



Western Hockey League (WHL) | Ontario Hockey League (OHL) | Quebec Maritimes Junior Hockey League (QMJHL)

International - Player Profiles

2026



**WORLD JUNIOR
CHAMPIONSHIP**
UNITED STATES
Minnesota





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Quick Facts about 2026 WJHC and the CHL

- Of the 79 past and present CHL players competing at the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship, this year's total matches the CHL's all-time record first set in 2013 and leads all development leagues worldwide.
- Of those 79, 65 are active CHL players (currently in the WHL/OHL/QMJHL) – the most since 2013, when a record 72 current CHL players competed, and up from 63 active CHL players at both the 2024 and 2025 World Juniors.
- Czechia features a record 17 CHL players on its 2026 World Juniors roster, eclipsing the previous Czechia high of 16 set at the 2007 tournament – a total driven in part by a record 11 WHL players on Team Czechia.
- Germany's seven active CHL players are its most at the World Juniors since 2011 (8) and represent the program's second-highest total in tournament history, with a record four WHL players on Team Germany helping drive that representation.
- Finland has six CHL players, marking the second-highest CHL representation in Finnish World Juniors history (after a record seven in 2025, when Finland won silver; Finland has also iced six CHL players once before at the 2017 tournament).
- Latvia's five active CHL players are one shy of its record six, set at the 2024 World Juniors.
- Slovakia's eight CHL players mark the program's second-highest total of the past 15 years, trailing only the nine CHL players it iced in 2011, 2012, and 2024.
- In total, 45 CHL clubs are represented by past and present CHL players across nine of the 10 participating countries at the 2026 World Juniors.
- The Brantford Bulldogs (OHL) lead all CHL clubs with five players at the 2026 World Juniors: Dravecký, Jiříček, and Benák (Czechia), plus Luchanko and Danford (Canada). They're followed by the Brampton Steelheads (OHL), Barrie Colts (OHL), Everett Silvertips (WHL), Kelowna Rockets (WHL), and Saskatoon Blades (WHL), who each have three past or present players competing.
- Twenty of the 79 CHL players are NHL first-round picks, including Ravensbergen, Aitcheson, Reid, Bear, Cootes, Desnoyers, Martin, Martone, Misa, Mrtka, and Reschny – all part of the near-record 21 CHL players selected in the first round of the 2025 NHL Draft.
- Eight CHL players in the 2026 World Juniors field have won a Memorial Cup and/or a WHL/OHL/QMJHL league championship: Cootes, Desnoyers, Iginla, Parekh, McKenna, Misa, O'Reilly, and Väisänen – including Memorial Cup champions Michael Misa (2024), Zayne Parekh (2024), and Sam O'Reilly (2025).
- Ten first-year NHL Draft-eligible CHL players will compete at the 2026 World Juniors, including OHL defenceman Chase Reid (Sault Ste. Marie), OHL forward Adam Novotny (Peterborough), and WHL defenceman Carson Carels (Prince George) – all of whom recently represented Team CHL at the 2025 CHL USA Prospects Challenge in Calgary and Lethbridge.
- At just 16 years old at the start of the tournament, Slovak defenceman Filip Kovalčík (Drummondville Voltigeurs / QMJHL) is the lone 2027 NHL Draft-eligible skater from the CHL set to compete at the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship.

CHL Representation on NHL Central Scouting's 2025 Preliminary Players to Watch List

- The CHL led all development leagues worldwide with 232 North American players (73.4%) named to the 2025 list – up from 155 (57.0%) in 2024.



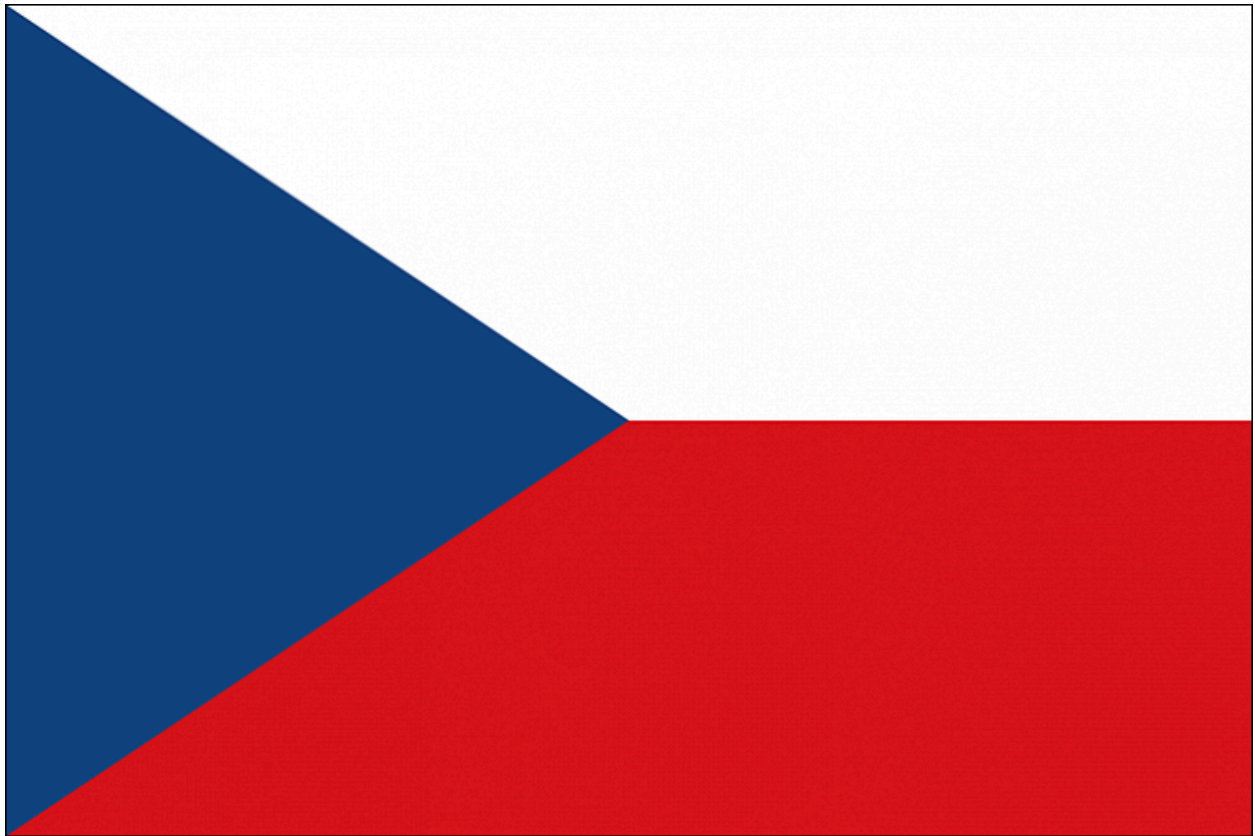
- This represents a 49.6% year-over-year increase (+77 players) and a 16-point rise in overall representation.
- All three CHL Member Leagues saw double-digit gains:
 - **OHL**: 91 players (+29 / +46.8% vs. 2024)
 - **WHL**: 86 players (+31 / +56.4% vs. 2024)
 - **QMJHL**: 55 players (+17 / +44.7% vs. 2024)
- The 232 CHL players named mark the highest total in at least 12 years – and likely in league history – surpassing previous highs of 162 (2016) and 161 (2023).
- Each league also set or matched modern-era records for representation:
 - **OHL**: 91 players (*previous high: 76 in 2016*)
 - **WHL**: 86 players (*previous high: 63 in 2023*)
 - **QMJHL**: 55 players (*previous high: 38 in 2024*)
- Collectively, 2025 stands as the strongest year on record for CHL representation on NHL Central Scouting's preliminary rankings.

CHL to the NHL: Draft Success and Alumni Impact

- The CHL's dominance on NHL Draft day continues to stand unmatched among global development leagues.
- Following Matthew Schaefer's first-overall selection in 2025, a total of 42 CHL players have been chosen No. 1 overall in the 57 NHL Drafts since 1969 – accounting for nearly 75% of all top picks in that span.
- The CHL has produced at least 10 first-round selections in every NHL Draft since 1969, marking an unbroken streak of 56 consecutive years.
- In NHL Draft history, a single league has generated 20 or more first-rounders nine times – all belonging to the CHL, including 21 first-round picks in 2025.
- Since 1969, 6,117 CHL players have been drafted into the NHL, representing approximately 47% of all drafted players in that period.
- During the 2024–25 NHL season, more than 415 players who appeared in at least one NHL game developed in the WHL, OHL, or QMJHL.
- As the NHL opened its 2025–26 season, a total of 402 Canadian Hockey League (CHL) alumni – spanning the WHL, OHL, and QMJHL – were featured on NHL Opening Night rosters, accounting for nearly 50% of all players in the league.
- Entering the 2025–26 NHL season, 18 CHL alumni wore the captain's "C" for their respective NHL clubs.
- 22 of the NHL's 32 head coaches either played or coached in the CHL, reinforcing the league's role as a breeding ground for future hockey leaders.
- More than 200 CHL alumni currently serve in coaching, hockey operations, or support roles across the NHL – with at least one graduate on every team.
- That total represents the largest single source of NHL talent in the world, underscoring the CHL's enduring position as the premier pathway to the NHL.



CZECHIA

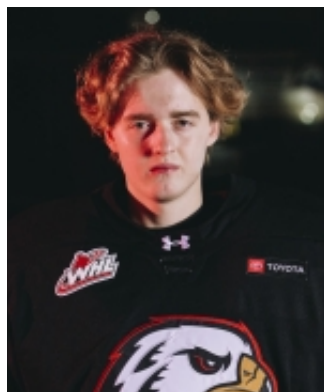


**Orsulak, Michal** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Goaltender**Catches:** R**Height:** 6-foot-4**Weight:** 220 pounds**WHL Club:** Prince Albert Raiders**Hometown:** Tremosna, CZE**Birthdate:** Aug. 26, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 46th Overall, 1st Round (2025) – PA**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	RECORD	GAA	SV%	GA	SO
2025-26 RS	16	10-3-3-0	2.34	.908	36	2
TOTAL RS	16	10-3-3-0	2.34	.908	36	2

Media Notes:

- Orsulák is one of two Prince Albert Raiders selected to represent Czechia at the tournament, joining Raiders defenceman Matyáš Mán on the roster.
- As of Dec. 22, heading into the holiday break, Orsulak ranks second among qualified WHL goaltenders with a 2.34 GAA and is tied for first with two shutouts.
- Orsulak was named the [Mary Brown's Chicken WHL Goaltender of the Week](#) for the week ending Sunday, November 9, 2025.
- Orsulak earned a 'C' rating from NHL Central Scouting on its Preliminary Players to Watch List released in October, projecting him as a potential fourth- or fifth-round pick in the 2026 NHL Draft.
- Made his first career start on September 19 in a 4-2 victory over the Saskatoon Blades, making 29 saves on 31 shots in the win.
- Orsulak signed a WHL Scholarship and Development Agreement with the Prince Albert Raiders on July 30, 2025.
- Orsulak was the first-round pick for the Raiders during the 2025 CHL Import Draft, where the Raiders selected him 46th overall.
- In 2024-25, Orsulak suited up for HC Energie Karlovy Vary U20 in the Czechia U20 League, appearing in 34 games and posting a 3.23 goals-against average and a .902 save percentage.
 - Despite appearing in fewer games than any of the four goaltenders ahead of him, he still faced the league's fifth-most shots and recorded two shutouts.
- Won silver with Czechia at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, starting one game where he stopped 19 of 22 shots in a 7-3 win over Germany.
- Represented Czechia at the 2023 U17 World Challenge.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: 0 SO goals allowed on 0 career attempts – 0/0 (N/A)
 - 2025-26: 0 SO goals allowed on 0 attempts (N/A)
 - 0-0 career W-L record in a shootout

**Štěbeták, Ondrej** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Goaltender**Catches:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-1**Weight:** 165 pounds**WHL Club:** Portland Winterhawks**Hometown:** Jihlava, CZE**Birthdate:** July 19, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 57th Overall, 1st Round (2024) - POR**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	RECORD	GAA	SV%	GA	SO
2025-25 RS	23	13-19-0-0	3.51	.892	79	0
2025 PO	18	8-5-4-0	4.21	.887	74	0
2024-25 RS	47	23-18-2-1	3.72	.891	155	0
TOTAL	70	36-28-2-1	3.65	.891	234	0

Media Notes:

- Štěbeták joins Winterhawks teammate Max Pšenička on Czechia's World Juniors roster, becoming the second and third Portland players to represent Czechia at the tournament after Florida Panthers prospect Marek Alscher (bronze, 2024)
 - In total, 41 Portland Winterhawks have suited up for their home country at the World Juniors.
- In 23 games during the 2025-26 season for the Winterhawks, Štěbeták holds a 3.51 GAA, a 0.892 SV%, and a 13-10-0-0 record.
 - As of Dec. 22, heading into the holiday break, Štěbeták's 13 wins are tied for fourth in the WHL, while he ranks third league-wide in minutes played (1,349), shots faced (734), and saves (655).
 - He also sits tied for first in the WHL with two shutouts (tied for second across the CHL) and owns a .929 shootout save percentage, fourth among WHL goaltenders.
 - Štěbeták earned a 'C' rating from NHL Central Scouting on its Preliminary Players to Watch List released in October, projecting him as a potential fourth- or fifth-round pick in the 2026 NHL Draft.
- In the 2025 WHL Playoffs, Štěbeták elevated his game as the No. 5 seed Winterhawks reached the Western Conference Final, backstopping two road Game 7 wins with 33 saves on 35 shots vs. Prince George and 40-of-42 at Everett.
- As a 17-year-old rookie in 2024-25, Štěbeták seized Portland's starting role and handled a heavy workload behind a young group
 - Faced 39+ shots 14 times while opening his WHL career with two wins and 68 saves on 73 shots.
 - He finished the season ranked eighth among WHL goaltenders in both shots faced (1,418) and saves (1,263).



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- He ranked second in the WHL and CHL with four shootout wins in 2024-25, while his .889 shootout save percentage ranked fourth among WHL goaltenders.
 - NHL Central Scouting rated him the No. 8 North American goalie on its final rankings ahead of the 2025 NHL Draft.
 - Signed a WHL Scholarship & Development Agreement on August 16, 2024, ahead of the 2024-25 season.
 - Stebetak was selected by Portland with the 57th overall pick of the first round in the 2024 CHL Import Draft.
 - Represented Czechia at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, helping the team capture silver while ranking second among goaltenders with at least two starts thanks to a .947 save percentage and 1.27 GAA; he was also named Czechia's Player of the Game twice during the tournament.
 - Stebetak spent the 2023-24 campaign with HC Dukla Jihlava U17 in Czechia, earning 13 wins with a 3.20 GAA and .903 save percentage plus a three-game look in the U20 league.
 - Represented Czechia at the 2023 U17 World Challenge, registered a 2.99 GAA and .892 save percentage over seven games played.
 - **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: 2 SO goals allowed on 23 career attempts – 21/23 (0.913 SV%)
 - 2025-26: 1 SO goal allowed on 14 attempts (0.929 SV%)
 - 2024-25: 1 SO goal allowed on 9 attempts (0.889 SV%)
 - 6-1 career W-L record in a shootout

**Dravecký, Vladimír** – [OHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Defence**Shoots:** Right**Height:** 6-foot**Weight:** 189 pounds**OHL Club:** Brantford Bulldogs**Hometown:** Trinec, CZE**Birthdate:** Dec.19, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 50th Overall, 1st Round (2025) - BFD**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	28	5	13	18	+17	39
TOTAL RS	28	5	13	18	+17	39

Media Notes:

- Vladimír Dravecký will skate in his first IIHF World Junior Championship at the 2026 tournament, joining fellow Bulldogs Adam Benák and Adam Jiříček on Czechia's roster.
 - Dravecký and Benák will become the fifth and sixth Bulldogs players to represent Czechia at the World Juniors, following Jan Jeník, Jan Myšák (Czech captain in 2021 & 2022), Tomáš Hamara, and Adam Jiříček.
 - Brantford will be represented by a CHL-high five players at the 2026 World Juniors, with forward Jett Luchanko and defenceman Ben Danford set to compete for Canada. The five teammates will face each other when Czechia opens the tournament against Canada on Dec. 26 at 7:30 p.m. CT.
- In his OHL rookie season in 2025-26, Dravecký has recorded 18 points (5G-13A) in 28 games, along with a +17 rating.
 - On Dec. 9, Dravecký was named one of 40 players selected for the 2026 Connor McDavid OHL Top Prospects Game presented by Enbridge Gas, set for Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2026, at the Peterborough Memorial Centre.
 - Dravecký earned a 'B' rating from NHL Central Scouting on its Preliminary Players to Watch List released in October, projecting him as a potential second- or third-round pick in the 2026 NHL Draft.
 - Dravecký scored his first career OHL goal on September 20, 2025, in a 5-1 win over the Peterborough Petes.
 - Made his OHL debut on September 19, 2025, in a 4-3 overtime loss to the Kitchener Rangers.
- Selected by Brantford in the first round (50th overall) of the 2025 CHL Import Draft, Dravecký arrived in the OHL with pro experience already on his résumé after time with HC Košice (Slovakia) and Rögle BK (Sweden).
- Having played at elite levels in four countries – Czechia, Slovakia, Sweden, and Canada – Dravecký brings a unique development path, including experience against older competition in pro environments.



