury. I played my sophomore season. It was great playing in front of your friends and your teachers. It was a great high school experience, and I was playing against older players," Vantassell pointed out. "I did a lot of PT, and now my knee is 100%."

Confidence with the puck. Being calm is something that can fuel a player. If you don't have it, you won't have good zone entries and probably won't make good decisions with the puck. If you have it, everything looks easier. You're not thinking out there and you have a feel for the game, who to pass it to at the best time, and when to go to the net like Vantassell who can do that. "It's crazy that's something I struggled with early on coming into the USHL. At first, I was just lucky to get rid of it. I was too worried about making a mistake," he admitted. "As I got used to the speed, I got more confident with the puck. Confidence has been the biggest part of that."

Vantassell is another player who has made big strides since the USHL Fall Classic. "I went from being worried about making a mistake to worrying about making the right plays. I think different, more confidently," Vantassell stated. "One of my goals is to find a college (he did commit to UMass a few days after this interview). The hockey side and schooling side are important. So much of it is hockey. Looking for atmosphere of the school and studies."

Driving play is something that this big wing can do. As he fills out a bit more, that's something that can help him in NCAA hockey. "Especially on the breakout, I will come down the ice with speed. Usually, my center will pass the puck to an area for me to get to. I'll use my speed to get to the puck. I'll just push the defense back, using my speed and size," Vantassell said, with energy.

This prospect has a good wrist shot, and he's learning as you move up the ladder, goaltenders are harder to score on. "The biggest thing is the goaltenders in this league. Changing the angle of your shot is a big factor," Vantassell remarked.

Vantassell is an emerging talent. You would be drafting him for his ceiling. In the next year or two, I expect him to put it all together.

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<https://www.mediavillage.com/channel/tomorrow-will-be-televised>

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Links To Top Prospect Videos

Here are links to some of the best players of the '22 Draft in action.
Owen Beck https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aR-43I_qUw0
Logan Cooley <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OzmPf8IDylo>
Cutter Gauthier <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MyXamfXAZjA>
Conor Geekie <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9I5bwbaLMfk>
Isaac Howard <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tH3ZpSVFiUc>
David Jiricek <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yPTIMsXFVvA>
Joakim Kemell <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FoahpwbmQ-o>
Kevin Korchinski <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AS2L0kDkBAI>
Jonathan Lekkerimaki https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4_yNQO3xMII
Denton Mateychuk <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ejgvbR1DtiQ>
Pavel Mintyukov <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fgDxibDLMx8>
Matthew Savoie <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sxIPXXV1vpl>
Juraj Slafkovsky <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aiGRkSpuCZM>
Jimmy Snuggerud <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7kAa93VQRq4>
Shane Wright https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YbY-_jAOBoY

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DRAFTOLOGY GUIDES

We publish a series of guides such as this through the year as a partnership between Sportsology, The FDH Lounge, FantasyDrafthelp.com and other entities under the banner of The 21st Century Media Alliance. Fantasy Racing (mid-February), Fantasy Baseball (mid-March), NFL Draft (mid-April), NHL Entry Draft (mid-June), NBA Draft (mid-June), Fantasy Football (mid-July), Fantasy Hockey (mid-September), Fantasy Hoops (mid-October).

PIONEERS OF BASEBALL

A fascinating profile of the national pastime's overlooked history: the teams, the stars and the events that would shape a sport heading into the 20th century. Available at Amazon and other fine booksellers.

Black Draft Tracking Worksheet

- 1 Montreal
- 2 New Jersey
- 3 Arizona
- 4 Seattle
- 5 Philadelphia
- 6 Columbus
- 7 Ottawa
- 8 Detroit
- 9 Buffalo
- 10 Anaheim
- 11 San Jose
- 12 Columbus
- 13 New York Islanders
- 14 Winnipeg
- 15 Vancouver
- 16 Buffalo
- 17 Nashville
- 18 Dallas
- 19 Minnesota
- 20 Washington
- 21 Pittsburgh
- 22 Anaheim
- 23 St. Louis
- 24 Minnesota
- 25 Toronto
- 26 Montreal
- 27 Arizona
- 28 Buffalo
- 29 Edmonton
- 30 Winnipeg
- 31 Tampa Bay
- 32 Arizona

