



U.S. NATIONAL JUNIOR TEAM GAME NOTES

2016 International Ice Hockey Federation
World Junior Championship

USA (4-0-0-1) vs. Russia (4-1-0-0)
Semifinal

Semifinal • Monday, Jan. 4, 2016 • 8 p.m. Local/1 p.m. ET • Hartwall Arena • Helsinki, Finland

TONIGHT'S GAME

Team USA returns to the semifinals of the IIHF World Junior Championship for the first time since 2013 and will face Russia, a team it has never defeated in a medal-round game in the World Juniors (0-6). Russia has eliminated the U.S. from the World Juniors in the quarterfinals each of the last two years, including by a 3-2 count last year in Montreal. In that game, the U.S. outshot Russia, 41-25. **Zach Werenski** had a goal and **Auston Matthews** an assist. Russia scored twice on the power play, including once with a two-man advantage. Tonight's game will be televised live in the U.S. on NHL Network.

USA vs. Russia

Tale of the Tape

Category	USA	Russia
Record	4-0-0-1	4-1-0-0
Goals For/Avg.	25/5.00	18/3.60
Goals Against/Avg.	5/1.00	10/1.94
Power Play	.227 (5-22)	.333 (5-15)
Penalty Killing	.917 (11-12)	.941 (16-17)
Shots For Gm/Avg.	183/36.6	152/30.4
Shots Against Gm/Avg.	123/24.6	117/23.4
Shorthanded Goals	2	1
Top Scorers	Matthews (7-4-11) Tkachuk (2-6-8) White (3-4-7) Werenski (2-5-7)	Korshkov (1-5-6) Provorov (0-6-6) Kamenev (4-1-5) Lauta (3-2-5)

SERIES VS. RUSSIA

The U.S. is 5-0-0-11 (W-OTW-OTL-L) all-time against Russia in the IIHF World Junior Championship. Russia has won the last four games between the two teams. The last U.S. win was a 3-2 preliminary round victory in 2007.

IN GOAL TONIGHT

Alex Nedeljkovic is the likely starter in goal tonight. He has allowed the fewest goals (4) and ranks first in goals-against-average (1.15) and save percentage (.954) among goaltenders in the World Juniors. His last outing came on Jan. 2 when he made 28 saves for his first shutout to help Team USA defeat the Czech Republic, 7-0, in the quarterfinals.

TEAM USA STATS THUS FAR

Auston Matthews leads all players in the 2016 IIHF World Junior Championship in goals (7) and is tied for fourth in points (11) ... **Alex Nedeljkovic** leads all goaltenders in the tournament in both goals against average (1.15) and save percentage (.954) ... **Zach Werenski** is second in points (7) among all defensemen ... The U.S. has two shorthanded goals in the tournament, the most of any team ... Eighteen players have earned at least one point ... Three players have points in four of Team USA's five games, including Matthews, **Sonny Milano** and **Matthew Tkachuk** ... The line of Matthews (7-4-11), Tkachuk (2-6-8) and **Colin White** (3-4-7) has combined for 26 points or 40% of Team USA's total of 65 points.

THINGS TO KNOW

The U.S. is 3-0 in games with an 8 p.m. start time in the 2016 World Juniors (Canada (4-2), Switzerland (10-1), Czech Republic (7-0)) ... U.S. Head Coach **Ron Wilson** on Russia, "They're strong in all phases of the game. If we can establish an aggressive forecheck and make them adjust to our style of play, I like our chances." ... **Auston Matthews** and **Matthew Tkachuk** are the first U.S. players to notch at least eight points in a world junior championship since 2013 when **Johnny Gaudreau** (9), **J.T. Miller** (9), **Jacob Trouba** (9) and **Alex Galchenyuk** (8) each reached or surpassed the mark in seven games ... **Zach Werenski's** seven points (2-5) are the most by a U.S. defenseman since **Seth Jones** (1-6-7) and **Jacob Trouba** (4-5-9) reached the mark in 2013.

ADDING TO HIS LEGACY

Head Coach **Ron Wilson**, who is leading Team USA for the eighth time in international competition, has now led a U.S. team to the semifinal round for the seventh time.