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- Born in Manchester, New Hampshire, Dravecký grew up in Košice, Slovakia and Třinec, Czechia, starring with Oceláři Třinec's U17 program as a 15-year-old before returning to Košice for the 2023-24 season.
 - In 2024-25 with Rögle, Dravecky played across J18, J20, and pro environments, registering 16 points in 37 J20 games and adding 13 points in nine J18 games (season + playoffs).
 - In 2023-24, he produced at multiple levels, including six points in three games at the U20 level with Košice and a late-season stint in the Slovak Extraliga (16 games) with HC Košice.
 - Internationally, he joined Benák and Jiříček for Czechia at the 2025 U20 Five Nations Tournament this past summer as part of the lead-up to the 2026 World Juniors.
 - Dravecký and Benák bring proven big-game experience to the World Juniors after helping Czechia win silver at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, where Dravecký posted three assists in five games (0G-3A), and the duo also suited up together again for Czechia at the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship.
 - Dravecký comes from a strong hockey lineage: his father, Vladimír Dravecký Sr., continues to play professionally (HC Oceláři Třinec in Czechia) and has competed internationally across North America and Europe, including stints in the AHL, KHL, Liiga, Czech Extraliga, and Switzerland's NLB.
 - **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - OHL Career: N/A – Dravecký has not had a shootout attempt in his OHL career.
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Fibigr, Jakub** – [OHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Defence**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot**Weight:** 171 pounds**OHL Club:** Brampton Steelheads**Hometown:** Unicov, CZE**Birthdate:** July 22, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 16th Overall, 1st Round (2023) - MISS**NHL Draft:** 202nd Overall, 7th Round (2024) - SEA**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	27	8	16	24	+13	99
2025 PO	6	0	2	2	-2	14
2024-25 RS	58	3	30	33	+7	126
2024 PO	5	0	4	4	+2	6
2023-24 RS	61	7	36	43	+13	120
TOTAL RS	146	18	82	100	+33	345

Media Notes:

- As of Dec. 22, Fibigr is tied for 11th among OHL defencemen with 24 points (8G-16A) in 24 games, while also sitting tied for the Steelheads' team lead in scoring – making him one of just two OHL defencemen to lead their club in scoring in 2025-26.
- Named to Brampton's leadership group as an assistant captain ahead of the 2025-26 season.
- Posted 33 points (3G-30A) in 58 games in 2024-25, ranking second among Steelheads defencemen in scoring.
- Helped Czechia win bronze at the 2025 IIHF World Junior Championship, recording five assists in seven games; a Czech roster featuring 12 CHL players defeated Sweden 3–2 in the bronze-medal game to secure the country's third straight World Juniors medal – a first in Czech history.
- Taken in the seventh round (202nd overall) of the 2024 NHL Draft by the Seattle Kraken.
- Voted to the OHL Second All-Rookie Team in 2023-24 after producing 43 points (7G-36A) in 61 games, leading all OHL rookie defencemen in scoring.
- In 2023-24, led OHL rookie defencemen in points (43), assists (36), power-play assists (11), and points-per-game (0.70).
- Selected by Mississauga in the first round (16th overall) of the 2023 CHL Import Draft.
- In addition to the 2025 World Juniors, his international résumé includes appearances for Czechia at the 2024 IIHF U18 World Championship, 2023 Hlinka Gretzky Cup (silver), and 2022 World U17 Hockey Challenge.
- Developed in the Vítkovice system prior to arriving in the OHL.
- CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - OHL Career: N/A – Fibigr has not had a shootout attempt in his OHL career



- 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)
- 2024-25: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)
- 2023-24: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Jiříček, Adam** – [OHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Defence**Shoots:** Right**Height:** 6-foot-3**Weight:** 185 pounds**WHL Club:** Brantford Bulldogs**Hometown:** Plzen, CZE**Birthdate:** June 28, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 19th Overall, 1st Round (2023) - BFD**NHL Draft:** 16th Overall, 1st Round (2024) - STL**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	25	10	19	29	+17	68
2025 PO	9	1	1	2	+2	20
2024-25 RS	27	4	8	12	+10	48
TOTAL RS	52	14	27	41	+27	116

Media Notes:

- Jiříček will skate in his third IIHF World Junior Championship at the 2026 tournament after helping Czechia win bronze in each of the last two years, including in 2025 when he recorded five assists in seven games and a Czech roster featuring 12 CHL players edged Sweden 3–2 in the bronze-medal game to secure the country's third straight World Juniors medal – a first in Czech history.
 - He'll be joined on the 2026 roster by Brantford teammates Vladimír Drapecký and Adam Benák, while Jiříček became the fourth Bulldogs player to represent Czechia at the World Juniors last year, and Drapecký and Benák are set to become the fifth and sixth in 2026, joining a group that also includes Jan Jeník, Jan Myšák (Czech captain in 2021 & 2022), and Tomáš Hamara.
 - Brantford will be represented by a CHL-high five players at the 2026 World Juniors, with forward Jett Luchanko and defenceman Ben Danford set to compete for Canada. The five teammates will face each other when Czechia opens the tournament against Canada on Dec. 26 at 7:30 p.m. CT.
- As of Dec. 22, Jiříček has recorded 29 points (10G-19A) in 25 games with Brantford in 2025-26.
 - Ranks fifth among OHL defencemen in scoring while sitting among the league's top blueliners in several key categories, including goals (10, T-3rd), power-play goals (5, T-2nd), power-play assists (12, T-3rd), power-play points (17, 2nd), and game-winning goals (4, T-2nd).
 - He is also one of just seven OHL defencemen averaging a point per game this season as of Dec. 22.
- Jiříček is one of five first-round NHL Draft picks on the No. 3-ranked Brantford Bulldogs in 2025-26, alongside Jake O'Brien, Jett Luchanko, Marek Vanacker, and Ben Danford.



- Jiříček made his OHL debut in 2024-25 with the Brantford Bulldogs, recording 12 points (4G-8A) in 27 regular-season games.
- A first-round selection of the St. Louis Blues (16th overall) in the 2024 NHL Draft.
- Jiříček spent most of the 2023-24 season playing in Czechia's top men's league with HC Plzeň (1 point in 19 GP) before January surgery ended his season.
- A long-time contributor in the Plzeň program, he posted 29 points (12G-17A) in 41 games with Plzeň's junior team in 2022-23, finishing tied for first in goals by a defenceman and eighth among blueliners in points league-wide.
- He debuted at the U20 level at age 15 and has logged 45 games of U20 experience with HC Plzeň.
- Internationally, Jiříček won silver at the 2023 Hlinka Gretzky Cup (three assists in five games) and has also represented Czechia at the 2022 World U17 Hockey Challenge.
- He also joined Benák and Drapecký for Czechia at the 2025 U20 Five Nations Tournament this past summer as part of the lead-up to the 2026 World Juniors.
- He is the younger brother of David Jiříček, a Minnesota Wild prospect and defenceman originally selected sixth overall in the 2022 NHL Draft by the Columbus Blue Jackets.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - OHL Career: N/A – Jiříček has not had a shootout attempt in his OHL career
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)
 - 2024-25: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Man, Matyáš** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Defence**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-6**Weight:** 202 pounds**WHL Club:** Prince Albert Raiders**Hometown:** Ostrava, CZE**Birthdate:** May 31, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 168th Overall, 3rd Round (2025) - PA**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	25	1	3	4	+11	25
TOTAL RS	25	1	3	4	+11	25

Media Notes:

- Man is one of two Prince Albert Raiders selected to represent Czechia at the tournament, joining Raiders goalie Michal Orsulak on the roster.
- The 6-foot-6 defenceman has recorded four points (1G-3A) and a +11 rating through 25 games with the No. 4-ranked Prince Albert Raiders in 2025-26, marking his first WHL season.
 - As of Dec. 22, his +11 sits among the WHL's top 20 defencemen in plus/minus in 2025-26.
- Scored his first WHL goal on Nov. 21, 2025, lighting the lamp against Brandon in a 4–1 home victory where he was also named first star.
- Opened his WHL scoring résumé with his first career point on Nov. 7, 2025, in a 5–2 road win over Spokane.
- Made his WHL debut on Sept. 19, 2025, in a 4–2 win over the Saskatoon Blades at the Art Hauser Centre.
- Signed a WHL Scholarship and Development Agreement with the Raiders on July 10, 2025.
- He was selected by the Prince Albert Raiders in the third round (168th overall) of the 2025 CHL Import Draft, after posting 23 points (6G-17A) in 48 games with HC Vítkovice's U20 team in 2024-25.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: N/A – Man has not had a shootout attempt in his WHL career
 - **2025-26:** 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Mrtka, Radim** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Defence**Shoots:** Right**Height:** 6-foot-6**Weight:** 216 pounds**WHL Club:** Seattle Thunderbirds**Hometown:** Havlickuv, CZE**Birthdate:** June 9, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 71st Overall, 2nd Round (2024) - SEA**NHL Draft:** 9th Overall, 1st Round (2025) - BUF**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	14	1	15	16	+4	19
2025 PO	6	0	3	3	-3	12
2024-25 RS	43	3	32	35	+10	59
TOTAL RS	57	4	47	51	+14	78

Media Notes:

- Mrtka is one of two Seattle Thunderbirds set to compete at the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship, alongside Canadian forward Braeden Cootes. The two teammates will face each other when Czechia opens the tournament against Canada on Dec. 26 at 7:30 p.m. CT.
- Mrtka leads all Seattle defencemen in scoring with 16 points (1G-15A) in 14 games in 2025-26, and his 1.14 points-per-game rate ranks third on the Thunderbirds roster.
 - As of Dec. 22, Mrtka is one of nine WHL defencemen (min. five games played) averaging a point per game during the 2025-26 season.
- To open the 2025-26 season, Mrtka appeared in four games with the Rochester Americans (AHL), recording one assist, before being returned to the Seattle Thunderbirds.
- Signed a three-year, entry-level deal with the Buffalo Sabres on July 15, 2025.
- Headlining a decade-high nine WHL first-round selections was defenceman Radim Mrtka (Seattle Thunderbirds), who was chosen ninth overall by the Buffalo Sabres at the 2025 NHL Draft.
- Mrtka was also one of 21 CHL players selected in the first round of the 2025 NHL draft.
- Mrtka enjoyed a breakout first season in North America with the Seattle Thunderbirds in 2024-25, erupting for 35 points (3G-32A) and a +10 rating in 43 regular-season games while playing a key role on both the power play and penalty kill:
 - Mrtka ranked second on Seattle in both assists (32) and plus/minus rating (+10), while finishing fifth on the Thunderbirds in scoring with 35 points.
 - Ranked third in points per game (0.81) among rookie defencemen in the WHL.
- He represented his country at the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship, recording four points (1G-3A) in five games, and at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, where he posted two assists while helping his team win silver.



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- He has also competed internationally at the 2024 IIHF U18 World Championship and the 2023 World U17 Hockey Challenge.
 - In 2023-24, Mrtka split the season between HC Oceláři Třinec's U17 and junior teams, posting 13 points (3G-10A) in 18 games at the U17 level – good for the 12th-best points-per-game rate among defencemen – while adding 11 points (4G-7A) in 19 games with the junior club, the third-most points by a 16-year-old defenceman in the league.
 - He also made his professional debut in 2023-24, skating in three games in Czechia's top men's league.
 - Mrtka joined Ocelari Trinec, debuting in 2021-22 with the Under-17 club. He lived with a billet family in Trinec, on the eastern tip of the country and a roughly three-hour drive from his home of Havlickuv Brod.
 - **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: N/A – Mrtka has not had a shootout attempt in his WHL career
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)
 - 2024-25: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Pšenička, Max** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Defence**Shoots:** Right**Height:** 6-foot-4**Weight:** 178 pounds**WHL Club:** Portland Winterhawks**Hometown:** Praha, CZE**Birthdate:** Jan. 18, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 32nd Overall, 1st Round (2024) - KEL**NHL Draft:** 46th Overall, 2nd Round (2025) - UTA**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	24	2	10	12	+1	54
2025 PO	18	1	7	8	-14	15
2024-25 RS	24	1	6	7	-2	23
TOTAL RS	48	3	16	19	-1	77

Media Notes:

- Pšenička joins Winterhawks teammate Ondrej Štěbeták on Czechia's World Juniors roster, becoming the second and third Portland players to represent Czechia at the tournament after Florida Panthers prospect Marek Alscher (bronze, 2024).
 - In total, 41 Portland Winterhawks have suited up for their home country at the World Juniors.
- Through 24 games in 2025-26, Pšenička has already established new career highs with two goals, 10 assists, and 12 points.
- At the 2025 NHL Draft, Pšenička was the first Portland player selected, going to the Utah Mammoth in the second round (46th overall).
- In the 2025 WHL Playoffs, Pšenička took on a bigger role, seeing his average ice time jump by more than three minutes compared to the regular season and producing eight points (1G-7A) in 18 games – surpassing his regular-season point total.
- Pšenička's draft stock climbed steadily throughout 2024-25, as he appeared in 24 regular-season games for the Winterhawks, recording seven points (1G-6A).
 - Pšenička made his WHL debut on January 24, 2025, registering an assist in a 6-4 Winterhawks' victory over the Tri-City Americans.
- Pšenička signed a WHL Scholarship & Development Agreement with Portland on Jan. 10, 2025, and made the move to North America to continue his development.
- To start the 2024-25 campaign, Pšenička played 16 games in the Czech Extraliga and added 11 points (3G-8A) in 16 games with Plzeň U20, while also scoring two goals in 16 Extraliga contests.
- Originally selected by the Kelowna Rockets in the first round (32nd overall) of the 2024 CHL Import Draft, Pšenička's WHL rights were acquired by the Portland Winterhawks via trade on Oct. 9, 2024.
- Internationally in 2024-25, he posted six points (2G-4A) in 10 games with Czechia's U18 national team.



