



# CAROLINA HURRICANES

## Metropolitan Division

Preseason Power Ranking

11



x1



x2

EASTERN CONF



x0

PRESIDENTS'

1519  
FRANCHISE WINS

52-23-7  
111 Points  
2023-24 SEASON

2nd  
DIVISION

Raleigh, NC - Lenovo Center (18,700)  
Head Coach: Rod Brind'Amour (278-130-44, 7th Season)

2023-24: Lost in 2nd Round

## All Eyes on the Cup in New York

Since their surprising run to the Eastern Conference Finals in 2019, the Hurricanes have been one of the top teams in the NHL. Head coach Rod Brind'Amour plays an oppressive man-on-man defense that helps Carolina limit scoring opportunities and constantly pressure the puck. The team has the offensive players to make opponents pay for their mistakes on the counter-attack. Despite the strengths of the team, Carolina has come up just short in the postseason, reaching two conference finals since 2019 but being swept in both. Their latest playoff exit sent the franchise into an offseason of turnover.

### Forwards

10 of the 19 players that played in Carolina's final game of the 2024 season were free agents this offseason. 6 of those players moved on, including top forwards Jake Guentzel and Teuvo Teravainen. But the Canes were able to keep perhaps the most important player of that group, **Seth Jarvis**, who broke out with 33 goals and 34 assists last season at age 22. He will play on the top line alongside **Sebastian Aho** and **Andrei Svechnikov**. Aho is the team's most dynamic offensive player, leading the team with 36 goals and 53 assists. Already in the top five in franchise history for many stats and under contract through the '31-32 season, Aho could very well go down as the greatest offensive player in Carolina's history. Svechnikov has struggled with injuries for much of his career, but when healthy he has produced at a high level, with nearly a point per game played in each of the last three seasons. The second line is led by **Martin Necas**, who has found his scoring touch with a combined 52 goals in the last two seasons after a bit of a slow start to his career. Carolina will need the other two members of the second line, **Jesper Kotkaniemi** and **Jack Drury**, to step up in order to replace some of the offensive production lost to free agency. Kotkaniemi has been disappointing since the Canes signed him to an 8-year contract as a free agent from Montreal. He had just 27 points last year, the lowest full season total of his career, and was playing on the fourth line by the end of the season. Drury enters his 3rd NHL season as a breakout candidate and will be relied on for a much bigger role than in the past.

The Hurricanes' third line is built to shut down other team's best players. Captain **Jordan Staal** leads the line and has long been a premier defensive forward who is capable of putting the puck in the net as well. **Jordan Martinook** plays in the same vein and is a pest to face. Winger **Jack Roslovic** joins the team from the Rangers and is capable of putting up a 30-40 point season. The Canes also signed **William Carrier**, a former Stanley Cup champion who will bring toughness to the fourth line.

### Defense/Goaltending

Carolina's defense looks different this year after the departures of three defensemen, but the top pair of **Jacob Slavin** and **Brent Burns** remains. Slavin is a shutdown D-man who will jump into the offense at times. Burns will turn 40 during the upcoming season, but is still a productive player (43 points last season) who sets up offense through the power play. Veteran **Dmitry Orlov** is a big hitter and **Jalen Chatfield** will take on a bigger role this year in his 3rd full NHL season. **Shayne Gostisbehere** struggles on the defensive end at times (opposing teams had a +16 goal differential with him on the ice last year), but he may turn out to be a sneaky good pickup for Carolina following a 56-point season last year.

The Hurricanes' goaltending has been a factor in them not seeing more playoff success, with the team starting six different goaltenders in the postseason in the past 5 years. Starter **Frederik Andersen** plays well when healthy, but he has been injury prone in the past and he played only 16 games during '23-24. Andersen was healthy for the postseason, but he had an ugly .895 save percentage. **Pyotr Kochetkov** might be one of the top backup goaltenders in the NHL and certainly could take over as the starter if Andersen struggles or is injured. His 2.33 GAA last year was second in the NHL among qualifying goalies.

### The Bottom Line

Carolina has to be wondering what they have to do to finally get to a Stanley Cup Final following six years of regular season success that largely hasn't translated into deep playoff runs. Many analytic models love the Canes thanks to their defense that allows them to control the puck and limit shot attempts by opposing teams. After a couple of postseasons where the offense came up short, Carolina went out at the trade deadline last year and brought in Jake Guentzel and Evgeny Kuznetsov, both dynamic offensive players and former Stanley Cup champions, and even that wasn't enough. Now after an offseason that saw six crucial players depart the organization, the fanbase is left with more questions than ever. Carolina will be relying on young players like Drury and Jarvis to continue to take the next steps in their development and replace the production of Guentzel and Teravainen on the top two lines. The Canes will still be a playoff team thanks to the remaining offensive talent, solid goaltending, and Brind'Amour's suffocating defensive system.