Sticks and Stones: How College Hockey Prepares You For Life
Available at Amazon.com

The 21st Century Media Alliance

What initially began as a small coalition of like-minded growing New Media organizations has flourished into a well-rounded creative juggernaut of more than two dozen entities that transcends the notion of traditional labeling. The 21st Century Media Alliance is an umbrella of cooperative companies and professionals that is pursuing many synergistic opportunities and projects. Possessed of varying yet often complementary skill sets, Alliance members are bound by their core principles of inventiveness, communication, pragmatism and dedication to their efforts and those of the larger group. In a great many creative areas, if you're looking to have a job performed the right way, chances are that you need look no further than The 21st Century Media Alliance.

Gleb Veremyev Is Trending Up Towards The 2022 NHL Draft

By Russ Cohen/Sportsology

Gleb Veremyev was a player that I'd seen before in this calendar year. I've been to Plymouth, Michigan a lot lately for various games and camps. He's improved a lot since the beginning of this season. This New Jersey-born left wing is a fun player to watch. "I live in Monroe Township in Central New Jersey. A lot of people say Central Jersey doesn't exist, but I think it goes from North Brunswick down to Bordertown," said Veremyev.

Playing hockey at an early age can give a player a huge advantage. "My dad got me on skates when I was two years old. For a big guy, it's hard to get speed going. When I move my feet consistently, I think it's hard for the other team to defend against me," Veremyev stated. "I'm always working on my feet to quickly get into areas."

This prospect practiced hard. At an All-Star game practice, he knew that scouts would be there and he wanted to give it his best knowing what's at stake in his draft year. "It's a huge honor. The best guys in the country are playing in this game," said Veremyev. "To be chosen as one of the best players is surreal. I wanted to make the most of the opportunity. I was ready for this a while back. But I was feeling that tonight."

In the 2022 BioSteel All-American Game, this prospect played second-line left wing. He had an assist in the game but at 6-4, he was physical. That's a combination that NHL teams are looking for. "It's an important part of my game. You have to use whatever God gave you to your advantage in the Western Conference in the USHL. You want to be a physical presence out there to break up plays," he reiterated. "If you're out there and blow a guy up, next time that creates more space for you. That's why I do it."

When I asked about Tyler Boucher and does he try to play that way, I got a very poignant reply. "Tyler is the same age as me. He's a very good player. I don't look up to people my own age," Veremyev admitted. "He's a special player, but someone that I try to model my game after is Jordan Greenway, a really good player who's played a good amount in the NHL. He's a guy who uses his size and strength to get to the net and shoot the puck."

At this size, with a reputation for being tough, does he sometimes get targeted? "I have tried to gain a reputation to not mess with me too much. I certainly have dropped the mitts a few times and roughed some people up. You do make a name for yourself when you hit a lot of guys and get in their faces. But that's not how you play in an All-Star game."

The best parts of his game are in great demand at the moment. "I think the edge I play with. Kind of like a Matthew or Brady Tkachuk. They are a-holes to play against. Just kind of in your face. You just don't want to be on the ice with them. I have to use my size. I have a big shot. Combining all of that and using that."

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FantasyDrafthelp.com

Did you stay away from players like Rasmus Ristolainen, Ivan Provorov and Philipp Grubauer, who would have tanked your team last year? You're welcome!

Did you end up with players who helped you succeed last year like Victor Hedman, Mitch Marner and Ilya Sorokin? You're welcome!
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THE PHILADELPHIA FLYERS (IMAGES OF SPORTS) – available through Barnes & Noble, Amazon & other fine sellers

Top 10 For The Next 10

The FDH Top 10 for the Next 10 is a list attempting to identify the best players in the league -- not necessarily in a pure fantasy sense -- over the course of the entire next decade. It's not a pure 25-and-under draft, but it skews heavily in that direction because most big-time stars are past their primes in their late 30s. Players who are both very young and very skilled already have the biggest edges.