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- Before joining HC Plzen U20 in 2025-25, he spent time with HC Slavia Praha's U17 and U20 programs, recording 50 points (13G-37A) in 70 games at the U17 level.
 - **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: N/A – Pšenička has not had a shootout attempt in his WHL career
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)
 - 2024-25: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Vanecek, Jakub** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Defence**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-1**Weight:** 191 pounds**WHL Club:** Tri-City Americans**Hometown:** Humpolec, CZE**Birthdate:** Feb. 25, 2008**CHL Import Draft:** 25th Overall, 1st Round (2025) - TC**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	27	5	12	17	+1	44
TOTAL RS	27	5	12	17	+1	44

Media Notes:

- As of Dec. 22, Váneček has 17 points (5G-12A), ranking first among Tri-City defencemen and tied for fifth on the club in scoring in 2025-26.
 - League-wide, he sits tied for sixth among WHL rookie blueliners in scoring, a mark that is also tied for eighth among CHL rookie defencemen.
 - He's also been a key contributor on the man advantage, ranking tied for second on Tri-City with seven power-play points (1G-6A), behind only Savin Virk (8).
- Váneček earned a 'B' rating from NHL Central Scouting on its Preliminary Players to Watch List released in October, projecting him as a potential second- or third-round pick in the 2026 NHL Draft.
- Váneček recorded two assists in four games while representing Czechia at the 2025 Hlinka Gretzky Cup.
- Váneček signed a WHL Scholarship & Development Agreement with the Tri-City Americans on July 22, 2025.
- Váneček, from Liberec, Czechia, was the Tri-City Americans' first selection in the 2025 CHL Import Draft, taken 25th overall.
- Váneček split the 2024-25 season between Bílí Tygři Liberec's U17 and U20 teams, recording 12 points (1G-11A) in 21 games at the U17 level and adding four assists in 31 games with the U20 club.
- During the 2024-25 campaign, he elevated his play in the U17 playoffs, producing seven points (3G-4A) in 11 games.
- Váneček earned silver with Czechia at the 2024 Youth Olympic Games, where the Czechs were defeated by Team USA featuring rookie Tri-City American goaltender Xavier Wendt.
- He also represented Czechia at the World Under-17 Hockey Challenge, registering two assists in four games.
- CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: N/A – Váneček has not had a shootout attempt in his WHL career
 - 2025-26:** 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Benák, Adam** – [OHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Centre**Shoots:** Right**Height:** 5-foot-8**Weight:** 163 pounds**OHL Club:** Brantford Bulldogs**Hometown:** Plzen, CZE**Birthdate:** Apr. 10, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 2nd Overall, 1st Round (2025) - BFD**NHL Draft:** 102nd Overall, 4th Round (2025) - MIN**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	26	15	28	43	+20	67
TOTAL RS	26	15	28	43	+20	67

Media Notes:

- Benák will skate in his first IIHF World Junior Championship at the 2026 tournament, joining Bulldogs teammate Adam Jiříček and Vladimír Dřavecký on Czechia's roster.
 - Benák and Dřavecký will become the fifth and sixth Bulldogs players to represent Czechia at the World Juniors, following Jan Jeník, Jan Myšák (Czech captain in 2021 & 2022), Tomáš Hamara, and Adam Jiříček.
 - Brantford will be represented by a CHL-high five players at the 2026 World Juniors, with forward Jett Luchanko and defenceman Ben Danford set to compete for Canada. The five teammates will face each other when Czechia opens the tournament against Canada on Dec. 26 at 7:30 p.m. CT.
- A Plzeň, Czechia native, Benák has represented Czechia at the U16, U17, U18, and U20 levels, with 2026 marking his World Juniors debut.
- As of Dec. 22, heading into the holiday break, Benák is tied fifth in OHL scoring with 43 points (15G-28A) with the No.3-ranked Bulldogs, while his 28 assists rank fourth in the OHL.
- On Oct. 20, 2025, Benák was named [Cogeco OHL Player of the Week](#) after piling up six points (1G-5A) in two games the previous week.
- He scored his first career OHL goal on Sept. 27, 2025, in a 7–2 win over the Sudbury Wolves.
- On Aug. 5, 2025, Benák signed an OHL Scholarship & Development Agreement with the Brantford Bulldogs.
- Benák was also taken second overall by Brantford in the 2025 CHL Import Draft after producing 59 points (17G-42A) in 56 games with the Youngstown Phantoms (USHL).
- Selected by the Minnesota Wild in the fourth round (102nd overall) of the 2025 NHL Draft.
- Benák has starred at the 2023 and 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, winning back-to-back silver medals.



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- With 21 points in 10 games across the two tournaments, Benák surpassed the previous Hlinka Gretzky Cup all-time record of 15 points set by former Edmonton Oilers first-round pick Magnus Paajarvi-Svensson.
 - He also led the tournament in assists in 2023 (8) and goals in 2024 (4).
 - Benák reached the pro ranks in 2023-24, making his men's debut with HC Plzeň and recording two assists in 18 games.
 - A product of his hometown Plzeň system, Benák dominated as an underage player at the U17 level from 2021-22 through 2023-24, piling up 95 points (46G-49A) in 48 games and adding 66 points in 35 playoff games while helping Plzeň win the 2022 Czech U17 championship – scoring the championship-winning goal.
 - He also produced against older competition at the U20 level in 2022-23 and 2023-24, totaling 60 points (18G-42A) in 59 games as a 15- and 16-year-old.
 - Internationally, Benák competed at the 2024 and 2025 IIHF U18 World Championships, totaling 10 points (3G-7A) in nine games, and served as an assistant captain in 2025 while leading Czechia in scoring with seven points (2G-5A).
 - Benák joined Jiříček and Drapecký for Czechia at the 2025 U20 Five Nations Tournament this past summer as part of the lead-up to the 2026 World Juniors.
 - **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - OHL Career: 0 goals on 1 shootout attempt (0.0%)
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 1 shootout attempt (0.0%)

**Cihar, Vojtech** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Left Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot**Weight:** 181 pounds**WHL Club:** Kelowna Rockets**Hometown:** Chomutov, CZE**Birthdate:** Mar. 29, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 38th Overall, 1st Round (2024) - LET**NHL Draft:** 59th Overall, 2nd Round (2025) - LAK**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL RS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Media Notes:

- Cihar is expected to report to the 2026 Memorial Cup host Kelowna Rockets following the World Juniors and make his WHL debut with Kelowna in early January.
- Cihar is joined by Rockets teammate Tomáš Poletín on Czechia's roster for the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship. Along with Canadian forward Tij Iginla, Cihar and Poletín are two of three Kelowna Rockets selected to compete at the 2026 World Juniors – and the pair will face Iginla when Czechia opens the tournament against Canada on Dec. 26 at 7:30 p.m. CT.
- The Kelowna Rockets signed Czech import forward Cihar to a WHL Scholarship & Development Agreement on December 12, 2025.
- Cihar signed a three-year entry-level contract with the Los Angeles Kings on December 10, 2025.
- Originally selected 38th overall (first round) in the 2024 CHL Import Draft by Lethbridge, Cihar's WHL rights were acquired by Kelowna on Nov. 9, 2025, in a trade that also brought in forward Shane Smith.
- At the 2025 NHL Draft, Cihar was taken in the second round (59th overall) by the Los Angeles Kings.
- Cihar has spent the past two seasons (2024-25 and 2025-26) playing professionally with HC Energie Karlovy Vary in the Czech Extraliga.
- In 2025-26, ahead of his arrival to Kelowna, Cihar played 27 games in the Czech Extraliga and recorded eight points (4G-4A), while also producing nine points (5G-4A) in his last nine games with Czechia's U20 program.
- In 2024-25, he recorded nine points (4G-5A) in 43 games, earning recognition as the highest-scoring U18 player in the Extraliga.
- Earned silver with Czechia at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup (1G-1A in 5 GP) and helped Czechia win bronze at the 2025 IIHF World Junior Championship (1G-1A in 7 GP).



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- Cihar also represented Czechia at the 2025 IIHF Under-18 Men's World Championship in Texas, registering three points (1G-2A) in five games.
 - **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: N/A
 - 2025-26: N/A

**Curran, Max** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Centre**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-3**Weight:** 187 pounds**WHL Club:** Edmonton Oil Kings**Hometown:** Prague, CZE**Birthdate:** Apr. 24, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 39th Overall, 1st Round (2023) - TC**NHL Draft:** 161st Overall, 5th Round (2024) - COL**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS (EDM)	28	11	24	35	+11	64
2025 PO (TC)	5	1	2	3	-3	16
2024-25 RS (TC)	65	22	52	74	-18	200
2023-24 RS (TC)	40	5	27	32	-7	104
TOTAL RS	133	38	103	141	-14	368

Media Notes:

- Curran will skate in his first IIHF World Junior Championship at the 2026 tournament.
 - Along with Canadian defenceman Ethan MacKenzie, Curran is one of two Edmonton Oil Kings selected to compete at the 2026 World Juniors – and the pair will face off when Czechia opens the tournament against Canada on Dec. 26 at 7:30 p.m. CT.
- As of Dec. 22 heading into the holiday break, Curran has recorded 35 points (11G-24A) in 28 games with the No. 7-ranked Edmonton Oil Kings.
 - His 35 points rank third on the Oil Kings, ahead of Team Canada defenceman Ethan MacKenzie (31) and Czech forward Adam Jecho (22).
 - Curran was named [Tempo WHL Player of the Week](#) on Nov. 3, 2025, after piling up 10 points (3G-7A) in three games the previous week.
- The Edmonton Oil Kings acquired Curran from the Tri-City Americans on June 23, 2025.
- Curran was named the 2024-25 WHL Scholastic Player of the Year (Daryl K. “Doc” Seaman Memorial Award) after posting a 100% overall academic average while taking a heavy course load that included multiple AP courses such as AP English, AP Conversation English, Czech Language Literature, German Language, AP History and Social Life Sciences.
 - He became the first Tri-City player and the first import in WHL history to win the award, and the first European nominated for the CHL Scholastic Player of the Year honour.
- In 2024-25, Curran led Tri-City in points and assists, posting a career-high 74 points (22G-52A) in 65 games, while ranking as the WHL’s second-highest scoring import.
 - He closed the regular season on a tear, producing 12 points (3G-9A) over his final nine games, helping Tri-City return to the WHL Playoffs after a one-year absence.
- A Colorado Avalanche prospect, Curran was selected in the fifth round (161st overall) of the 2024 NHL Draft.



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- The 6-foot-3, 187-pound forward from Prague, Czechia was originally chosen 39th overall in the 2023 CHL Import Draft by Tri-City and spent two seasons with the Americans.
 - Internationally, Curran earned silver with Czechia at the 2023 Hlinka Gretzky Cup (three points in five games), competed at the 2024 IIHF U18 World Championship (three points in five games), and also suited up at the 2023 World U17 Hockey Challenge (one assist in six games).
 - In 2022-23, he split the season between HC Slavia Praha's U17 and U20-2 teams, producing 37 points (15G-22A) in 18 U17 games and 27 points (9G-18A) in 18 games at the U20-2 level.
 - **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: 0 goals on 4 career shootout attempts (0.0%)
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 2 shootout attempts (0.0%)
 - 2024-25: 0 goals on 2 shootout attempts (0.0%)
 - 2023-24: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Drančák, Samuel** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Centre**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot**Weight:** 195 pounds**WHL Club:** Red Deer Rebels**Hometown:** Strakonice, CZE**Birthdate:** Feb. 4, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 54th Overall, 1st Round (2023) - RD**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	27	11	10	21	+1	60
2024-25 RS	65	10	12	22	-8	107
2024 PO	9	1	1	2	-4	16
2023-24 RS	68	12	21	33	-6	108
TOTAL RS	160	33	43	76	-13	275

Media Notes:

- Drančák will skate in his first IIHF World Junior Championship at the 2026 tournament.
- Drančák is one of two Red Deer Rebels set to compete at the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship, alongside Slovakian forward Matus Lisy.
- Scored a team-leading 12 goals in 2025-26, and his 21 points rank third on the Rebels.
 - Drančák is on pace for his first 20-goal WHL campaign.
 - He also produced an eight-game goal streak in Nov. 2025 – the longest in the WHL this season – and the second-longest by a Red Deer Rebel in the internet era (since 1996), trailing only Arshdeep Bains' nine-game streak in 2022.
- Over the 2024-25 campaign, Drančák tallied 10 goals and 12 assists for 22 points in 65 regular-season games with the Red Deer Rebels.
- Won silver with Czechia at the 2023 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, recording two points (1G-1A) in five games
- Recorded 33 points in 2023-24, ranking 20th among WHL rookies that season.
- Signed a WHL Scholarship and Development Agreement with the club on July 27, 2023.
- Selected by Red Deer with the 54th overall pick in the 2023 CHL Import Draft.
- In 2022-23, Drančák played for HC Motor České Budějovice in the Czech U17 league and finished as the circuit's second-leading scorer with 65 points (17G-48A) in 34 games.
 - He also produced 12 points in nine games at the U20 level that season and made two appearances in Czechia's top men's league with Motor České Budějovice.
- A native of Strakonice, Czechia, Drančák represented his country at the 2022 U17 World Challenge in Langley, B.C., registered one goal and one assist in six games.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: 2 goals on 5 career shootout attempts (40.0%)
 - 2025-26: 1 goal on 1 shootout attempt (100.0%)
 - 2024-25: 0 goals on 1 shootout attempt (0.0%)
 - 2023-24: 1 goal on 3 shootout attempts (33.3%)

**Klíma, Jiří** – [QMJHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Right Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 5-foot-11**Weight:** 197 pounds**QMJHL Club:** Shawinigan Cataractes**Hometown:** Suchy Dul, CZE**Birthdate:** Mar. 13, 2006**OHL Draft:** 20th Overall, 1st Round (2023) - SHA**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	22	10	13	23	+13	72
2025 PO	16	4	4	8	+12	50
2024-25 RS	64	15	25	40	+13	131
2024 PO	3	0	1	1	-4	5
2023-24 RS	54	18	13	31	-11	130
TOTAL RS	140	43	51	94	+15	333

Media Notes:

- Klíma is one of two Shawinigan Cataractes set to compete at the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship, alongside German forward Elias Schneider.
- As of Dec. 22 heading into the holiday break, Klíma has produced 23 points (10G-13A) in 22 games in 2025-26, ranking tied for fourth on the Cataractes in scoring and third on the club with a 1.05 points-per-game rate.
 - As of Dec. 22, Klíma is one of five Cataractes skaters with 10+ goals in 2025-26.
 - As of Dec. 22, Klíma ranks fifth on the Cataractes in scoring, sitting tied with teammate and German forward Elias Schneider.
- Klíma enjoyed his best season since arriving in Shawinigan in 2024-25, setting a new QMJHL personal high with 40 points (15G-25A) in 64 regular-season games.
 - He carried that production into the playoffs, adding eight points (4G-4A) in 16 games while delivering timely offence in key moments.
- In his first QMJHL season in 2023-24, Klíma recorded 31 points, ranking 17th among league rookies, while his six power-play goals ranked sixth among first-year skaters and his four game-winning goals ranked second among QMJHL rookies.
- Won silver with Czechia at the 2023 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, recording one goal in five games.
- Selected in the first round (20th overall) of the 2023 CHL Import Draft by Shawinigan.
- In 2022-23, Klíma recorded 12 points in 42 games with Mountfield HK's U20 team.
- He also represented his country at the 2022 World Under-17 Hockey Challenge, registering four assists in six games.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - QMJHL Career: 4 goals on 11 career shootout attempts (40.0%)
 - 2025-26: 1 goal on 3 shootout attempts (33.3%)
 - 2024-25: 3 goals on 7 shootout attempts (42.9%)
 - 2023-24: 0 goals on 1 shootout attempt (0.0%)

**Novotný, Adam** – [OHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Left Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-1**Weight:** 204 pounds**OHL Club:** Peterborough Petes**Hometown:** Kobylice, CZE**Birthdate:** Nov. 13, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 8th Overall, 1st Round (2021) - PBO**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	29	19	16	35	-7	132
TOTAL RS	29	19	16	35	-7	132

Media Notes:

- As of Dec. 22 heading into the holiday break, Novotný leads the Petes in scoring with 35 points (19G-16A) in 29 games.
 - His six game-winning goals are tied for the OHL lead (and tied for second across the CHL) in 2025-26.
- On Dec. 9, Novotný was named one of 40 players selected for the 2026 Connor McDavid OHL Top Prospects Game presented by Enbridge Gas, set for Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2026, at the Peterborough Memorial Centre.
- Represented Team CHL at the 2025 CHL USA Prospects Challenge in Calgary and Lethbridge, AB in late November.
- Signed with the Peterborough Petes on July 9, 2025, after being selected 8th overall in the 2024 CHL Import Draft.
- Native of Kobylice, Czechia, and a left-shot forward eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft.
- Represented Czechia at the 2025 World Juniors in Ottawa, recording one goal in seven games as the youngest player on the roster while helping his country capture bronze.
- Also suited up for Czechia at the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship (Texas), tallying six points (2G-4A) in five games.
- Won silver representing Czechia at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, recording 5 points (2G-3A) in five games.
- Has represented Czechia internationally at multiple age levels, showcasing consistent production and leadership on the global stage.
- Spent the 2024-25 season with Mountfield HK in the Czech Extraliga, recording three points (1G-2A) in 41 games, plus two goals in 10 playoff contests.
- Starred for Mountfield HK U20 in 2023-24, posting 59 points (32G-27A) in 48 games.
- Made his Czech Extraliga debut in 2023 at age 15, scoring in his first game and becoming the youngest player ever to score a goal in league history.
- One of 15 CHL players – and one of eight from the OHL – to receive an “A” rating from NHL Central Scouting’s preliminary rankings released on Monday, Oct. 20.
- CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - OHL Career: N/A – Novotný has not had a shootout attempt in his OHL career
 - 2025-26:** 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Poletín, Tomas** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Left Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-2**Weight:** 206 pounds**WHL Club:** Kelowna Rockets**Hometown:** Praha, CZE**Birthdate:** Apr. 30, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 1st Overall, 1st Round (2025) - KEL**NHL Draft:** 106th Overall, 4th Round (2025) - NYI**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	25	14	11	25	+11	57
TOTAL RS	25	14	11	25	+11	57

Media Notes:

- Poletín is joined by Rockets teammate Vojtech Cihar on Czechia's roster for the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship. Along with Canadian forward Tij Iginla, Poletín and Cihar are two of three Kelowna Rockets selected to compete at the 2026 World Juniors – and the pair will face Iginla when Czechia opens the tournament against Canada on Dec. 26 at 7:30 p.m. CT.
- As of Dec. 22 heading into the holiday break, Poletín is producing at a point-per-game pace in 2025-26 and ranks fourth on Kelowna with 25 points, trailing teammate and Team Canada forward Tij Iginla (27) among the club's leading scorers.
 - Sits 10th in WHL rookie scoring; 14 goals rank second on the Rockets in 2025-26.
 - Poletín is one of eight WHL rookies averaging a point per game in 2025-26 (minimum two games played).
- Signed a WHL Scholarship & Development agreement with the Rockets on Aug. 20, 2025.
- Making the first overall selection for the first time in franchise history, the Kelowna Rockets (WHL) – hosts of the 2026 Memorial Cup – chose Poletín with the top pick of the 2025 CHL Import Draft.
- Taken in the 4th round (106th overall) of the 2025 NHL Draft by the New York Islanders.
- Spent the 2024-25 season in Finland with the Pelicans organization, recording 20 points (13G-7A) in 25 games with their U20 team while also earning 15 appearances at the pro level in Liiga and the Champions Hockey League.
- Internationally, Poletín captained Czechia at the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship, scoring two goals in five games.
- Helped Czechia win silver at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup with four points (3G-1A) in five games.
- Poletín also represented Czechia at the 2025 U20 Five Nations Tournament (Aug. 27–31 in Chomutov, Czechia) before beginning his first season in North America with Kelowna, the 2026 Memorial Cup host.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: 2 goals on 3 career shootout attempts (66.7%)
 - 2025-26: 2 goals on 3 shootout attempts (66.7%)
 -

**Titlbach, Adam** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Centre**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 5-foot-9**Weight:** 168 pounds**OHL Club:** Vancouver Giants**Hometown:** Litvinov, CZE**Birthdate:** Feb. 15, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 21st Overall, 1st Round (2023) - VAN**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

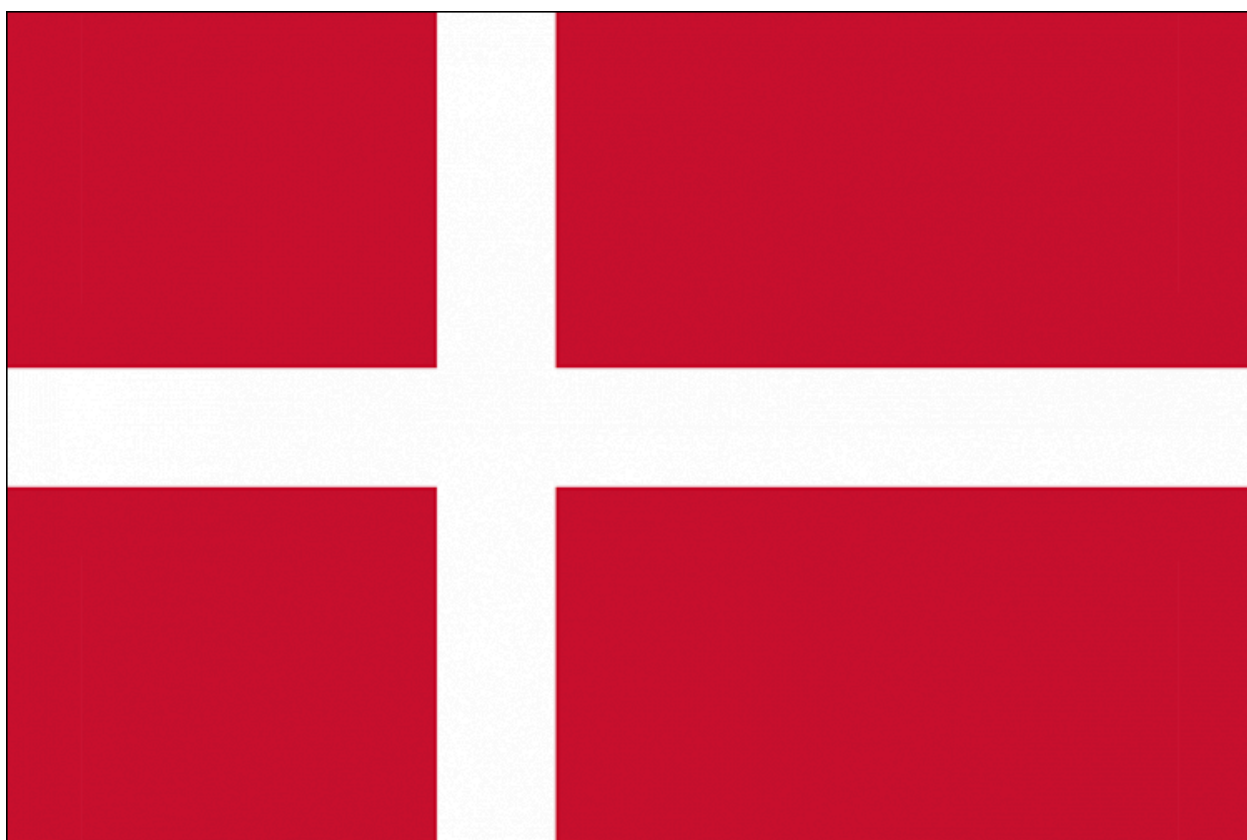
SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	30	7	13	20	-8	62
2025 PO	5	1	1	2	-4	7
2024-25 RS	68	27	18	45	+3	118
2024 PO	4	0	1	1	-2	8
2023-24 RS	66	9	21	30	-21	122
TOTAL RS	164	43	52	95	-26	302

Media Notes:

- Titlbach is one of two Vancouver Giants set to compete at the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship, alongside Slovakian forward Tobias Tomik.
- As of Dec. 22, Titlbach is tracking toward a career year in 2025-26, ranking sixth on the Vancouver Giants in scoring with 20 points (7G-13A) in 30 games.
- Closing in on the 100-point mark in his WHL career, Titlbach has 95 points (43G-52A) in 164 regular-season games.
- In 2024-25, Titlbach set career highs with 27 goals and 45 points, finishing as one of four Vancouver Giants to reach the 25-goal mark.
 - His 22.9% shooting percentage ranked third among WHL skaters in 2024-25, having scored 27 goals on 118 shots.
- In his 2023–24 WHL rookie season, Titlbach recorded 30 points (9G-21A) in 66 games.
- Signed a WHL Scholarship & Development Agreement with the Giants on July 27, 2023.
- Vancouver's first-round selection at the 2023 CHL Import Draft (21st overall).
- Represented Czechia at the 2024 IIHF U18 World Championship, recording three points (1G-2A) in five games.
- Helped Czechia capture silver at the 2023 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, producing eight points (5G-3A) in five games.
- Led Czechia in scoring at the 2022 World U17 Hockey Challenge with seven points (3G-4A) in six games.
- In 2022-23 with HC Plzeň, Titlbach posted 20 points (13G-7A) in 12 U17 games and 31 points (11G-20A) in 34 U20 games, then 28 points (14G-14A) in 14 U17 playoff games.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: 2 goals on 6 career shootout attempts (33.3%)
 - 2025-26: 1 goal on 2 shootout attempts (50.0%)
 - 2024-25: 1 goal on 1 shootout attempt (100.0%)
 - 2023-24: 0 goals on 3 shootout attempts (0.0%)



DENMARK



**Linde, Anton** – [QMJHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Left Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot**Weight:** 181 pounds**QMJHL Club:** Chicoutimi Saguenéens**Hometown:** Rodovre, DEN**Birthdate:** Apr. 20, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 42nd Overall, 1st Round (2025) - CHI**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	25	4	8	12	0	36
TOTAL RS	25	4	8	12	0	36

Media Notes:

- Linde is one of two Chicoutimi Saguenéens set to compete at the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship, alongside German forward Maxim Schäfer.
- Linde will make his World Juniors debut in 2026, marking his fourth international stint with Denmark's U20 program.
- In 2025-26, Linde has recorded four goals and eight assists for 12 points in 25 games during his rookie campaign in the QMJHL.
 - He scored his first QMJHL goal in his league debut on Sept. 19, 2025, in a 5-3 loss to the Drummondville Voltigeurs in Drummondville.
- He helped Denmark earn promotion back to the top tier of the World Juniors for the first time since 2019 by winning the 2025 IIHF U20 Division I-A World Championship, scoring three goals in five games.
- Chicoutimi selected Danish forward Anton Linde in the first round of the 2025 CHL Import Draft with the 42nd pick.
- In 2024-25, the 19-year-old gained pro experience in both Sweden and Denmark, recording one assist in 13 SHL games with the Växjö Lakers and one goal in eight games with the Herning Blue Fox, while also producing 13 points (7G-6A) in 23 games with Växjö's U20 team.
- Across the past three U20 Division I-A tournaments (2023–2025), Linde has recorded seven points (4G-3A) in 13 games.
- Listed at 6-foot-0, 181 pounds, Linde has played at Denmark's U20 level since age 14 and moved to Sweden at 17 to continue his development.
- He has also represented Denmark at the IIHF U18 Division I-A World Championship three times, serving as captain in his third appearance (in 2024).
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - QMJHL Career: 0 goals on 1 career shootout attempt (0.0%)
 - **2025-26:** 0 goals on 1 shootout attempt (0.0%)

**Petersen, Tristan** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Left Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-1**Weight:** 191 pounds**WHL Club:** Penticton Vees**Hometown:** Hvidovre, DEN**Birthdate:** July 3, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 123rd Overall, 3rd Round (2025)**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	31	9	8	17	+8	52
TOTAL RS	31	9	8	17	+8	52

Media Notes:

- Petersen was selected to Denmark's World Junior Championship roster, having previously represented his country at the U16, U18, and U20 levels.
- Petersen will make his World Juniors debut in 2026, marking his third international stint with Denmark's U20 program.
- He helped Denmark earn promotion back to the top tier of the World Juniors for the first time since 2019 by winning the 2025 IIHF U20 Division I-A World Championship, tallying one goal and one assist in five games.
- In his WHL rookie season in 2025-26, Petersen has 14 points (7G-7A) in 28 games.
 - Petersen made his WHL debut on Sept. 19, 2025, in a 5-0 loss to the Victoria Royals in Victoria, B.C.
 - He recorded his first WHL point on Oct. 4 in a 10-4 home win over the Seattle Thunderbirds, then scored his first WHL goal the next night (Oct. 5) in a 5-1 road victory against the Wenatchee Wild.
- Petersen rejoined the Vees for their inaugural WHL season after being selected in the third round (123rd overall) of the 2025 CHL Import Draft, then signing a WHL Scholarship and Development Agreement on July 8, 2025.
- A native of Hvidovre, Denmark, the 6-foot-1, 191-pound forward previously suited up for the Vees in 2024-25 when the club competed in the BCHL, recording nine points (4G-5A) in 17 regular-season games before adding seven points (4G-3A) in 14 playoff games after joining midseason.
- Across the past two U20 Division I-A tournaments (2024 & 2025), Petersen has recorded four points (1G-3A) in 10 games.
- He has also represented Denmark at the IIHF U18 Division I-A World Championship in 2022, 2023, and 2024.
- Prior to arriving in North America, Petersen played in Sweden with Malmö Redhawks U20 (J20 Nationell), recording 10 points (7G-3A) in 27 games in 2024-25 after posting six points (2G-4A) in 40 games in 2023-24.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: N/A – Petersen has not had a shootout attempt in his WHL career
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)



FINLAND



**Väisänen, Veeti** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Defence**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-1**Weight:** 190 pounds**WHL Club:** Medicine Hat Tigers**Hometown:** Hamina, FIN**Birthdate:** Feb. 15, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 107th Overall, 2nd Round (2024) - MH**NHL Draft:** 96th Overall, 3rd Round (2024) - UTA**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	29	4	14	18	+6	48
2025 PO	18	1	4	5	+2	26
2024-25 RS	58	4	20	24	+41	86
TOTAL RS	87	8	34	42	+47	134

Media Notes:

- On New Year's Eve, Väisänen will square off against former Medicine Hat Tigers teammate Gavin McKenna when Finland meets Canada at 7:30 p.m. CT. Both McKenna and Väisänen helped lead the Tigers to the 2025 WHL championship last spring.
- In 2025-26, Väisänen is tracking toward a career year, recording 18 points (4G-14A) in 29 games with the defending WHL champion Medicine Hat Tigers.
- Väisänen provided key depth on the blueline for the 2024–25 WHL champion Medicine Hat Tigers, logging reliable minutes throughout their run to the franchise's sixth Ed Chynoweth Cup and adding five points (1G-4A) in 18 playoff games.
 - Väisänen recorded two assists in four games at the 2025 Memorial Cup as the Tigers were defeated 4–1 by the London Knights in the championship final.
- Väisänen won silver with Finland at the 2025 World Juniors (one assist in seven games), as a record seven CHL players helped Finland earn its 18th World Juniors medal.
- In 2024-25, during his first season in the WHL, Väisänen recorded 24 points (4G-20A) in 58 regular-season games and finished with a +41 rating.
- Selected by Medicine Hat in the second round (107th overall) of the 2024 CHL Import Draft and signed a WHL Scholarship & Development Agreement on Aug. 27, 2024.
- Selected in the third round (96th overall) of the 2024 NHL Draft by the Utah Mammoth.
- Prior to coming to the WHL, he played in Finland's top men's league with KooKoo Kouvola (Liiga) in 2023-24, producing 10 points (2G-8A) in 50 games.
- Wore an "A" for his country at the 2024 IIHF U18 World Championship (2A in 5 GP) and also played in that tournament in 2023 (1G-1A in 5 GP).
- Won a pair of bronze medals with Finland at the 2022 Hlinka Gretzky Cup (5 GP) and the 2022 U17 World Challenge (3A in 6 GP).
- CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: N/A – Väisänen has not had a shootout attempt in his WHL career
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)
 - 2024-25: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Hemming, Emil** – [OHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Right Wing**Shoots:** Right**Height:** 6-foot-1**Weight:** 205 pounds**OHL Club:** Barrie Colts**Hometown:** Vaasa, FIN**Birthdate:** Jun. 27, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 15th Overall, 1st Round (2024) - BAR**NHL Draft:** 29th Overall, 1st Round (2024) - DAL**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	17	8	20	28	+10	66
2025 PO	16	8	7	15	-9	42
2024-25 RS	60	18	30	48	+5	143
TOTAL RS	77	26	50	76	+15	209

Media Notes:

- Hemming is one of three Barrie Colts set to compete at the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship, and he'll square off against Colts teammates Cole Beaudoin and Kashawn Aitcheson when Finland faces Canada on New Year's Eve.
- As of Dec. 22, Hemming has recorded 28 points (8G-20A) in 17 games in 2025-26, ranking fourth on the Barrie Colts in scoring.
- His 1.65 points-per-game rate in 2025-26 is tied for third in the OHL, alongside Brantford's Adam Benák, trailing only Sudbury's Kieron Walton (1.71) and Brantford's Jake O'Brien (1.68).
- Hemming returned to the Colts for the remainder of the 2025-26 season in the OHL after a brief stint with the Texas Stars (AHL) where he played five games.
- Hemming helped Finland capture silver at the 2025 IIHF World Junior Championship, recording four points (1G-3A) in seven games as a record seven CHL players contributed to Finland securing its 18th World Juniors medal.
- Hemming posted 48 points (18G-30A) in 60 games in his first OHL season with the Colts in 2024-25.
- Selected 15th overall by Barrie in the first round of the 2024 CHL Import Draft.
- Taken by the Dallas Stars in the first round (29th overall) of the 2024 NHL Draft.
- Hemming developed in Finland's system with Kiekko-Espoo and TPS Turku, spending much of 2023-24 in the men's Liiga with TPS where he posted 11 points (7G-4A) in 40 games as a 17-year-old – the second-most points by a U19 player in Liiga that season behind Konsta Helenius.
- He also produced at a high clip with TPS's junior team in 2023-24, recording 18 points (11G-7A) in 13 games while wearing an "A", and added 10 points (5G-5A) in 11 playoff games as TPS captured silver in Finland's junior league.
- Hemming represented Finland at the 2023 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, compiling nine points (4G-5A) in five games.
- Internationally, he has also suited up for Finland at the 2024 IIHF World Junior Championship (2 points in 7 GP; 0G-2A) and the 2024 IIHF U18 World Championship (6



points in 5 GP; 4G-2A), and helped Finland win bronze at the 2022 World U17 Hockey Challenge (5 points in 5 GP; 3G-2A).