### Sebastian Aho



Photo via AP News

2024-25 Projection: 45-30-7 (97 points) - 3rd in Metro



# CAROLINA HURRICANES

## Brent Burns



Photo via New York Times

## HURRICANES 5-YEAR POINT TREND

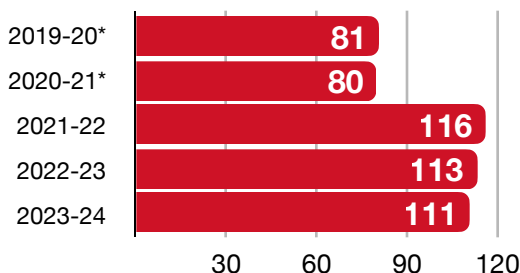


Photo via Front Office Sports

## 2024-25 Schedule

### October 2024

				TB 11 7:00	TB 12 7:00
	NJ 15 7:00			PIT 18 7:00	STL 19 7:00
	EDM 22 9:00		CGY 24 9:00		SEA 26 10:00
	VAN 28 10:00		BOS 31 7:00		

### November 2024

WSH 3 5:00		PHI 5 7:00		PIT 7 7:00	COL 9 9:00
	VGK 11 10:00		UTA 13 9:00		OTT 16 7:00
STL 17 5:00		PHI 20 7:30	NJ 21 7:00		CBJ 23 7:00
	DAL 25 7:00	NYR 27 7:00		FLA 29 3:00	FLA 30 4:00

### December 2024

		SEA 3 7:00		COL 5 7:00	NYI 7 5:00
		SJ 10 7:00		OTT 13 7:00	
CBJ 15 5:00		NYI 17 7:30		WSH 20 7:00	
NYR 22 12:30	NSH 23 8:00			NJ 27 7:00	NJ 28 7:00
		CBJ 31 8:00			

### January 2025

				FLA 2 7:00	MIN 4 7:00
PIT 5 6:00				TOR 9 7:30	VAN 10 7:00
ANA 12 5:00			BUF 15 6:00		VGK 17 7:00
	CHI 20 8:30	DAL 21 8:00		CBJ 23 7:00	NYI 25 7:30
		NYR 28 7:00		CHI 30 7:00	

### February 2025

					LA 1 7:00
		WPG 4 8:00		MIN 6 7:30	UTA 8 1:00
2025 NHL 4 Nations Face-Off					
2025 NHL 4 Nations Face-Off					TOR 22 7:00
		MTL 25 7:00		BUF 27 7:00	

### March 2025

					EDM 1 7:00
CGY 2 5:00		DET 4 7:00		BOS 6 7:00	
WPG 9 5:00		TB 11 7:00		DET 14 7:00	PHI 15 7:00
			SJ 20 10:30		LA 22 4:00
ANA 23 8:00		NSH 25 7:30		MTL 28 7:00	

### March/April 2025

NYI 5:00			WSH 2 7:00		DET 4 7:00	BOS 5 7:00
		BUF 8 7:00		WSH 10 7:30		NYR 12 3:00
TOR 13 5:00			MTL 16 7:00	OTT 17 7:00		

HOME

AWAY

## Projected CAR Lineup

### Forwards

	Left Wing	Center	Right Wing
Line 1	37 Andrei Svechnikov	20 Sebastian Aho	24 Seth Jarvis
Line 2	82 Jasper Kotkaniemi	18 Jack Drury	88 Martin Necas
Line 3	48 Jordan Martinook	11 Jordan Staal	96 Jack Roslovic
Line 4	28 William Carrier	27 Tyson Jost	50 Eric Robinson

### Defense

Line 1	74 Jaccob Slavin	8 Brent Burns
Line 2	7 Dmitry Orlov	5 Jalen Chatfield
Line 3	4 Shayne Gostisbehere	26 Sean Walker

### Goaltenders

Starter	31 Frederik Andersen
Backup	52 Pyotr Kochetkov

## 2023-24 NHL Ranks

POINTS - 111 (2nd)  
 GF - 277 (8th)  
 GA - 211 (4th)  
 PP% - 26.91 (2nd)  
 PK% - 86.43 (1st)  
 SV% - .900 (13th)

## PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

### ANDREI SVECHNIKOV - LW



#### 2023-24 Statistics

GP	G	A	PTS	+/-
59	19	33	52	+13

With the offensive depth that Carolina lost in free agency, they will need some players to step up and fill the void. Svechnikov already plays on the top line, but could potentially get to a higher level of play. The 2nd overall pick in the 2018 draft has averaged nearly a point per game in each of the last 5 seasons, but injuries have limited his impact at times. His talent is undeniable and he is still just 24. A healthy season could see him become a top goal scorer.

## 25.6 < Number to Know

Carolina's defense is a major factor in their success. They allowed an average of 25.6 shots per game during '23-24, by far the fewest in the NHL.