- 1 Connor McDavid
- 2 Leon Draisaitl
- 3 Nathan MacKinnon
- 4 Cale Makar
- 5 Sebastian Aho
- 6 Adam Fox
- 7 Kirill Kaprizov
- 8 Auston Matthews
- 9 David Pastrnak
- 10 Mitch Marner

Next 5:
Aleksander Barkov
Kyle Connor
Mikko Rantanen
Jason Robertson
Matthew Tkachuk

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hoops,
hockey, pro
wrestling,
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nobody, but
nobody,
brings it
stronger!

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perspective

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2021-22 FDH All-Star Rosters By Division

	Atlantic	Metropolitan	Central	Pacific
LW	Jonathan Huberdeau Alex Ovechkin Brad Marchant Michael Bunting	Artemi Panarin Teuvo Teravainen Chris Kreider Jesper Bratt	Kirill Kaprizov Jason Robertson Kyle Connor Kevin Fiala	Johnny Gaudreau Matthew Tkachuk Andrew Mangiapane Adrian Kempe
C	Auston Matthews Mitch Marner Steven Stamkos Aleksander Barkov	Sebastian Aho Sidney Crosby Jake Guentzel Mika Zibanejad	Nathan MacKinnon Filip Forsberg Nazem Kadri Matt Duchene	Connor McDavid Leon Draisaitl Elias Lindholm JT Miller
RW	Nikita Kucherov David Pastrnak Victor Olafsson Kyle Okposo	Andrei Svechnikov Bryan Rust Patrik Laine Tom Wilson	Mikko Rantanen Patrick Kane Vladimir Tarasenko Alex DeBrincat	Timo Meier Conor Garland Evgenii Dadanov Clayton Keller
D	Victor Hedman Aaron Ekblad Charlie McAvoy Morgan Rielly MacKenzie Weegar Mikhail Sergachev	Adam Fox John Carlson Kris Letang Anthony DeAngelo Noah Dobson Jacob Trouba	Roman Josi Cole Makar Devon Toews Justin Faulk Torey Krug Jared Spurgeon	Quinn Hughes Brent Burns Shea Theodore Rasmus Andersson Noah Hanifan Cam Fowler
G	Andrei Vasilevskiy Sergei Bobrovsky	Igor Shersterkin Frederik Andersen	Darcy Kuempfer Jake Oettinger	Jacob Markstrom Jonathan Quick

Team Needs

Anaheim: RW, LW, G, D
Arizona: G, RW, LW, D
Boston: RW, D
Buffalo: G, LW, D, C
Calgary: G, RW
Carolina: LW
Chicago: G, LW, D, C
Colorado: G
Columbus: G, D, LW
Dallas: RW, D
Detroit: RW, D, C
Edmonton: LW, RW, D, G
Florida: RW, D
Los Angeles: D, RW, G, C
Minnesota: RW, C, D, G
Montreal: LW, D, G
Nashville: LW, RW
New Jersey: G, RW, D, LW
New York Islanders: RW, D, LW
New York Rangers: RW
Ottawa: D, G, RW
Philadelphia: D, C
Pittsburgh: LW, D, RW
San Jose: D, LW, D, RW
St. Louis: RW
Seattle: LW, G, D, RW
Tampa Bay: RW
Toronto: LW, D, RW
Vancouver: LW, D
Vegas: LW, G
Washington: RW, LW, G, D
Winnipeg: D, RW

Top Flyer Prospects

By Russ Cohen/Sportsology

Philadelphia needs a lot of help next year from their younger players, so I've identified a few who may be able to do that. Neither is a lock to make the big club, but they have a chance.

Noah Cates – I've liked him in the middle or on the wing. Since he's on the wing currently, and he likes it there, I'll assume that's where he will be next year. While he was doing a lot of winning at Minnesota-Duluth with his brother Jackson (and once again, his teammate), some other things stood out even from his USHL days with the Omaha Lancers.