Year	Event	Result
1994	IIHF Men's World Championship	Fourth
1996	IIHF Men's World Championship	Bronze
1996	World Cup of Hockey	First
1998	1998 Olympic Winter Games	Sixth
2004	World Cup of Hockey	Fourth
2009	IIHF Men's World Championship	Fourth
2010	2010 Olympic Winter Games	Silver

TEAM USA SCHEDULE

Exhibition Games

	Dec. 18 UMASS	W, 4-0 Mullins Center		Dec. 22 FINLAND	W, 3-2 Isku Arena
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2016 IIHF World Junior Championship Games*

	Dec. 26 CANADA	Preliminary Round (home/white)	W, 4-2 Helsinki Ice Hall		Jan. 2 CZECH REPUBLIC	Quarterfinals (home/white)	W, 7-0 Helsinki Ice Hall
	Dec. 28 SWEDEN	Preliminary Round (visitor/blue)	L, 0-1 Helsinki Ice Hall		Jan. 4 RUSSIA	Semifinals (visitor/white)	8 P.M. Local/1 P.M. ET Helsinki Ice Hall
	Dec. 30 SWITZERLAND	Preliminary Round (home/white)	W, 10-1 Helsinki Ice Hall		Jan. 5 BRONZE MEDAL		4 P.M. Local/9 A.M. ET Hartwall Arena
	Dec. 31 DENMARK	Preliminary Round (visitor/white)	W, 4-1 Helsinki Ice Hall		Jan. 5 GOLD MEDAL		8:30 P.M. Local/3:30 P.M. ET Hartwall Arena

*All games broadcast live on NHL Network (DirectTV 215, Dish 157)

PREVIOUS SEMIFINAL GAMES

The U.S. National Junior Team is 4-0-1-6 (W-OTW-OTL-L) all-time in semifinal games in the world junior championship.

Year	Result	W	OTW	OTL	L	Opponent
1997	5-2	W				Czech Republic
2000	1-4				L	Czech Republic
2003	2-3				L	Canada
2004	2-1	W				Finland
2005	2-7				L	Russia
2006	1-5				L	Russia
2007	1-2			OTL		Canada
2008	1-4				L	Canada
2010	5-2	W				Sweden
2011	1-4				L	Canada
2013	5-1	W				Canada

QUARTERFINALS

JAN. 2: USA 7, CZECH REPUBLIC 0

Auston Matthews had a hat trick, **Nick Schmaltz** recorded a goal and two assists, and **Alex Nedeljkovic** stopped all 28 shots he faced as the U.S. National Junior Team defeated the Czech Republic, 7-0, in the quarterfinals. In total, 13 different players notched at least a point in the win. Schmaltz was named the U.S. Player of the Game.

PRELIMINARY ROUND GAME #4

DEC. 31: USA 4, DENMARK 1

Anders Bjork, **Auston Matthews**, **Sonny Milano** and **Colin White** each scored and **Brandon Halverson** made 16 saves as the U.S. National Junior Team defeated Denmark, 4-1. **Brandon Carlo** was named the U.S. Player of the Game.

PRELIMINARY ROUND GAME #3

DEC. 30: USA 10, SWITZERLAND 1

Eleven players contributed points as the U.S. National Junior Team earned a 10-1 victory over Switzerland. Five players had three or more points in the game, led by **Auston Matthews** with four (2-2--4) and **Matthew Tkachuk** (2-1--3), **Christian Dvorak** (1-2--3), **Colin White** (1-2--3) and **Zach Werenski** (1-2--3) each with three. Matthews was named the U.S. Player of the Game.

PRELIMINARY ROUND GAME #2

DEC. 28: SWEDEN 1, USA 0

Team USA outshot Sweden, 46-23, but fell 1-0. **Zach Werenski**, who led all players in the game with six shots on goal, was named the U.S. Player of the Game. The loss was Team USA's first against Sweden in the last 12 outings (10-1-0-0-1), which included three medal-game victories (gold: 2013, bronze: 2011, 2007).

PRELIMINARY ROUND GAME #1

DEC. 26: USA 4, CANADA 2

The four captains - **Louie Belpedio**, **Auston Matthews**, **Zach Werenski** and **Colin White** - each scored to lead the U.S. past rival Canada, 4-2. White was named U.S. Player of the Game. The win was the ninth consecutive in tournament-opening games for Team USA.