- Hemming comes from a hockey family: his father Jonas Hemming enjoyed a lengthy pro career as a centre primarily in Finland's top league before finishing in Sweden in 2002, while younger brother Oscar Hemming is considered a top 2026 NHL Draft prospect.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - OHL Career: 2 goals on 5 career shootout attempts (40.0%)
 - 2025-26: 1 goal on 2 shootout attempts (50.0%)
 - 2024-25: 1 goal on 3 shootout attempts (33.3%)

**Kalto, Onni** – [OHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Left Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-2**Weight:** 187 pounds**OHL Club:** Oshawa Generals**Hometown:** Helsinki, FIN**Birthdate:** Dec. 14, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 41st Overall, 1st Round (2025) - OSH**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	31	5	4	9	-19	59
TOTAL RS	31	5	4	9	-19	59

Media Notes:

- A native of Helsinki, Kalto has made an immediate impact with Oshawa, using his pace, compete level, and versatility to become a reliable forward option.
- Kalto will skate in his first IIHF World Junior Championship at the 2026 tournament.
- The 2026 World Juniors will mark Kalto's first IIHF international tournament for Finland, as he has not previously represented his country at the World Juniors or IIHF U18 Worlds.
- In his first OHL season in 2025-26, Kalto has recorded nine points (5G-4A) in 30 games with the Oshawa Generals.
 - Kalto recorded his first OHL point (an assist) in his league debut on Sept. 18, 2025, in a 4–2 loss to the North Bay Battalion in North Bay.
 - He scored his first OHL goal on Oct. 4, 2025, in a 5–3 loss to the Barrie Colts in Oshawa.
- Kalto signed an OHL Scholarship and Development Agreement with the Oshawa Generals on July 16, 2025.
- Kalto was selected 41st overall as Oshawa's first pick in the 2025 CHL Import Draft out of TPS Turku U20 (Finland).
- In 2024-25, he recorded 22 points (14G-8A) in 44 games with TPS Turku's U20 team and also made three appearances with the club's senior team.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - OHL Career: N/A – Kalto has not had a shootout attempt in his OHL career
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Kuhta, Jasper** – [OHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Centre**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-2**Weight:** 199 pounds**OHL Club:** Ottawa 67's**Hometown:** Helsinki, FIN**Birthdate:** Oct. 28, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 72nd Overall, 2nd Round (2025) - OTT**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	32	17	13	30	+15	96
TOTAL RS	32	17	13	30	+15	96

Media Notes:

- Kuhta will skate in his first IIHF World Junior Championship at the 2026 tournament.
- The 2026 World Juniors will mark Kuhta's first IIHF international tournament for Finland, as he has not previously represented his country at the World Juniors or IIHF U18 Worlds.
- After joining Ottawa this season, Kuhta has made an immediate offensive impact with 30 points (17G-13A) in 32 games, ranking third on the No. 5-ranked Ottawa 67's as of Dec. 22.
- His 17 goals sit one back of team-leader Cooper Foster (18), and he set a career high with a four-goal night on Oct. 31, 2025, in a 5-1 win over the London Knights at TD Place.
- Kuhta scored his first OHL goal in his second career game on Sept. 26, 2025, in a 3-1 road win over the North Bay Battalion, after making his OHL debut on Sept. 19, 2025, in a 6-2 win over the Kingston Frontenacs in Kingston.
- Kuhta signed an OHL Scholarship and Development Agreement with the Ottawa 67's on July 14, 2025.
- The Turku-born forward was selected by Ottawa in the second round (72nd overall) of the 2025 CHL Import Draft.
- In 2024-25, Kuhta played for HIFK Helsinki U20, producing 43 points (18G-25A) in 38 regular-season games, then added two goals in two playoff games while also earning eight games of experience in Finland's top men's league (Liiga).
- A product of Finland's HIFK system, Kuhta followed a development path associated with one of the country's top programs, which has produced NHL talent such as Miro Heiskanen, Roope Hintz, and Anton Lundell.
- Kuhta comes from a strong hockey lineage, as his uncle Kimmo Kuhta captained HIFK and had his No. 9 retired in 2018.
- Kuhta also attended the World Junior Summer Showcase in late July/early August, where he scored a goal against Team Canada in a 6-3 Finland win.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - OHL Career: 0 goals on 3 career shootout attempts (0.0%)
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 3 shootout attempts (0.0%)

**Miettinen, Julius** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Centre**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-3**Weight:** 207 pounds**WHL Club:** Everett Silvertips**Hometown:** Helsinki, FIN**Birthdate:** Jan. 20, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 30th Overall, 1st Round (2023) - EVT**NHL Draft:** 40th Overall, 2nd Round (2024) - SEA**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	27	18	24	42	+31	86
2025 PO	13	6	3	9	0	41
2024-25 RS	36	11	28	39	+28	109
2024 PO	9	2	2	4	-6	29
2023-24 RS	66	31	36	67	+27	217
TOTAL RS	129	60	88	148	+86	412

Media Notes:

- Miettinen will skate in his second IIHF World Junior Championship at the 2026 tournament after helping Finland win silver in 2025, when he recorded two points (1G-1A) in seven games as a record seven CHL players helped Finland secure its 18th World Juniors medal.
 - He'll be joined on Finland's 2026 roster by Silvertips teammate Matias Vanhanen.
 - Along with Silvertips forward Carter Bear, who will represent Canada, Miettinen and Vanhanen are two of three Everett players selected to compete at the 2026 World Juniors – and they'll face Bear when Finland meets Canada on New Year's Eve at 7:30 p.m. CT.
- In 2025-26, Vanhanen (44 points, T-4th) and Miettinen (42 points, T-7th) have formed a dynamic duo in Everett, combining for 86 points (25G-61A) in 2025-26 while ranking among the WHL's top 10 scorers as of Dec. 22 heading into the holiday break.
 - The pair also leads the No. 1-ranked Silvertips (27-3-2-1) in scoring, as Everett tied a franchise record with 27 wins and set a new franchise record with 57 points in the first half of the season.
 - As of Dec. 22, Miettinen's 1.56 points per game ranks fourth in the WHL in 2025-26, trailing only JP Hurlbert (Kamloops, 1.67), Tij Iginla (Kelowna, 1.59), and Jonas Woo (Medicine Hat, 1.58).
- Everett Silvertips forward Julius Miettinen signed a three-year NHL entry-level contract with the Seattle Kraken on Oct. 3, 2025.
- He returned in time for the postseason and added nine points (6G-3A) in 13 playoff games in 2025, after producing four points (2G-2A) in nine games during the 2024 WHL Playoffs.
- In an injury-shortened 2024-25 season, Miettinen still produced at a point-per-game clip with 39 points (11G-28A) in 36 games, ranking third on the Silvertips in points per game (1.08) and eighth on the team in total scoring.



- Drafted by the Seattle Kraken in the second round (40th overall) of the 2024 NHL Draft.
- Miettinen represented Team Red at the 2024 Kubota CHL/NHL Top Prospects Game in Moncton, registering one assist in a 3–1 win.
- As a WHL rookie in 2023-24, he posted 67 points (31G-36A) in 66 games with a +27 rating, finishing third among WHL rookies in both goals and points while ranking third on Everett in scoring.
- In 2023-24, he led all WHL rookies with 585 faceoff wins and scored eight game-winning goals, then closed the season with 40 points (19G-21A) over his final 29 games, including a 10-game point streak to finish the campaign.
- He scored in his WHL debut on Sept. 23, 2023 (vs. Victoria) and later set a career high with four points (2G-2A) on Jan. 14, 2024 in a win at Wenatchee.
- Miettinen was originally selected by Everett in the first round (30th overall) of the 2023 CHL Import Draft.
- Internationally, in addition to competing at the 2025 IIHF World Junior Championship, Miettinen has also represented Finland at the 2023 Hlinka Gretzky Cup (1G in 5 GP) and the 2022 World U17 Hockey Challenge, where Finland won bronze and he scored three goals in seven games.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: 0 goals on 1 career shootout attempt (0.0%)
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)
 - 2024-25: 0 goals on 1 shootout attempt (0.0%)
 - 2023-24: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Vanhanen, Matias** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Left Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 5-foot-10**Weight:** 175 pounds**WHL Club:** Everett Silvertips**Hometown:** Nokia, FIN**Birthdate:** Sep. 11, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 31st Overall, 1st Round (2025) - EVT**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	31	7	37	44	+26	75
TOTAL RS	31	7	37	44	+26	75

Media Notes:

- Vanhanen will skate in his first IIHF World Junior Championship at the 2026 tournament.
 - He'll be joined on Finland's 2026 roster by Silvertips teammate Julius Miettinen.
 - Along with Silvertips forward Carter Bear, who will represent Canada, Vanhanen and Miettinen are two of three Everett players selected to compete at the 2026 World Juniors – and they'll face Bear when Finland meets Canada on New Year's Eve at 7:30 p.m. CT.
- In 2025-26, Vanhanen (44 points, T-4th) and Miettinen (42 points, T-7th) have formed a dynamic duo in Everett, combining for 86 points (25G-61A) in 2025-26 while ranking among the WHL's top 10 scorers as of Dec. 22 heading into the holiday break.
 - The pair also leads the No. 1-ranked Silvertips (27-3-2-1) in scoring, as Everett tied a franchise record with 27 wins and set a new franchise record with 57 points in the first half of the season.
 - As of Dec. 22, Vanhanen leads the WHL and CHL with 37 assists in 2025-26.
 - Among WHL rookies, he ranks near the top of the league in points (44, 2nd), assists (37, 1st), power-play assists (11, 1st), power-play points (13, 5th), and plus/minus (+26).
- Vanhanen signed a WHL Scholarship and Development Agreement with the Everett Silvertips on July 16, 2025, after being selected in the first round (31st overall) of the 2025 CHL Import Draft.
- In 2024-25 with HIFK U20, Vanhanen recorded 47 points (17G-30A) in 42 games and earned league Rookie of the Year honours.
- He also earned a five-game call-up to HIFK's pro team in December 2024.
- At the U18 level in 2023-24 with HIFK, Vanhanen produced 37 points (12G-25A) in 44 games, finishing as a league runner-up.
- Posted three points (2G-1A) in four games at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, and recorded five points (2G-3A) in five games for Finland at the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship.
- He also participated with Finland at the 2025 World Junior Summer Showcase.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: 1 goal on 2 career shootout attempts (50.0%)
 - 2025-26: 1 goal on 2 shootout attempts (50.0%)



GERMANY



**Vieillard, Linus** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Goaltender**Catches:** L**Height:** 6-foot-1**Weight:** 172 pounds**WHL Club:** Spokane Chiefs**Hometown:** Berlin, GER**Birthdate:** Feb. 15, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 57th Overall, 1st Round (2025) – SPO**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	RECORD	GAA	SV%	GA	SO
2025-26 RS	18	9-6-0-0	3.15	.890	52	0
TOTAL RS	18	9-6-0-0	3.15	.890	52	0

Media Notes:

- Vieillard has posted a 3.15 goals-against average and a .890 save percentage in 2025-26.
 - He made his WHL debut on Sept. 20, 2025, against the Blazers at Kamloops.
 - Earned his first WHL win on Oct. 15, 2025, stopping 30 shots in a 3-2 overtime road victory over the Lethbridge Hurricanes.
 - Vieillard set a career high with 41 saves in a 4-3 road win over the Penticton Vees in overtime.
- Vieillard joined 2027 NHL Draft-eligible prospect Carter Esler as part of Spokane's goaltending tandem for the 2025-26 season.
- Vieillard signed a WHL Scholarship and Development Agreement with the Chiefs on July 29, 2025.
- Spokane selected German goaltender Linus Vieillard with the 57th overall pick in the 2025 CHL Import Draft.
- Vieillard represented Germany at the 2025 IIHF World Junior Championship, recording a 2.66 GAA and .915 save percentage across three games, and started for Germany as an underager. He was named one of the top three players for Team Germany at the 2025 World Juniors.
- Listed at 6-foot-1, Vieillard spent 2024-25 with Eisbären Juniors Berlin U20, posting a 2.16 GAA in 23 games with five shutouts.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: 0 SO goals allowed on 3 career attempts – 3/3 (1.000 SV%)
 - 2025-26: 0 SO goal allowed on 3 attempts (1.000 SV%)
 - 1-0 career W-L record in a shootout

**Händel, Carlos** – [QMJHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Defence**Shoots:** Right**Height:** 6-foot-2**Weight:** 176 pounds**QMJHL Club:** Halifax Mooseheads**Hometown:** Erlangen, GER**Birthdate:** Mar. 31, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 43rd Overall, 1st Round (2024) - HAL**NHL Draft:** 177th Overall, 6th Round (2025) - MTL**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	25	2	10	12	-11	55
2025 PO	10	1	3	4	-6	12
2024-25 RS	52	3	23	26	-22	85
TOTAL RS	77	5	33	38	-33	140

Media Notes:

- Through 25 games in 2025-26, Händel ranks tied for second among Halifax defencemen in scoring, trailing only Owen Phillips (18 points) as of Dec. 22.
- He was selected by the Montreal Canadiens in the sixth round (177th overall) of the 2025 NHL Draft.
- Following the 2024-25 season, Händel was named to the QMJHL Rookie All-Star Team, capping a standout first season in the league.
- Händel led all QMJHL rookie defencemen in scoring with 26 points (3G-23A) in 52 games in 2024-25.
- Händel ranked sixth in Mooseheads scoring and finished as Halifax's top-scoring rookie in 2024-25.
- Händel represented Germany at the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship, where he set a tournament record by scoring two goals in 19 seconds.
- Internationally, Händel was named one of Germany's top three players at the 2025 IIHF World Junior Championship in Ottawa.
- Halifax selected the right-shot, 6-foot-2, 176-pound defenceman in the first round (43rd overall) of the 2024 CHL Import Draft.
- Prior to arriving in the QMJHL, Händel developed in Sweden with the Malmö Redhawks program, totaling 23 points in 37 games across the J18 and J20 levels.
- Internationally, Händel has also represented Germany at the Hlinka Gretzky Cup in back-to-back years, recording one assist in four games in 2023 and two points (1G-1A) in four games in 2024.
- Händel recorded five assists in five games as Germany won the 2024 IIHF U18 World Championship Division I-A title, earning promotion to the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - QMJHL Career: 0 goal on 1 shootout attempt (0.0%)
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)
 - 2024-25: 0 goal on 1 shootout attempt (0.0%)

**Lewandowski, David** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Left Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-2**Weight:** 177 pounds**WHL Club:** Saskatoon Blades**Hometown:** Düsseldorf, GER**Birthdate:** Feb. 20, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 120th Overall, 2nd Round (2024) - SAS**NHL Draft:** 117th Overall, 4th Round (2025) - EDM**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	28	8	24	32	+2	79
2025 PO	4	1	1	2	-3	10
2024-25 RS	52	15	24	39	+21	115
TOTAL RS	80	23	28	71	+23	194

Media Notes:

- As of Dec. 22, Lewandowski leads the Blades in scoring with 32 points in 2025-26.
- Lewandowski will skate in his second IIHF World Junior Championship in 2026 after scoring two goals in five games for Germany at the 2025 World Juniors.
- He's one of three Saskatoon Blades selected to represent Germany in 2026, joining forwards Elias Pul and Dustin Willhöft.
- He was drafted by the Edmonton Oilers in the fourth round of the 2025 NHL Draft.
- In his WHL rookie season (2024-25), Lewandowski finished 10th among WHL rookie forwards in scoring with 39 points (15G-24A) in 52 games.
- Lewandowski signed with the Saskatoon Blades on October 8, 2024, and made his WHL debut on October 12, 2024, at SaskTel Centre against the Moose Jaw Warriors.
- Drafted by the Blades in the second round (120th overall) of the 2024 CHL Import Draft.
- Before arriving in the WHL, he produced at a high rate in 2023-24 with Düsseldorfer EG in Germany's DNL U20, recording 48 points (15G-33A) in 33 games, then added five points (1G-4A) in nine playoff games.
- He also appeared on loan in Germany's third tier in 2023-24, totaling 10 points in 13 games with ESC Moskitos Essen.
- Internationally, Lewandowski won gold with Germany at the 2024 IIHF U18 World Championship Division I-A, producing seven points (2G-5A).
- He has represented Germany at the Hlinka Gretzky Cup in 2023 and 2024, totaling two points (1G-1A) in eight games across the two tournaments.
- Lewandowski comes from a hockey family: his father, Eduard Lewandowski, played more than 20 pro seasons in Europe, including time in the KHL and DEL, represented Germany internationally (including the 2006 Olympics), and was selected by the Phoenix Coyotes in the eighth round (242nd overall) of the 2003 NHL Entry Draft.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: 0 goal on 2 shootout attempt (0.0%)
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)
 - 2024-25: 0 goal on 2 shootout attempt (0.0%)