I always feel that you should look at what a player is early in his career in order to be able to gauge how far he has come. In the USHL, I saw a goal-scoring touch, a terrific skater and a guy who could play center. At Minnesota-Duluth, he did anything to win. He played a shutdown role as well as an offensive role. The coaching and winning atmosphere that Scott Sandelin has created is amazing. Sandelin once played for the Flyers and could easily be an NHL coach, but he likes his job security and the perks of the job, so I don't think that he'll be on the Flyers coaching search list for very long. I'd put him on a preliminary list and talk to him. Why not? Cates has a great hockey I.Q. He's always around the puck, and his play away from the puck is as good as a lot of the veterans on the team. He fit in seamlessly for the Flyers and showed that nose for the net with his five goals. He's still a top-nine talent, but now I believe with some more experience that he could be a second-liner someday. He's a guy that you can count on for 5-on-5 scoring. If you give him power-play time, his points will increase. Let's see if the next coach puts him on at least the second power play.

Isaac Ratcliffe – The 6-6 left wing took a big step this year. He played better in the NHL as compared to Lehigh. Considering the mess that the Phantoms became, it's understandable. Mike Yeo bailed out on Ratcliffe this season, and he shouldn't have.

Taste our Tweets! <http://twitter.com/TheFDHLounge>

(Continued on Page 8)

The FDH Lounge Top 32 Players In The NHL

NOTE: These players are ranked based not merely on how they have produced this year, but also the past year or two. These are not fantasy rankings, but are based on overall play. Numbers in parentheses indicate where the players ranked on our 2021 rankings, with the ones who fell out of those rankings listed at the bottom. We normally separate players into separate tiers, but this year, they are all on the same tier.

- 1 Connor McDavid (1)
- 2 Johnny Gaudreau (NA)
- 3 Leon Draisaitl (4)
- 4 Nikita Kucherov (3)
- 5 Nathan MacKinnon (2)
- 6 Roman Josi (NA)
- 7 Cole Makar (16)
- 8 Auston Matthews (5)
- 9 Victor Hedman (13)
- 10 Kirill Kaprizov (32)
- 11 Jonathan Huberdeau (22)
- 12 Matthew Tkachuk (NA)
- 13 Steven Stamkos (18)
- 14 Aleksander Barkov (15)
- 15 Elias Lindholm (NA)
- 16 Mitch Marner (10)
- 17 David Pastrnak (6)
- 18 Igor Shesterkin (NA)
- 19 Mikko Rantanen (7)
- 20 Chris Kreider (NA)
- 21 Artemi Panarin (11)
- 22 Andrei Vasilevskiy (8)
- 23 JT Miller (NA)
- 24 Alex Ovechkin (23)
- 25 Sebastian Aho (12)
- 26 Adam Fox (28)
- 27 Filip Forsberg (NA)
- 28 Sidney Crosby (25)
- 29 Jason Robertson (NA)
- 30 Kyle Connor (31)
- 31 Jake Guentzel (NA)
- 32 Matt Duchene (NA)

- Brad Marchant (9)
Mark Stone (14)
Alex DeBrincat (17)
Patrick Kane (19)
Doug Hamilton (20)
Shea Theodore (21)
Ryan O'Reilly (24)
Patrice Bergeron (26)
Max Pacioretty (27)
Nikolaj Ehlers (29)
Mark Scheifele (30)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division
X-Carolina 112
Y-Toronto 108
Y-Tampa Bay 105
Y-Boston 94
Detroit 88
Ottawa 78
Montreal 75
Buffalo 70

Metropolitan Division

X-Carolina 109
Y-New York Rangers 104
Y-Washington 96
Y-Pittsburgh 82
New York Islanders 87
Columbus 85
Philadelphia 78
New Jersey 76

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division
X-Colorado 115
Y-Minnesota 107
Y-St. Louis 99
Y-Dallas 97
Y-Winnipeg 95
Nashville 94
Chicago 76
Arizona 64

Pacific Division
X-Calgary 120
Y-Edmonton 108
Y-Vancouver 93
Vegas 91
Los Angeles 88
San Jose 75
Anaheim 74
Seattle 70