LAST HAT TRICK SINCE

Auston Matthews, who scored three times in Team USA's 7-0 win over the Czech Republic on Jan. 2, is the first U.S. player to score a hat trick in a world junior championship since **Johnny Gaudreau** notched three goals in a 7-0 quarterfinal victory over the Czech Republic on Jan. 2, 2013. Matthews is just the seventh U.S. player to score at least seven goals in a world junior championship and is one goal shy of tying the U.S. single-tournament record of eight held by **Jeremy Roenick** (1989).

SUPPORT STAFF EXPERIENCE

Stan Wong is serving as an athletic trainer for the U.S. National Junior Team for the 14th consecutive year while **Dr. Phil Johnson** is the team physician for the 12th consecutive year. Wong was inducted into the Professional Hockey Athletic Trainers Hall of Fame this past summer. **Scott Aldrich**, who along with Johnson and Wong were on the support staffs of Team USA's two most recent medal-winning teams at the World Juniors (gold: 2013; bronze: 2011), is serving as an equipment manager for the team for the fifth straight year. U.S. National Junior Team staff newcomers include equipment manager **David Gilbert** (Univ. of Notre Dame) and athletic trainer **Brian Brewster** (Michigan Tech Univ.).

USA HOCKEY HAPPENINGS

2016 IIHF U18 Women's World Championship

The 2016 U.S. Women's National Under-18 Team is currently in Buffalo, New York, for its training camp in preparation of the 2016 IIHF Under-18 Women's World Championship, set for Jan. 8-15 at Meridian Centre in St. Catharines, Ontario.

2016 World Sled Hockey Challenge

The 2016 U.S. National Sled Hockey Team is set to open the 2016 season in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, for the 2016 World Sled Hockey Challenge. The reigning champion in the event, Team USA is seeking its fourth title.

Hockey Weekend Across America

USA Hockey hosts the ninth annual Hockey Weekend Across America, Feb. 19-21, 2016. Hockey Weekend Across America is focused on celebrating the sport and those involved while sharing hockey with new audiences. For more information, visit HockeyWeekendAcrossAmerica.com.

2016 IIHF U18 Men's World Championship

Grand Forks, North Dakota, is set to host the 2016 IIHF Under-18 Men's World Championship from April 14-24, 2016. The 10-team event, which features the top players in the world under the age of 18, will be staged at Ralph Engelstad Arena (main venue) and Icon Sports Center (secondary venue). For more information, visit grandforks2016.com.

GROUP A FINAL STANDINGS

Team	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF:GA	PTS
Sweden	4	4	0	0	0	19:5	12
USA	4	3	0	0	1	18:5	9
Canada	4	1	1	0	2	13:12	5
Denmark	4	1	0	0	2	4:16	3
Switzerland	4	0	0	1	2	7:23	1

ALL-TIME RESULTS VS. RUSSIA

IIHF World Junior Championship

Date	Round	W	OTW	OTL	L	T	GF	GA
1/2/92	Round-Robin				L		0	5
1/2/93	Round-Robin	W					4	2
12/30/93	Round-Robin				L		3	4
12/26/94	Round-Robin	W					4	3
12/28/97	Preliminary-Round				L		2	3
1/1/02	Quarterfinals				L		1	6
12/26/02	Preliminary-Round				L		1	5
12/31/03	Preliminary-Round	W					4	1
12/25/04	Preliminary-Round	W					5	4
1/2/05	Semifinals				L		2	7
1/3/06	Semifinals				L		1	5
12/29/07	Preliminary-Round	W					3	2
1/5/08	Bronze-Medal				L		2	4
12/28/12	Preliminary-Round				L		1	2
1/2/14	Quarterfinals				L		3	5
1/2/15	Quarterfinals				L		2	3
TOTALS	16 GP	5	0	0	11	0	38	61