**Pul, Elias** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Left Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-1**Weight:** 167 pounds**WHL Club:** Saskatoon Blades**Hometown:** Ravensburg, GER**Birthdate:** May 15, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 118th Overall, 2nd Round (2025) - SPO**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS (SPO & SAS)	22	3	3	6	-2	28
TOTAL RS	22	3	3	6	-2	28

Media Notes:

- Pul will skate in his second IIHF World Junior Championship in 2026 after appearing in four games for Germany at the 2025 tournament, where he suited up alongside Linus Vieillard, David Lewandowski, Dustin Willhöft, and Maxim Schäfer.
- He's one of three Saskatoon Blades selected to represent Germany in 2026, joining forwards David Lewandowski and Dustin Willhöft.
- In 2025-25, Pul has recorded six points (3G-3A) in 21 WHL rookie-season games with the Spokane Chiefs before being acquired by the Saskatoon Blades in a trade, and he's expected to join his new club after the World Juniors.
- Pul will now spend the second half of 2025-26 in Saskatoon alongside German teammates David Lewandowski and Dustin Willhöft, with all three set to represent Germany at the 2026 World Juniors.
- The 6-foot-1 winger was selected in the second round (118th overall) of the 2025 CHL Import Draft by the Spokane Chiefs, where he spent the first half of his rookie WHL season playing alongside fellow German Linus Vieillard, before being acquired by the Saskatoon Blades via trade on Dec. 9, 2025.
- Pul spent the 2024-25 season playing professionally with Blue Devils Weiden (DEL2), producing 16 points (9G-7A) in 42 games, then adding two assists in nine playoff games.
- Wearing an "A" for Germany, Pul recorded three points (2G-1A) in three games as Germany captured the 2024 IIHF U18 World Championship Division I-A title to earn promotion to the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship.
- He also served as an assistant captain at the 2023 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, posting three points (1G-2A) in four games.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: N/A – Pul has not had a shootout attempt in his WHL career
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Schneider, Elias** – [QMJHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Left Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot**Weight:** 171 pounds**QMJHL Club:** Shawinigan Cataractes**Hometown:** Rosenheim, GER**Birthdate:** July 8, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 45th Overall, 1st Round (2025) - SHA**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	25	9	14	23	+9	46
TOTAL RS	25	9	14	23	+9	46

Media Notes:

- Schneider will skate in his first IIHF World Junior Championship with Germany in 2026, marking his first time representing his country at the U20 level despite prior international experience.
- Schneider is one of two Shawinigan Cataractes set to compete at the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship, alongside Finnish forward Jiri Klíma.
- In his first season with the Shawinigan Cataractes (QMJHL), Schneider has made an immediate impact with 23 points in 25 games.
 - As of Dec. 22, Schneider ranks fifth on the Cataractes in scoring, sitting tied with teammate and Czech forward Jiří Klíma.
 - His 23 points rank tied for ninth among QMJHL rookies in scoring, sitting level with Germany teammate Maxim Schäfer.
- Selected 45th overall by Shawinigan at the 2025 CHL Import Draft (and the Cataractes' first-round import selection), Schneider arrived in the QMJHL after a highly productive season in Germany.
- In 2024-25 with Eisbären Berlin U20, he erupted for 64 points in 31 games, earning a 13-game call-up to the DEL.
- Internationally, Schneider led Germany in scoring at the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship, recording six points (2G-4A) in five games last spring.
- Schneider recorded three goals in five games as Germany captured the 2024 IIHF U18 World Championship Division I-A title to earn promotion to the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship.
- Represented Germany at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, appearing in two games.
- Schneider comes from a hockey family: his father Andreas Schneider played nearly 20 pro seasons and represented Germany at the World Juniors, his mother Astrid Schneider played professionally in women's hockey, and his brother Andreas Schneider Jr. plays as a forward in German hockey.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - QMJHL Career: 0 goals on 1 shootout attempt (0.0%)
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 1 shootout attempt (0.0%)

**Schäfer, Maxim** – [QMJHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Right Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-3**Weight:** 182 pounds**QMJHL Club:** Chicoutimi Saguenéens**Hometown:** Nuremberg, GER**Birthdate:** May 17, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 18th Overall, 1st Round (2025) - CHI**NHL Draft:** 96th Overall, 3rd Round (2025) - WAS**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	25	12	11	23	+3	48
TOTAL RS	25	12	11	23	+3	48

Media Notes:

- Schäfer is one of two Chicoutimi Saguenéens set to compete at the 2026 World Juniors, along with Danish forward Anton Linde.
- Schäfer will skate in his second IIHF World Junior Championship in 2026 after appearing at the tournament last year, recording three points (2G-1A) in five games.
- In 2025-26, Schäfer has produced 23 points (12G-11A) in 25 games this season for the QMJHL-leading Chicoutimi Saguenéens, who enter the break ranked No. 2 in the CHL Top-10 Rankings.
 - Schäfer's 23 points rank tied for ninth among QMJHL rookies in scoring, sitting level with Germany teammate Elias Schneider.
 - His four power-play goals are tied for third among QMJHL rookies in 2025-26.
 - His 10 power-play points rank fifth among QMJHL rookies in 2025-26.
 - His 25.0% shooting percentage ranks second among QMJHL rookies, having scored 12 goals on 48 shots.
- Selected in the first round (18th overall) of the 2025 CHL Import Draft by Chicoutimi.
- The 18-year-old winger was selected by the Washington Capitals in the third round (96th overall) of the 2025 NHL Draft.
- He split time in 2024-25 between Eisbären Berlin Juniors (German U20 league) and the pro club Eisbären Berlin (DEL), recording 35 points (12G-23A) in 15 U20 games, plus nine points in three playoff games, and appearing in 31 DEL games.
- Internationally, Schäfer recorded three points in five games for Germany at both the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship—where he wore an "A" and scored three goals—and the 2025 IIHF World Junior Championship (2G-1A).
- He also represented Germany at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, recording one assist in four games.
- Listed around 6-foot-3/6-foot-4, Schäfer is described as an aggressive forechecking winger with a knack for arriving on rebounds and creating scoring chances, and he models elements of his game after Tage Thompson.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - QMJHL Career: 0 goals on 2 shootout attempts (0.0%)
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 2 shootout attempts (0.0%)

**Willhöft, Dustin** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Left Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 5-foot-7**Weight:** 129 pounds**WHL Club:** Saskatoon Blades**Hometown:** Kohtla-Jarve, GER**Birthdate:** Jan. 9, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 40th Overall, 1st Round (2025) - SAS**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	28	2	5	7	0	48
TOTAL RS	28	2	5	7	0	48

Media Notes:

- Willhöft will skate in his second IIHF World Junior Championship in 2026 after appearing in four games for Germany at the 2025 tournament, where he suited up alongside Linus Vieillard, David Lewandowski, Elias Pul, and Maxim Schäfer.
- He's one of three Saskatoon Blades selected to represent Germany in 2026, joining forwards David Lewandowski and Elias Pul.
- In his WHL rookie season, the 2007-born winger has recorded five points (1G-4A) in 25 games.
- Willhöft signed a WHL Scholarship and Development Agreement with the Saskatoon Blades on July 17, 2025, after being selected in the first round (40th overall) of the 2025 CHL Import Draft.
- Willhöft arrived after a dominant 2024-25 campaign with Jungadler Mannheim U20 in Germany's DNL U20, piling up 91 points (33G-58A) in 35 games, then adding 13 points (5G-8A) in eight playoff games.
- Internationally, Willhöft represented Germany at the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship, recording five points (3G-2A) in five games last spring.
- Willhöft led Germany in scoring at the 2024 IIHF U18 World Championship Division I-A, recording eight points (2G-6A) in five games as Germany won gold and earned promotion to the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship.
- Willhöft also represented Germany at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, producing three points (1G-2A) in four games alongside current Blades teammate David Lewandowski, a close friend who helped him ease his transition to the WHL.
- Willhöft is committed to Boston College for Fall 2027, meaning he's expected to arrive as a 20-year-old graduating WHL player.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: N/A – Willhöft has not had a shootout attempt in his WHL career
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)



LATVIA



**Kufterins, Ivans** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Goaltender**Catches:** L**Height:** 6-foot-1**Weight:** 165 pounds**WHL Club:** Kamloops Blazers**Hometown:** Riga, LAT**Birthdate:** Jan. 7, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 13th Overall, 1st Round (2025) – KAM**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	RECORD	GAA	SV%	GA	SO
2025-26 RS	13	6-5-1-1	4.03	.888	45	0
TOTAL RS	13	6-5-1-1	4.03	.888	45	0

Media Notes:

- Kufterins is one of two Kamloops Blazers set to compete at the 2026 World Juniors, joining Canadian defenceman Harrison Brunicke, who has spent the 2025-26 season with his NHL club, the Pittsburgh Penguins.
- In his WHL rookie season in 2025-26, Kufterins has posted a 6-5-1-1 record with a 4.03 goals-against average and .888 save percentage.
 - He made his WHL debut on Sept. 26, 2025, earning his first career win by turning aside 34 shots in a 4-3 victory over the Seattle Thunderbirds in Kamloops.
 - Set a career high with 44 saves in a 5-4 shootout loss at Prince George.
 - Kufterins has recorded 30+ saves in six of his 11 starts this season.
- Kufterins signed a WHL Scholarship and Development Agreement with the Kamloops Blazers on July 16, 2025, after being selected 13th overall (1st round) in the 2025 CHL Import Draft.
- A native of Riga, Latvia, Kufterins is listed at 6-foot-2, 170 pounds and developed in the HS Riga program, where he played for the past four seasons.
- In 2024-25, he spent the majority of the year in Latvia's men's pro league, posting a .891 save percentage, a 4.17 GAA, and one shutout across 25 games.
- Internationally, Kufterins served as Latvia's starting goaltender at the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship in Texas, going 1-4 in five games.
- At the U17 club level, he also helped HS Riga capture the Junioru Attistibas Hokeja Liga championship.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: 2 SO goals allowed on 3 career attempts – 1/3 (0.333 SV%)
 - 2025-26: 2 SO goals allowed on 3 attempts (0.333 SV%)
 - 0-1 career W-L record in a shootout

**Vecvanags, Mikus** – [QMJHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Goaltender**Catches:** L**Height:** 6-foot-3**Weight:** 185 pounds**QMJHL Club:** Newfoundland Regiment**Hometown:** Riga, LAT**Birthdate:** Jan. 17, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 19th Overall, 1st Round (2024) – BAT**NHL Draft:** 134th Overall, 5th Round (2024) - MTL**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	RECORD	GAA	SV%	GA	SO
2025-26 RS (NFLD)	6	2-2-0-1	3.86	.850	18	0
2024-25 RS (BAT)	9	1-4-0-0	4.38	.867	28	0
TOTAL RS	15	3-7-0-0	4.16	.861	46	0

Media Notes:

- Vecvanags is playing in his first full QMJHL season with the Newfoundland Regiment after playing nine games with the Acadie-Bathurst Titan in 2024-25, prior to the franchise's relocation to Newfoundland for the 2025-26 season.
- In 2025-26, Vecvanags has made six starts, posting a 2-2-0-1 record with a 3.86 goals-against average and an .850 save percentage.
- In 2024-25, Vecvanags made nine appearances for the Acadie-Bathurst Titan, posting a 1-4-0 record with a 4.38 goals-against average and an .867 save percentage.
 - He made his QMJHL debut on Jan. 4, 2025, turning aside 31 shots in a 5-1 loss to the Cape Breton Eagles in Sydney, N.S.
 - Earned his first league win in his second career start on Jan. 18, 2025, when he stopped 30-of-31 shots in a 2-1 victory over the Charlottetown Islanders.
- Vecvanags signed with the Acadie-Bathurst Titan (QMJHL) on December 27, 2024.
- He began the 2024-25 season in the BCHL with the Brooks Bandits, going 4-1-0 with a .881 save percentage and 3.18 goals-against average in five games before moving to the QMJHL and joining the Acadie-Bathurst Titan for the remainder of the season.
- The Latvian netminder was selected by the Montreal Canadiens in the fifth round (134th overall) of the 2024 NHL Draft.
- Vecvanags was selected by the Acadie-Bathurst Titan in the first round (19th overall) of the 2024 CHL Import Draft.
- Listed at 6-foot-3, Vecvanags posted a 3.00 GAA and a .908 save percentage in nine games for HS Riga in Latvia's top division, while also appearing in 16 games for Tukums in Latvia's second division and eight games for HS Riga 17 at the U18 level.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - QMJHL Career: 1 SO goal allowed on 3 career attempts – 1/3 (0.667 SV%)
 - 2025-26: 1 SO goal allowed on 3 attempts (0.667 SV%)
 - 2024-25: 0 SO goals allowed on 0 attempts (N/A)
 - 0-1 career W-L record in a shootout

**Uljanskis, Darels** – [OHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Defence**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-2**Weight:** 205 pounds**OHL Club:** Flint Firebirds**Hometown:** Riga, LAT**Birthdate:** Aug. 25, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 5th Overall, 1st Round (2025) - FLNT**NHL Draft:** 214th Overall, 7th Round (2024) - ANA**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	13	3	10	13	+7	19
TOTAL RS	13	3	10	13	+7	19

Media Notes:

- A Riga, Latvia native, Uljanskis is playing in North America for the first time in 2025-26.
- In 2025-26, Uljanskis is producing at a point-per-game pace through 13 games, highlighted by four multi-point performances over his last six outings.
 - As of Dec. 22, Uljanskis is one of seven defencemen in the OHL to be averaging a point per game.
 - As of Dec. 22, Uljanskis' 15.8% shooting percentage ranks fifth among OHL defencemen, converting three goals on 19 shots on net.
- He's also provided a major boost to the No. 6-ranked Flint Firebirds since returning from an injury that sidelined him for roughly 18 games, recording the first two multi-point games of his OHL career within his first 10 contests back in the lineup.
- Uljanskis signed a Standard Player Agreement (SPA) with the Flint Firebirds on Aug. 14, 2025.
- Flint selected Uljanskis fifth overall in the 2025 CHL Import Draft after trading up to acquire the pick.
- Uljanskis was drafted by the Anaheim Ducks in the seventh round (214th overall) of the 2024 NHL Draft.
- In 2024-25, he played for AIK J20 in Sweden's J20 Nationell, producing 39 points (9G-30A) in 44 games (also listed as 29 points (11G-18A) in 45 games), and added three points (2G-1A) in two playoff games.
- Uljanskis has spent much of the past four years in Sweden, developing across the AIK (J20/J18), Nacka (J18), and Sollentuna (J16/J18/J20) systems.
- Internationally, Uljanskis has represented Latvia at each of the past two IIHF World Junior Championships (2024 & 2025), recording one assist in five games at both tournaments.
- He has also competed at the IIHF U18 World Championship, skating in five games in 2023 before returning in 2024 wearing an "A" and posting two points (1G-1A) in five games.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - OHL Career: N/A – Uljanskis has not had a shootout attempt in his OHL career
 - **2025-26:** 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Klaucans, Martins** – [QMJHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Left Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot**Weight:** 190 pounds**QMJHL Club:** Sherbrooke Phoenix**Hometown:** Riga, LAT**Birthdate:** July 8, 2008**CHL Import Draft:** 88th Overall, 2nd Round (2025) - SHE**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	26	2	4	6	-8	39
TOTAL RS	26	2	4	6	-8	39

Media Notes:

- Klaucans is a 17-year-old, first-year NHL Draft-eligible forward who joined the Sherbrooke Phoenix for the 2025-26 season.
- Listed at 6-foot-0 and 190 pounds, Klaucans adds size and a power-forward element to both Latvia's lineup and Sherbrooke's forward group.
- Recorded six points (2G-4A) in 26 games during his QMJHL rookie season in 2025-26:
 - Klaucans made his QMJHL debut on Sept. 19, 2025, helping the Sherbrooke Phoenix earn a 2–1 home win over the Québec Remparts.
 - Recorded his first QMJHL point in his second career game on Sept. 20, 2025, picking up an assist in a 6–4 home win over the Victoriaville Tigres.
 - Klaucans scored his first career QMJHL goal on Oct. 30, 2025, in a 6–2 win over the Charlottetown Islanders in Sherbrooke.
 - As of Dec. 22, Klaucans ranks fifth among QMJHL rookies with 183 faceoff wins in 2025-26 (one fewer than Murnieks), winning 52% of his draws to date.
- Selected by the Phoenix in the second round (88th overall) of the 2025 CHL Import Draft.
- In 2024-25, he suited up for the St. Cloud Norsemen (NAHL), producing 13 points in 46 games while playing in St. Cloud, Minnesota.
- Prior to joining St. Cloud, Klaucans spent the 2023-24 season in the United States, and before coming to North America, he developed in Riga, Latvia, his hometown program.
- A native of Riga, Latvia, Klaucans represented his country at the 2025 IIHF World Junior Championship in Ottawa, skating in five games as a 16-year-old.
- He also suited up for Latvia at the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship in Texas alongside Sherbrooke Phoenix teammate Reinis Auzins, scoring two goals in five games.
- In 2024, Klaucans competed at the IIHF U18 World Championship as well, recording two points (1G-1A) in five games.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - QMJHL Career: N/A – Klaucans has not had a shootout attempt in his QMJHL career
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Murnieks, Oliver** – [QMJHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Centre**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-1**Weight:** 190 pounds**QMJHL Club:** Saint John Sea Dogs**Hometown:** Riga, LAT**Birthdate:** July 31, 2008**CHL Import Draft:** 6th Overall, 1st Round (2025) - SNB**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	22	3	10	13	-10	43
TOTAL RS	22	3	10	13	-10	43

Media Notes:

- In 2025-26, during his rookie season in the QMJHL, Murnieks registered three goals and 10 assists for 13 points in 22 games.
 - Made his QMJHL debut on Sept. 19, 2025, recording his first career QMJHL points with a two-assist effort in a 3–2 home win over the Cape Breton Eagles.
 - As of Dec. 22, Murnieks ranks fourth among QMJHL rookies with 184 faceoff wins in 2025-26 (one more than Klaukans), winning 51.5% of his draws to date.
- One of 28 CHL players – and one of six from the QMJHL – to receive an “B” rating from NHL Central Scouting’s preliminary rankings released on Monday, Oct. 20.
- Murnieks, a top prospect for the 2026 NHL Draft, was selected sixth overall as his the Saint John Sea Dogs’ first pick of the day during the 2025 CHL Import Draft.
- The 16-year-old centre (6-foot-1, 190 pounds) played 52 games in 2024-25 with the USHL’s Sioux City Musketeers, recording 35 points (15G-20A) and earning a spot on the USHL All-Rookie Second Team.
- Murnieks finished sixth among USHL rookies in 2024-25 in scoring, posted five multi-point outings, and tied for the lead among league rookies with two shorthanded goals while taking just eight penalty minutes and finishing +2.
- Internationally, he represented Latvia at the 2025 IIHF World Junior Championship, skating on a line with former Saint John Sea Dogs captain Eriks Mateiko and producing four points (1G-3A) in five games.
- With that performance, Murnieks became one of seven 16-year-olds to record four-plus points at the World Juniors since 2000 – joining a list that includes Sidney Crosby, Connor McDavid, Connor Bedard, Aleksander Barkov, Michael Frolik, and Simon Nemeč.
- He also served as an alternate captain for Latvia at the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship, contributing two points in five games.
- Murnieks is noted as the youngest Latvian player to score a goal at the IIHF U18 level and delivered one of Latvia’s most productive World Juniors showings by a 16-year-old.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - QMJHL Career: N/A – Murnieks has not had a shootout attempt in his QMJHL career
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)



SLOVAKIA



**Čapoš, Michal** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Defence**Shoots:** Right**Height:** 6-foot-5**Weight:** 216 pounds**WHL Club:** Wenatchee Wild**Hometown:** Trnava, SVK**Birthdate:** July 16, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 77th Overall, 2nd Round (2025) - WEN**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	24	1	7	8	+4	31
TOTAL RS	24	1	7	8	+4	31

Media Notes:

- Čapoš will skate in his first IIHF World Junior Championship at the 2026 tournament.
- In his first WHL season in 2025-26, Čapoš has produced eight points (1G-7A) in 24 games, while his +4 plus/minus rating ranks second among all Wenatchee skaters.
 - Made his WHL debut on Sept. 20, 2025, in a 4-3 shootout loss against the Everett Silvertips.
 - Scored his first career WHL point on October 18, 2025, in a 6-1 loss to the Seattle Thunderbirds in Seattle.
- Čapoš signed a WHL Scholarship & Development Agreement with Wenatchee on July 15, 2025, after being selected by the Wild in the second round (77th overall) of the 2025 CHL Import Draft.
- Listed at 6-foot-5, 216 pounds, the Trnava, Slovakia native arrived in Wenatchee with pro experience in his home country, including 19 games with HC Nové Zámky in the Slovak Extraliga in 2024-25.
- He also spent time in the NAHL in 2024-25 with the Johnstown Tomahawks, recording two assists in 21 games.
- Internationally, Čapoš suited up for Slovakia at the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship in Texas, scoring one goal in seven games.
- He also represented Slovakia at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, recording one goal in four tournament games.
- Čapoš enters the WHL with an NCAA Division I commitment to Western Michigan University.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: N/A – Čapoš has not had a shootout attempt in his WHL career
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Kovalčík, Filip** – [QMJHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Defence**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-1**Weight:** 187 pounds**QMJHL Club:** Drummondville Voltigeurs**Hometown:** Trencin, SVK**Birthdate:** Dec. 31, 2008**CHL Import Draft:** 109th Overall, 2nd Round (2025) - DRU**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2027 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	29	1	9	10	+8	47
TOTAL RS	29	1	9	10	+8	47

Media Notes:

- Kovalčík will skate in his first IIHF World Junior Championship at the 2026 tournament.
- In his QMJHL rookie season in 2025-26, Kovalčík recorded 10 points (1G-9A) in 29 games.
 - Kovalčík made his QMJHL debut on Sept. 19, 2025, in a 5–3 win over the Chicoutimi Saguenéens at Centre Marcel-Dionne.
 - He recorded his first career QMJHL point on Sept. 26, 2025, collecting an assist in a 3-2 road win over the Sherbrooke Phoenix.
- Kovalčík signed a standard player agreement with the QMJHL's Drummondville Voltigeurs on Sept. 9, 2025.
- Kovalčík was the second-round pick (109th overall) of the Drummondville Voltigeurs during the 2025 CHL Import Draft.
- Listed at 6-foot-1, 187 pounds, Kovalčík was one of the youngest players eligible in the most recent CHL Import Draft (16 until Dec. 31 of this year).
- He represented Slovakia at the Hlinka Gretzky Cup in August, skating in three games.
- A left-shot defenceman, Kovalčík describes himself as a two-way blueliner who defends first, then looks to push offence with puck-carrying and vision.
- Voltigeurs GM Yanick Lemay said Kovalčík is continuing to develop his lateral agility, noting progress already and projecting more offensive involvement as he grows comfortable in the QMJHL.
- Kovalčík developed in the Dukla Trenčín system and has often worn a letter internationally, describing himself as a leader.
- Kovalčík has previously cited Rasmus Dahlin as a player he studies and tries to model elements of his game after.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - QMJHL Career: N/A – Kovalčík has not had a shootout attempt in his QMJHL career
 - **2025-26:** 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Lisy, Matus** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Defence**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot**Weight:** 191 pounds**WHL Club:** Red Deer Rebels**Hometown:** Bratislava, SVK**Birthdate:** June 15, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 80th Overall, 2nd Round (2025) - RD**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	28	2	4	6	-2	25
TOTAL RS	28	2	4	6	-2	25

Media Notes:

- Lisy will skate in his first IIHF World Junior Championship at the 2026 tournament.
- Lisy is one of two Red Deer Rebels set to compete at the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship, alongside Czech forward Samuel Drančák.
- In his first WHL season in 2025-26, Líšy has recorded six points (2G-4A) in 28 games.
 - Made his WHL debut on Sept. 19, 2025, in a 4-2 loss to the Edmonton Oil Kings at the Marchant Crane Centrium in Red Deer.
 - Scored his first WHL goal – and recorded his first career point – on Oct. 7, 2025, in a 3-2 loss to the Lethbridge Hurricanes in Red Deer, Alta.
- A native of Bratislava, Slovakia, the 18-year-old rookie blueliner was selected by Red Deer in the second round (80th overall) of the 2025 CHL Import Draft.
- Líšy brings experience playing against both junior and pro competition, having appeared in 27 games with HK Nitra's senior club in 2024-25 and producing six points (1G-5A).
- At the junior level in Slovakia in 2024-25, he totaled 28 points (3G-25A) in 19 games with HK Nitra U20, then added 10 points in 11 playoff games.
- Internationally, Líšy represented Slovakia at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup (1 GP) and the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship (2A in 7 GP).
- Despite being ranked 73rd among European skaters by NHL Central Scouting in his draft year, Líšy went unselected and remains eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft this season.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: N/A – Líšy has not had a shootout attempt in his WHL career
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Chovan, Jan** – [OHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Right Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-3**Weight:** 198 pounds**OHL Club:** Sudbury Wolves**Hometown:** Bratislava, SVK**Birthdate:** Jan. 9, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 36th Overall, 1st Round (2024) - SBY**NHL Draft:** 184th Overall, 6th Round (2025) - LA**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	27	6	10	16	-19	58
TOTAL RS	27	6	10	16	-19	58

Media Notes:

- Jan Chovan was selected 36th overall in the first round of the 2024 CHL Import Draft and signed with the Sudbury Wolves on June 30, 2025, ahead of the 2025-26 season.
- He was drafted by the Los Angeles Kings in the sixth round (184th overall) of the 2025 NHL Draft.
- Listed at 6-foot-3, 190 pounds (left shot), Chovan is a power forward from Bratislava, Slovakia, known as a high-competite, two-way player with strong hockey sense.
- In 2024-25, he played for Tappara U20 in Finland, serving as an assistant captain as a 17-year-old and producing 23 points (11G-12A).
- In 2023-24, he split time between Tappara's U18 and U20 teams, totaling 44 points (19G-25A) across 50 combined games, and he was among the more productive skaters in Finland's U18 league with 31 points (12G-19A) in 20 games.
- Chovan earned a spot on Slovakia's 2025 World Junior Championship roster, registering two points (1G-1A), which included scoring a game-winning goal against Switzerland in preliminary-round play.
- Internationally, Chovan has been a consistent producer for Slovakia, competing at two Hlinka Gretzky Cups – posting four points (1G-3A) in four games in 2023 and six points (1G-5A) in four games in 2024 – while also appearing at two IIHF U18 World Championships, recording three points (2G-1A) in seven games in 2024 before erupting for eight points (5G-3A) in seven games in 2025.
- Chovan has OHL roots, as his father (Ján Chovan) played in the OHL with the Belleville Bulls and London Knights (2000–02) and was selected by the Toronto Maple Leafs in the seventh round (213th overall) of the 2001 NHL Draft.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - OHL Career: 0 goals on 1 career shootout attempt (0.0%)
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 1 shootout attempt (0.0%)

**Misiak, Alex** – [OHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Left Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot**Weight:** 180 pounds**OHL Club:** Erie Otters**Hometown:** Malinovo, SVK**Birthdate:** June 22, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 32nd Overall, 1st Round (2025) - ER**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	31	5	12	17	-5	59
TOTAL RS	31	5	12	17	-5	59

Media Notes:

- A native of Malinovo, Slovakia, Misiak is regarded as a skilled playmaker with pro experience in his home country.
- During his first OHL season in 2025-26, Misiak has produced 17 points (5G-12A) in 31 games. As of Dec. 22 heading into the holiday break, his 17 points rank third on the Erie Otters.
 - Misiak made his OHL debut on Sept. 19, 2025, in a 5-2 loss to the Guelph Storm at the Sleeman Centre in Guelph, Ont.
 - He recorded his first career OHL point on Sept. 26, 2025, in a 5-2 loss to the Kitchener Rangers at The Aud in Kitchener, Ont.
- Misiak signed an OHL Scholarship and Development Agreement on July 17, 2025, with the Erie Otters after being selected 32nd overall in the CHL Import Draft.
- He became the seventh Slovakian player selected by Erie in the CHL Import Draft, joining a list that includes Erik Černák (49th overall in 2015) and his brother Martin Misiak (1st overall in 2023).
- In 2024-25, he split the season between Slovakia's HKM Zvolen and the USHL's Waterloo Black Hawks, totaling 25 points (12G-13A) in 54 games.
 - After joining Waterloo in the USHL, he produced 18 points (7G-11A) in 28 games.
 - With HKM Zvolen's men's team in Slovakia, he recorded seven points (5G-2A) in 26 games before moving to North America.
- Internationally, Misiak has represented Slovakia, including appearances at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup (4 GP) and the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship (3A in 7 GP).
- Misiak is the younger brother of former Erie Otter and current Chicago Blackhawks prospect Martin Misiak.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - OHL Career: N/A – Misiak has not had a shootout attempt in his OHL career
 - **2025-26:** 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)

**Pobezal, Tomas** – [OHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Centre**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 5-foot-10**Weight:** 179 pounds**OHL Club:** Kingston Frontenacs**Hometown:** Puchov, SVK**Birthdate:** Sep. 18, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 25th Overall, 1st Round (2023) - KIT**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	33	7	11	18	+8	67
TOTAL RS	33	7	11	18	+8	67

Media Notes:

- Through 33 games in 2025-26, Pobezal has collected 18 points with Kingston while earning a regular role on the Frontenacs' top line.
- Pobezal signed an OHL Scholarship and Development Agreement on July 2, 2025, with the Frontenacs ahead of the 2025 CHL Import Draft.
- The Kingston Frontenacs acquired the CHL rights to Slovak forward Tomáš Pobezal from the Kitchener Rangers in a trade completed on June 9, 2025.
- Pobezal was originally selected 25th overall by Kitchener in the first round of the 2023 CHL Import Draft.
- He added four points (1G-3A) in 20 playoff games with HK Nitra in 2024-25.
- Pobezal spent the 2024-25 season playing professionally with HK Nitra in Slovakia's top league (Slovak Extraliga), producing 23 points (15G-8A) in 45 regular-season games as an 18-year-old.
- Pobezal represented Slovakia at the 2025 IIHF World Junior Championship, recording one assist in five games.
- Internationally, Pobezal has been a consistent producer for Slovakia, competing at two Hlinka Gretzky Cups – skating in all four games in 2022 before collecting six points (2G-4A) in four games in 2023 – while also appearing at two IIHF U18 World Championships, playing seven games in 2023 and then serving as team captain in 2025, when he recorded five points (4G-1A) in seven games.
- Despite being ranked 27th among European skaters by NHL Central Scouting ahead of the 2025 NHL Draft, Pobezal went unselected and remains eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft this season.
- Pobezal previously visited Kingston during the 2023 World Juniors window, when the city hosted a pre-tournament exhibition game involving Slovakia.
- He had a prior connection in Kingston through fellow Slovak Jakub Chromiak, who played for the Frontenacs during the 2023-24 season.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - OHL Career: 0 goals on 2 career shootout attempts (0.0%)
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 2 shootout attempts (0.0%)

**Straka, Andreas** – [QMJHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Left Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-1**Weight:** 189 pounds**QMJHL Club:** Québec Remparts**Hometown:** Spisska Nova Ves, SVK**Birthdate:** July 4, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 4th Overall, 1st Round (2024) - QUE**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	25	6	11	17	-1	40
2025 PO	4	0	4	4	-4	6
2024-25 RS	53	9	25	34	-13	91
TOTAL RS	78	15	36	51	-14	131

Media Notes:

- Straka will skate in his first IIHF World Junior Championship at the 2026 tournament.
- In his second QMJHL season in 2025-26, Straka has produced 17 points in 25 games, tied for sixth in scoring on the Québec Remparts.
- As a QMJHL rookie in 2024-25, Straka recorded 34 points (9G-25A) in 53 games.
 - His 34 points ranked seventh among QMJHL rookies, while his 25 assists were third among first-year skaters; he also tied for the rookie lead with two shorthanded assists and ranked tied for second with three shorthanded points.
- Straka was named the recipient of Québec's Gaétan-Duchesne Trophy as the team's top defensive player, joining a list of past recipients that includes Pier-Olivier Roy (2022-23), Nathan Gaucher (2020-21), and Jonathan Audy-Marchessault (2009-10).
- Québec selected forward Andreas Straka with the fourth overall pick in the 2024 CHL Import Draft.
- Straka split time in 2023-24 between HK Poprad's U20 team and Poprad at the pro level, while also representing Slovakia at both the U17 and U18 levels.
- Across all levels in 2023-24 – including international play with Slovakia – he totalled 50 points (21G-29A) in 71 games.
- Represented Slovakia at the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship, registering four points (1G-3A) in seven games.
- A 6-foot-1, 189-pound right-shot forward, Straka has already appeared in 30+ international games for Slovakia.
- He attended Slovakia's U20 national team camp in December 2024.
- Straka's calling card is his defensive-zone work—strong positioning, active stick, and enough pace to track back—while offensively he's effective around the net (net-front and below the goal line), creating second chances and showing flashes as a playmaker.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - QMJHL Career: 2 goals on 7 career shootout attempts (28.6%)
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 2 shootout attempts (0.0%)
 - 2024-25: 2 goals on 5 shootout attempts (40.0%)