CONFERENCE

QUARTERFINALS
Florida over Boston in 5
Toronto over Tampa Bay in 7
Carolina over Pittsburgh in 5
New York Rangers over Washington in 6
Colorado over Dallas in 5
Minnesota over St. Louis in 6
Calgary over Winnipeg in 6
Edmonton over Vancouver in 6
CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
Toronto over Florida in 7
Carolina over New York Rangers in 6
Colorado over Minnesota in 7
Calgary over Edmonton in 7
CONFERENCE FINALS
Carolina over Toronto in 6
Colorado over Calgary in 7
STANLEY CUP FINAL
Carolina over Colorado in 7

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2022 NHL Free Agency Preview

By Rick Morris/The FDH Lounge

There's a wealth of huge names available in free agency this summer (centers Evgeni Malkin, Claude Giroux, Ryan Getzlaf and Ryan Keslar, left wing David Perron, right wings Alexander Radulov and Phillip Kessel, defensemen Kris Letang and PK Subban and goalie Marc-Andre Fleury), but few squarely in their prime. The ones that are, though, are going to be highly sought-after.

LW Johnny Gaudreau and C Filip Forsberg sure picked the best times of their lives to have huge comeback seasons and are now regarded as legitimate franchise players. C Nazem Kadri, although older than those two, similarly had a big breakthrough and should be in position to mop up money from the suitors who lose out on them. LW Andre Burakovsky, C Vincent Trocheck, RW Valeri Nichushkin and G Darcy Kuemper join him on that second tier of targets.

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FantasyDrafthelp.com Ultimate Hockey Stat For 2021-22

This is the FantasyDrafthelp.com statistic, the Ultimate Quantitative Baseline, based on the statistical principle of standard deviation from the mean. For defensemen and forwards, the relevant statistics are points, goals, assists, penalty minutes and plus-minus. For goalies, the relevant statistics are wins, shutouts, goals against average and save percentage (with the categories being weighted extra since there is one less). In each category, a spectrum is calculated from the best performance to the worst (on a per-game basis for forwards and defensemen). The numbers in each category are added together to create our statistic. An additional equalizer is injected to apply more points to each player at the positions of scarcer depth. What this stat truly does is to quantify beyond doubt how the stronger and weaker performances in each category add up to the absolute fantasy value for each player. As such, it establishes a baseline for performance that is more comprehensive than anything ever developed. A number over 300 is considered elite and 375 constitutes a perfect score. We have listed below the top rankings at each position for last season as well as the Top 35 overall.

Defensemen		Goalies	UQB	Forwards		Top 35 Overall	
1T	Cale Makar	1T	Sergei Bobrovsky	375	1T	Connor McDavid	375
1T	Aaron Ekblad	1T	Andrei Vasilevskiy	375	1T	Johnny Gaudreau	375
1T	Devon Toews	1T	Juuse Saros	375	1T	Jonathan Huberdeau	375
4	Victor Hedman	1T	Jacob Markstrom	375	1T	Leon Draisaitl	375
5	Adam Fox	1T	Frederik Andersen	375	1T	Kirill Kaprizov	375
6	MacKenzie Weegar	6	Darcy Kuemper	373	1T	Auston Matthews	375
7	Anthony DeAngelo	7	Tristan Jarry	295	1T	Matthew Tkachuk	375
8	Quinn Hughes	8	Calvin Petersen	258	1T	Mitch Marner	375
9	Jacob Trouba	9	Jack Campbell	244	1T	Artemi Panarin	375
10	Kris Letang	10	Thatcher Demko	220	1T	Alex Ovechkin	375
11	John Carlson	11	Petr Mrazek	210	1T	Aleksander Barkov	375
12	Charlie McAvoy	12	Ilya Samsonov	209	1T	Nathan MacKinnon	375
13	Justin Faulk	13	Cam Talbot	204	1T	Brad Marchand	375
14	Morgan Rielly	14	Jake Oettinger	146	1T	Nikita Kucherov	375
15	Gustav Forsling	15	Connor Hellebuyck	127	1T	Brady Tkachuk	375

2021-22 Team UQB Rankings

FantasyDrafthelp.com and The FDH Lounge are expanding the UQB concept to team sports. Our rankings are a mashup of the following measures: FDH power rankings, power play percentage, penalty kill percentage, Fenwick For, Fenwick Against, shooting percentage, save percentage, ESG percentage and ESGA percentage.