TIDBITS FROM PAST GAME NOTES

Episode Four of Stars and Stripes, USA Hockey’s all-access video series documenting the journey of the 2016 U.S. National Junior Team, includes a tour of Team USA’s lockerroom. It can be found at worldjuniors.usahockey.com ... Team USA (3-0-0-1) won three of its four preliminary-round games for the third year in a row ... **Gavin Regan**, vice president of USA Hockey and chair of the organization’s international council, and **Ron DeGregorio**, co-chairman of the board of USA Hockey, have been in Helsinki with Team USA since the beginning of the tournament and will be here through the duration of the event ... The U.S. allowed five goals in four preliminary round games, tying the 1997 squad for second fewest goals allowed in the preliminary round by a U.S. team. The 2004 and 2011 U.S. squads share the record for fewest goals against with four. All three of those teams went on to earn medals, including one gold (2004), one silver (1997) and one bronze (2011) ... Three U.S. players have birthdays in January, including **Scott Eansor** (Jan. 3), **Alex Nedeljkovic** (Jan. 7) and **Colin White** (Jan. 30) ... All-time, Team USA is 13-1-1-9-1 (W-OTW-OTL-L-T) in 35 contests on New Year’s Eve. In those contests, the U.S. has outscored its opponents 101-81 ... The 10-1 victory over Switzerland on Dec. 30 marked Team USA’s largest margin of victory in tournament play since a 12-2 win over Latvia on Jan. 3, 2012.

The largest ever margin of victory for Team USA in the World Junior Championship came on Jan. 1, 1991, when it defeated Norway, 19-1 ... Team USA had Dec. 29 off and enjoyed a team lunch in downtown Helsinki before exploring the city or spending time with family ... **Kelly Miller**, assistant coach at Michigan State University, arrived Dec. 27 and is serving as an advance scout with Team USA throughout the rest of the tournament ... Team USA’s 4-2 win Dec. 26 was its first against Canada in the preliminary round of the World Junior Championship since a 5-2 victory on Dec. 31, 1998 Four U.S. players celebrated birthdays in December, including **Matthew Tkachuk** (Dec. 11), **Alex DeBrincat** (Dec. 18), **Will Borgen** (Dec. 19) and **Charlie McAvoy** (Dec. 21) The U.S. has not opened the World Junior Championship against two “big six” countries since 2002 when it faced Czech Republic (W, 3-1) and Sweden (T, 2-2) ... On Dec. 23, captain **Zach Werenski** took over USA Hockey’s Twitter to interact with fans prior to the 2016 IIHF World Junior Championship ... On Dec. 24, players and staff celebrated Christmas with a gift giving event where players took turns acknowledging what they are thankful for. Common themes included thanking their families, the chance to spend the holiday together as a team, and the opportunity to represent the United States and compete for a gold medal.



2016 U.S. NATIONAL JUNIOR TEAM GAME-BY-GAME SCORING

No	Name	UMASS (W, 4-0) 12/18	FIN (W, 3-2) 12/22	CAN (W, 4-2) 12/26	SWE (L, 0-1) 12/28	SUI (W, 10-1) 12/30	DEN (W, 4-1) 12/31	CZE (W, 7-0) 1/2	RUS 1 p.m. ET 1/4	TBD
4	Chad Krysz	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
5	Brandon Fortunato	--	--	--	--	--	A	--	--	
7	Matthew Tkachuk	DNP	A*	AA	--	GGA*	AA	A		
8	Louie Belpedio (A)	--	--	W	--	--	A*	--		
9	Nick Schmaltz	W	--	--	--	GA	--	WAA#		
10	Anders Bjork	A	--	--	--	--	P	--		
11	Christian Dvorak	AA	G	A	--	GAA	--	G		
12	Alex DeBrincat	DNP	W	--	--	DND	DND	G		
13	Zach Werenski (C)	--	--	GA	#	GAA	--	AA		
14	Scott Eansor	--	--	--	--	--	--	S(U)		
17	Ryan MacInnis	A	--	--	--	--	--	A		
18	Colin White (A)	G	--	GA*#	--	SA*A	GA	--		
19	Ryan Donato	--	--	--	--	U	--	A		
20	Will Borgen	--	--	A*	--	--	--	A		
21	Ryan Hitchcock	--	--	--	--	A	--	--		
23	Brock Boeser	--	--	--	--	A	--	A*		
25	Charlie McAvoy	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
26	Brandon Carlo	--	--	--	--	G	#	A		
28	Sonny Milano	GGA	UA#	A	--	AA	WA	A		
34	Auston Matthews (A)	DNP	A*	GA	--	WGAA#	GA	PPG		
36	Brandon Halverson	ND (31:40) 7/7	ND (30:00) 10/8	DNP	DNP	ND (31:51) 20/20	W (60:00) 17/16	DNP		
31	Alex Nedeljkovic	W (28:16) 7/7	W (30:00) 15/15	W (60:00) 27/25	L (60:00) 23/22	W (28:09) 8/7	DNP	W (60:00) 28/28		