**Tomík, Tobias** – [WHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Left Wing**Shoots:** Left**Height:** 6-foot-2**Weight:** 198 pounds**WHL Club:** Vancouver Giants**Hometown:** Ilava, SVK**Birthdate:** Dec. 18, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 29th Overall, 1st Round (2024) - VAN**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

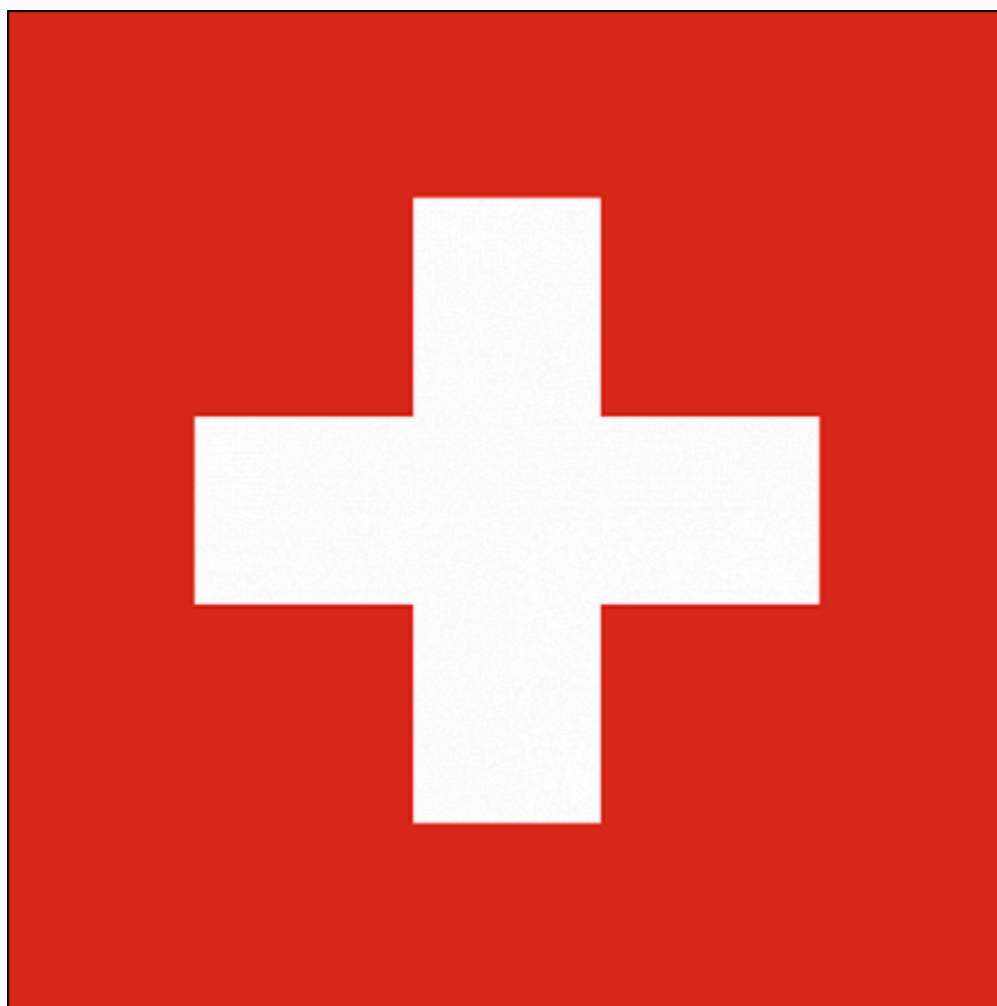
SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	33	8	8	16	-4	62
TOTAL RS	33	8	8	16	-4	62

Media Notes:

- Tomík will compete in his second IIHF World Junior Championship at the 2026 tournament after appearing in all five games for Slovakia at the 2025 World Juniors.
- Tomík is one of two Vancouver Giants set to compete at the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship, alongside Czech forward Adam Titlbach.
- In his first WHL season with Vancouver, Tomík has recorded 16 points (8G-8A) through 33 games to start his 2025-26 campaign.
- Tomík earned a 'C' rating from NHL Central Scouting on its Preliminary Players to Watch List released in October, projecting him as a potential fourth- or fifth-round pick in the 2026 NHL Draft.
- Tomík signed a WHL Scholarship and Development Agreement with the Giants on July 3, 2025.
- Tomík was selected by the Vancouver Giants with the 29th overall pick in the first round of the 2024 CHL Import Draft.
 - Born Dec. 18, 2007 – and just 16 at the time of his selection – Tomík was one of the youngest players chosen in the 2024 CHL Import Draft.
- Tomík developed in Slovakia with HK Dukla Trenčín – the same club former Giants captain & Calgary Flames forward Sam Honzek played for.
- Produced 11 points (4G-7A) in seven games at the U20 level in Slovakia in 2024-25.
- In 2024-25, Tomík played in Slovakia's top pro league with HK Dukla Trenčín, recording eight points (6G-2A) in 40 games.
- Tomík has been a consistent producer for Slovakia, highlighted by two-goal performances at both the 2023 and 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cups – including in 2023, when he was among the tournament's youngest players.
- He has also competed at the IIHF U18 World Championship in both 2024 and 2025, recording five points (2G-3A) in seven games in consecutive years, and was named one of Slovakia's top three players at the 2024 tournament.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - WHL Career: 1 goal on 2 career shootout attempts (50.0%)
 - 2025-26: 1 goal on 2 shootout attempts (50.0%)



SWITZERLAND



**Kirsch, Christian** – [OHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Goaltender**Catches:** L**Height:** 6-foot-4**Weight:** 193 pounds**OHL Club:** Kitchener Rangers**Hometown:** Basel, SUI**Birthdate:** June 18, 2006**CHL Import Draft:** 44th Overall, 1st Round (2025) - KIT**NHL Draft:** 116th Overall, 4th Round (2024) - SJS**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	RECORD	GAA	SV%	GA	SO
2025-26 RS	21	12-7-1-0	2.61	.901	51	1
TOTAL RS	21	12-7-1-0	2.61	.901	51	1

Media Notes:

- A 6-foot-4, 193-pound, left-catching goaltender from Basel, Switzerland.
- Kirsch is one of two Kitchener Rangers set to compete at the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship, alongside Canadian defenceman Cameron Reid.
- Kirsch will skate in his second IIHF World Junior Championship at the 2026 tournament after making four appearances in 2025, going 1-3-0 with a 3.52 goals-against average and an .878 save percentage; his lone victory came against Kazakhstan.
- In 2025-26, Kirsch is 12-7-1-0 with a .901 save percentage and a 2.61 goals-against average, which ranks eighth in the OHL as of Dec. 22.
 - He earned his first career OHL win in his first start on Sept. 26, 2025, stopping 23 of 25 shots in a 5-2 victory over the Erie Otters at the Aud.
 - He recorded his first OHL shutout on Oct. 31, 2025, turning aside all 19 shots in a 3-0 win over the Sudbury Wolves.
- Signed an OHL Standard Player Agreement with the Kitchener Rangers on July 24, 2025.
- Selected by the Kitchener Rangers in the first round (44th overall) of the 2025 CHL Import Draft.
- Drafted by the San Jose Sharks in the fourth round (116th overall) of the 2024 NHL Draft.
- Spent most of 2024-25 with the Janesville Jets (NAHL), posting an 8-15-0 record with a 3.16 goals-against average and a .912 save percentage in 24 games; also appeared in three games with the Green Bay Gamblers (USHL).
- Has represented Switzerland internationally at the U16, U17, U18, and U20 levels.
- Committed to the University of Massachusetts for the 2026-27 season.
- Kirsch is the first Swiss-born goaltender in Kitchener Rangers history and the first Swiss native to play for the club since Yannick Weber (2006-07, 2007-08).
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - OHL Career: N/A – Kirsch has not competed in a shootout in his OHL career
 - **2025-26:** 0 SO goals allowed on 0 attempts (N/A)
 - 0-0 career W-L record in a shootout

**Steiner, Lars** – [QMJHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Right Wing**Shoots:** Right**Height:** 5-foot-10**Weight:** 177 pounds**QMJHL Club:** Rouyn Noranda Huskies**Hometown:** Davos, SUI**Birthdate:** Nov. 12, 2007**CHL Import Draft:** 46th Overall, 1st Round (2025) - ROU**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	15	5	9	14	+6	76
2025 PO	13	4	4	8	+1	43
2024-25 RS	57	23	37	60	+12	203
TOTAL RS	72	28	46	74	+18	279

Media Notes:

- Steiner will compete in his second IIHF World Junior Championship at the 2026 tournament after appearing in all four games for Switzerland at the 2025 World Juniors.
- Despite missing 12 games with injury, Steiner is nearly a point-per-game in 2025-26, recording 14 points (5G-9A) in 15 contests.
- Steiner earned a 'B' rating from NHL Central Scouting on its Preliminary Players to Watch List released in October, projecting him as a potential second- or third-round pick in the 2026 NHL Draft.
- Steiner was named an assistant captain for Rouyn-Noranda prior to the 2025-26 season.
- He earned major rookie recognition in 2024-25, being named to both the QMJHL All-Rookie Team and the CHL All-Rookie Team.
- Steiner finished his rookie season in 2024-25 with 60 points (23G-37A) in 57 games, tying for second in CHL rookie scoring alongside Landon DuPont (Everett Silvertips) and trailing only Matvei Gridin (Shawinigan Cataractes).
- After a strong start to his QMJHL career in 2024-25, he totaled 24 points (8G-16A) in his first 15 league games and was named QMJHL Rookie of the Month for September/October 2024.
- Steiner played primarily with HC Davos U20 in 2023-24, posting 22 points (10G-12A) in 33 games, then added five points (4G-1A) in seven playoff contests.
- He also gained pro experience in Switzerland, appearing in one playoff game with HC Davos in the Swiss National League in 2024.
- Internationally, Steiner has represented Switzerland once, skating in four games at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup and recording two points (1G-1A).
- His uncle, Stefan Steiner, has been HC Davos' equipment manager for roughly the past 15 years and has also served in the same role with Swiss national teams.
- CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - QMJHL Career: 3 goals on 7 career shootout attempts (42.9%)
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)
 - 2024-25: 3 goals on 7 shootout attempts (42.9%)



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



**Reid, Chase** – [OHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Defence**Shoots:** Right**Height:** 6-foot-2**Weight:** 187 pounds**OHL Club:** Soo Greyhounds**Hometown:** Chesterfield, MI**Birthdate:** Dec 30, 2007**OHL Draft:** 125th Overall, 7th Round (2023) - SOO**NHL Draft:** N/A (Eligible for the 2026 NHL Draft)**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	31	14	21	35	+22	129
2025 PO	5	0	3	3	-1	5
2024-25 RS	39	7	33	40	+4	135
TOTAL RS	70	21	54	75	+22	264

Media Notes:

- Reid is one of two Soo Greyhounds set to compete at the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship, alongside Canadian forward Brady Martin.
- A former seventh-round selection (125th overall), Reid's rise has been rapid, beginning last season as a No. 4 defenceman in the NAHL before quickly earning 30-minute nights as Sault Ste. Marie's No. 1.
- His breakout coincided with a significant growth spurt, going from under six feet to 6-foot-2 and producing a point-per-game rookie campaign in 2024-25 (40 points in 39 games).
- Now drawing first-round interest for the 2026 NHL Draft, Reid has emerged as a modern development success story, pairing size with production and progression year over year.
- As of Dec. 22, Reid ranks among the CHL's most productive defencemen, compiling 35 points (14G-21A) in 31 games – second among OHL blueliners (behind Windsor's Carson Woodall, 39 points) and tied for sixth among all CHL defencemen.
 - He also sits near the top of the OHL's defence scoring charts, ranking second in goals (14), tied for fourth in assists (21), tied for second in power-play goals (5), and tied for fourth in power-play points (14), while his 14 goals are tied for fourth among CHL defencemen overall.
- One of 15 CHL players – and one of eight from the OHL – to receive an "A" rating from NHL Central Scouting's preliminary rankings released on Monday, Oct. 20.
- One of seven defencemen from across the CHL – and the lone OHL blueliner – selected to represent Team CHL at the 2025 CHL USA Prospects Challenge in Calgary and Lethbridge, Alta., in late November, scoring one goal in two games.
- Named an alternate captain entering his sophomore OHL season with the Greyhounds in 2025-26.
- Made his OHL debut in 2024-25 and quickly emerged as one of the league's top young defencemen.
- Logged 40 points (7G-33A) in 39 games as a rookie, leading all OHL first-year defencemen in assists.



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- Named to the OHL's First All-Star Team following the 2024–25 campaign.
 - Selected as the OHL's Rookie of the Month for January 2025 – the first defenceman to earn the honour since Zayne Parekh (Dec. 2022).
 - Voted the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds' Rookie of the Year in 2024–25.
 - Joined the Greyhounds in December 2024 from the Bismarck Bobcats (NAHL), after producing 12 points (6G-6A) in 18 games.
 - In 2023–24, recorded 62 points (14G-48A) in 68 games with Victory Honda 16U AAA, while also appearing in 10 games with the Waterloo Black Hawks (USHL).
 - One of 15 CHL players – and one of eight from the OHL – to receive an "A" rating on NHL Central Scouting's Preliminary Players to Watch list released Oct. 20.
 - **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - OHL Career: 0 goals on 1 career shootout attempt (0.0%)
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)
 - 2024-25: 0 goals on 1 shootout attempt (0.0%)

**Spellacy, AJ** – [OHL Player Profile](#)**Position:** Centre**Shoots:** Right**Height:** 6-foot-3**Weight:** 204 pounds**OHL Club:** Windsor Spitfires**Hometown:** Westlake, OH**Birthdate:** Feb. 24, 2006**OHL Draft:** 62nd Overall, 3rd Round (2022) - WSR**NHL Draft:** 72nd Overall, 3rd Round (2024) - CHI**CAREER REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF STATISTICS**

SEASON	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	SOG
2025-26 RS	27	9	8	17	-5	61
2025 PO	5	1	2	3	+2	9
2024-25 RS	62	18	19	37	+3	159
2023-24 RS	67	21	17	38	-22	106
2022-23 RS	46	7	10	17	-1	58
TOTAL RS	203	55	54	109	-25	384

Media Notes:

- Spellacy will skate in his first IIHF World Junior Championship at the 2026 tournament.
- Spellacy is one of two Windsor Spitfires set to compete at the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship, alongside Canadian forward and Spitfires captain Liam Greentree.
- In 2025-26, Spellacy has recorded 17 points (9G-8A) in 27 games with the Spitfires.
- Named one of the OHL's best bodycheckers in the Western Conference in the 2025 OHL Coaches Poll.
- In 2024-25, Spellacy recorded 37 points (18G-19A) in 62 games with Windsor while serving as an alternate captain for the first time.
- Signed a three-year, entry-level contract on January 23, 2025, with the Chicago Blackhawks that runs through the 2026-27 season.
- Owns 109 points (55G-54A) in 203 OHL regular-season games with the Spitfires, after being selected by Windsor in the third round (62nd overall) of the 2022 OHL Priority Selection.
- Internationally, Spellacy helped Team USA win bronze at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, recording one assist in five games.
- Drafted by the Blackhawks in the third round (72nd overall) of the 2024 NHL Draft.
- Set OHL career highs in 2023-24, totaling 21 goals and 38 points in 67 games.
- Listed at 6-foot-2, 195 pounds, and is a Westlake, Ohio native.
- Before committing fully to hockey, Spellacy was also a standout high school football player, reportedly holding multiple Division I scholarship offers.
- **CAREER SHOOTOUT DATA**
 - OHL Career: N/A – Spellacy has not had a shootout attempt in his OHL career
 - 2025-26: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)
 - 2024-25: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)
 - 2023-24: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)
 - 2022-23: 0 goals on 0 shootout attempts (N/A)