TOP TIER	FIFTH TIER
1 Florida	17 Dallas
2 Carolina	18 Vegas
3 Calgary	19 Los Angeles
SECOND TIER	20 Anaheim
4 Colorado	21 Winnipeg
5 Toronto	SIXTH TIER
6 Tampa Bay	22 Ottawa
7 St. Louis	23 Columbus
8 NY Rangers	24 San Jose
9 Pittsburgh	25 New Jersey
10 Edmonton	26 Buffalo
11T Minnesota	SEVENTH TIER
11T Boston	27 Chicago
THIRD TIER	28 Seattle
13 Nashville	EIGHTH TIER
FOURTH TIER	29 Detroit
14 Washington	30 Arizona
15 NY Islanders	31 Montreal
16 Vancouver	32 Philadelphia

Top Flyer Prospects

(Continued from Page 6)

In Guelph, he was a big-time scorer. That wasn't going to fully translate. think that the Flyers knew that as well. With bigger power forwards, the have more moving parts in their game. It takes them a bit longer than some other prospects, but generally speaking, it's worth the wait. Ratcliffe is a bottom-six guy for sure. Now healthy, his goal-scoring came through in Lehigh as he got 11 this year, and he added one with three helpers with the Flyers. That's great. That's a real improvement. Ratcliffe should have gotten more than 10 NHL games this year. But at least he got that much. Ratcliffe has improved on his speed and his wrist shot is still wicked but needs some space to work. In the end, winning battles in the crease is what worked for him in junior hockey and that's starting to show up this year. If he is to make the squad next year, it would likely be in a fourth-line role. We will see what the next coach thinks.

FantasyDrafthelp.com/hockey

1T	Connor McDavid	1T	Connor McDavid	375
1T	Johnny Gaudreau	1T	Johnny Gaudreau	375
1T	Jonathan Huberdeau	1T	Jonathan Huberdeau	375
1T	Leon Draisaitl	1T	Leon Draisaitl	375
1T	Kirill Kaprizov	1T	Kirill Kaprizov	375
1T	Auston Matthews	1T	Auston Matthews	375
1T	Matthew Tkachuk	1T	Matthew Tkachuk	375
1T	Mitch Marner	1T	Mitch Marner	375
1T	Artemi Panarin	1T	Artemi Panarin	375
1T	Alex Ovechkin	1T	Alex Ovechkin	375
1T	Aleksander Barkov	1T	Aleksander Barkov	375
1T	Nathan MacKinnon	1T	Nathan MacKinnon	375
1T	Brad Marchand	1T	Brad Marchand	375
1T	Nikita Kucherov	1T	Nikita Kucherov	375
1T	Brady Tkachuk	1T	Brady Tkachuk	375
1T	Gabriel Landeskog	1T	Gabriel Landeskog	375
1T	Evander Kane	1T	Evander Kane	375
18	Steven Stamkos	1T	Sergei Bobrovsky	375
19	Nazem Kadri	1T	Andrei Vasilevskiy	375
20	Filip Forsberg	1T	Juuse Saros	375
21	Mikko Rantanen	1T	Jacob Markstrom	375
22	Pierre-Luc Dubois	1T	Frederik Andersen	375
23	Marcus Foligno	1T	Cale Makar	375
24	Ryan Hartman	1T	Aaron Ekblad	375
25	Elias Lindholm	1T	Devon Toews	375
		26	Darcy Kuemper	373
		27	Tristan Jarry	295
		28	Roman Josi	279
		29	J.T. Miller	270
		30	Calvin Petersen	258
		31	Chris Kreider	254
		32	Jack Campbell	244
		33	Mason Marchment	238
		34	Sidney Crosby	235
		35	Adam Fox	232

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