= Team USA's Player of the Game

Key: G-goal; S-shorthanded goal; U-unassisted goal; W-game-winning goal; A-assist; asterik-assist on game-winning goal; DND-did not dress; DNP-did not play

MEDAL SUCCESS

The United States has reached the medal round in six of the last ten IIHF World Junior Championships, taking home hardware on four occasions (gold: 2010, 2013; bronze: 2007, 2011).

In the 38-year history of the event, Team USA has garnered eight medals (3 gold, 1 silver, 4 bronze).

U.S. MEDALS AT THE WJC

Year	Medal	Coach	Medal-Round Game
2013	Gold	Phil Housley	W, 3-1 vs. Sweden
2011	Bronze	Keith Allain	W, 4-2 vs. Sweden
2010	Gold	Dean Blais	OTW, 6-5 vs. Canada
2007	Bronze	Ron Rolston	W, 2-1 vs. Sweden
2004	Gold	Mike Eaves	W, 4-3 vs. Canada
1997	Silver	Jeff Jackson	L, 0-2 vs. Canada
1992	Bronze	Walt Kyle	W, 3-2 vs. Czechoslovakia
1986	Bronze	Dave Peterson	W, 5-1 vs. Sweden

RETURN TO HELSINKI

The U.S. National Junior Team is in Helsinki for the first time since 2004 where it won its very first gold medal in the IIHF World Junior Hockey Championship. The core of that team included current NHL stars **Ryan Kesler**, **Zach Parise**, **Drew Stafford** and **Ryan Suter**. Parise, whose 11 points led the tournament all-star team and took home the awards for best forward and tournament MVP.

WINNERS LEADING TEAM USA

Each member of the 2016 U.S. National Junior Team coaching staff has experienced winning at the highest level. Head coach **Ron Wilson** guided Team USA to the championship in the inaugural World Cup of Hockey in 1996. A three-time Stanley Cup champion (Montreal 1986; Detroit: 2002, 2008), assistant coach **Chris Chelios** skated for Coach Wilson in the inaugural 1996 World Cup of Hockey and skated with Team USA general manager, **Jim Johannson**, on the University of Wisconsin squad that claimed the 1982 NCAA national championship. Assistant coach **Danton Cole**, in addition to coaching the U.S. Men's National Under-18 Team to a pair of



gold medals at the IIHF Men's Under-18 World Championship (2012, 2014), as a player earned a Stanley Cup with the New Jersey Devils in 1995 and won an NCAA national title at Michigan State University in 1986. In addition to serving on the coaching staff of two gold medal-winning U.S. Men's National Under-18 Teams (2014, 2015), assistant coach **Kevin Reiter** was the starting goaltender for the Fort Wayne Komets that won the International Hockey League's Turner Cup championship in 2007-08.

LEADERSHIP GROUP

Zach Werenski is the captain of the 2016 U.S. National Junior Team and the second youngest player ever to captain a U.S. National Junior Team behind **Jack Eichel**, who captained the squad last year. **Louie Belpedio**, **Auston Matthews** and **Colin White** are the alternate captains. Werenski was an alternate captain for the 2014 U.S. National Under-17 Team that claimed the World Under-17 Hockey Challenge in Sydney, Nova Scotia. Belpedio served as captain for the 2014 U.S. National Under-18 Team that captured the gold medal at the IIHF U18 Men's World Championship in Lappeenranta, Finland. Additionally, Matthews and White were alternate captains for the gold medal-winning 2015 U.S. National Under-18 Team that competed in the IIHF U18 Men's World Championship in Zug and Lucerne, Switzerland.

PRE-TOURNAMENT RECAP

The United States, which arrived in Helsinki the afternoon of Dec. 24, began its journey towards the 2016 IIHF World Junior Championship with 27 players convening in Boston for a team meeting the night of Dec. 14. The U.S. had a camp at Boston University from Dec. 15-18 that culminated with a 4-0 victory over UMass in a pre-tournament game at Mullins Center in Amherst, Massachusetts, on Dec. 18. The U.S. then moved to Vierumaki, Finland, on Dec. 19, where it continued preparation for the tournament through Dec. 24. The time in Vierumaki included a 3-2 victory over Finland in a pre-tournament game at Isku Arena in Lahti on Dec. 22.

IIHF WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP EXPERIENCE

The U.S. has seven players who played for the 2015 U.S. National Junior Team that competed at the 2015 IIHF World Junior Championship in Montreal and Toronto, Canada.

D	Brandon Carlo	(5GP, 0-1--1)
G	Brandon Halverson	(1GP, 1-0-0-0)
F	Auston Matthews	(5GP, 1-2--3)
F	Sonny Milano	(5GP, 2-2--4)
G	Alex Nedeljkovic	(0GP)
F	Nick Schmaltz	(5GP, 0-1--1)
D	Zach Werenski	(5GP, 1-1--2)

ADDITIONAL INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

The U.S. roster features 16 players with international experience.

Eleven members of the squad have earned a gold medal as a member of the U.S. Men's National Under-18 Team. Last year, **Chad Krys**, **Auston Matthews**, **Charlie McAvoy**, **Matthew Tkachuk** and **Colin White** helped Team USA win gold while **Louie Belpedio**, **Anders Bjork**, **Brandon Fortunato**, **Ryan Hitchcock**, **Matthews**, **Sonny Milano**, and **Alex Nedeljkovic** led Team USA to gold in 2014.

Additionally, **Brock Boeser** (2015), **Brandon Carlo** (2014) and **Nick Schmaltz** (2014) skated for the U.S. Under-18 Select Team in the annual Ivan Hlinka Memorial Tournament. Boeser captained the squad in 2015.

HEAD COACH RON WILSON



Ron Wilson is serving as head coach of the U.S. National Junior Team for the first time.

Wilson, who is eighth all-time in National Hockey League history in wins, is the first U.S. National Junior Team head coach to have previously served as a head coach in the NHL.

The 2016 International Ice Hockey Federation World Junior Championship marks the eighth time Wilson will lead Team USA in international competition. Wilson has been Team USA's head coach for some of its brightest moments, including guiding Team USA to the silver medal at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver, British Columbia, and the championship of the inaugural World Cup of Hockey in 1996. Wilson also directed the U.S. Men's National Team that captured the bronze medal at the 1996 IIHF Men's World Championship in Vienna, Austria. The medal was the first for the United States in an IIHF Men's World Championship A-Pool since 1962 (excluding Olympic years), when the U.S. also earned the bronze.

Wilson also led the U.S. Men's National Team to fourth-place finishes at the 2009 IIHF Men's World Championship in Bern and Zurich-Kloten, Switzerland, and the 1994 IIHF Men's World Championship in Bolzano, Canazei, and Milan, Italy. He also served as head coach for Team USA at the 1998 Olympic Winter

Games in Nagano, Japan, and the 2004 World Cup of Hockey. An assistant coach for the U.S. entry at the 1990 Goodwill Games, Wilson has been involved with USA Hockey since the mid-1970s, having played for the U.S. Men's National Team at four IIHF Men's World Championships (1975, 1981, 1983, 1987). He also captained the 1988 U.S. Men's Select Team that captured the championship of the prestigious Spengler Cup in Davos, Switzerland.

Wilson, who has coached 1,401 NHL games and has 648 wins to his credit, has 18 years of experience as a head coach in the NHL with stops in Toronto (2008-12), San Jose (2002-08), Washington (1997-2002) and Anaheim (1993-97). In 15 full NHL seasons (minimum 82 games in a season) as a head coach, Wilson's teams reached the post-season eight times; won four division titles; won one playoff conference title; reached the Stanley Cup Final once; reached at least 90 points seven times; reached at least 100 points four times; reached at least 40 wins seven times; and reached 50 wins once.

A seventh-round selection (132nd overall) of the Toronto Maple Leafs in the 1975 NHL Amateur Draft, Wilson recorded 26 goals and 67 assists for 93 points in 117 career NHL games as a player with Toronto and Minnesota.

Prior to his time in the NHL, Wilson played four years of college hockey at Providence (1973-77). He was an All-America selection twice and a four-time All-ECAC selection. As a sophomore, he was named ECAC Player of the Year when he led the nation with 87 points (26 goals and 61 assists) in only 26 games. Wilson, a member of the Providence Athletic Hall of Fame, still holds the school records (and NCAA records for defensemen) in career points (250), assists (172), most points in a single season (87) and single-season assists (61).

Wilson and his wife, Maureen, have two grown daughters, Kristen and Lauren.

LEAGUE LEADERS

A number of U.S. players are prominent scorers in their respective leagues.

University of North Dakota freshman **Brock Boeser** leads all NCAA freshmen in goals (13) and ranks third among freshmen in scoring (21). Centering Boeser at North Dakota is **Nick Schmaltz**, who ranks second in the NCAA in assists (23) and sits fifth overall in points (26).

Alex DeBrincat of the Erie Otters leads the OHL in goals (33) and ranks fourth overall in points (56).

London Knights' captain **Christian Dvorak** leads the OHL in points (65), ranks second to DeBrincat in goals (28) and is fourth in assists (37). **Matthew Tkachuk**, who skates with Dvorak in London, leads the OHL in assists (45) and ranks second behind Dvorak in points with 59.

Boston University defenseman **Brandon Fortunato** ranks third among all NCAA defenders in points (15).

Additionally, Boston College freshman **Colin White** leads all NCAA freshmen in assists (15) and ranks second in points (23). His 23 points rank tenth among all NCAA skaters.

HANGING WITH THE OLDER CROWD

The 2016 U.S. National Junior Team has eight "under-agers" this year, including seven players born in 1997 (**Brock Boeser, Alex DeBrincat, Auston Matthews, Charlie McAvoy, Matthew Tkachuk, Colin White, Zach Werenski**) and one in 1998 (**Chad Krys**).

HOMEGROWN TALENT

Sixteen of the 22 players on the U.S. National Junior Team have ties to the United States Hockey League, the only Tier I junior league in the country. Of those 16 players, 12 (listed below) are current or former members of USA Hockey's National Team Development Program, which is located in Plymouth, Michigan.

- D Louie Belpedio (2012-14)
- F Anders Bjork (2012-14)
- D Brandon Fortunato (2012-14)
- F Ryan Hitchcock (2012-14)
- D Chad Krys (2014-16)
- F Ryan MacInnis (2013-14)
- F Auston Matthews (2013-15)
- D Charlie McAvoy (2013-15)
- F Sonny Milano (2012-14)
- F Matthew Tkachuk (2013-15)
- D Zach Werenski (2012-14)
- F Colin White (2013-15)

BUFFALO TO HOST 2018 IIHF WJC

The IIHF World Junior Championship is returning to Buffalo in 2018 from Dec. 26, 2017-Jan. 5, 2018, and will include an outdoor game for the first time in tournament history. It's the sixth time the tournament will be held in the United States. Previous World Junior tournaments in the U.S. were held in Minneapolis/St. Paul (1982), Anchorage, Alaska (1989), Boston (1996), Grand Forks, N.D., Thief River Falls, Minn. (2005) and Buffalo (2011).

HALL OF FAME CONNECTIONS

The U.S. National Junior Team attended the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame Induction at the Renaissance Waterfront Hotel the night of Dec. 18 where **Ron DeGregorio, Chris Drury, Angela Ruggiero** and **Mathieu Schneider** were inducted as the Class of 2015.

There are several connections between the U.S. National Junior Team and this year's U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame inductees. **Ron Wilson**, head coach of the 2016 U.S. National Junior Team, served as head coach for Team USA at the inaugural 1996 World Cup of Hockey where **Mathieu Schneider** and **Chris Chelios**, assistant coach of the 2016 U.S. National Junior Team, helped the United States claim the championship. Also on that team was **Keith Tkachuk**, whose son, Matthew, hopes to help the U.S. claim gold here at the 2016 IIHF World Junior Championship.

Chelios, Schneider and Tkachuk were joined by U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame Class of 2015 inductee **Chris Drury** as members of the 2006 U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team that competed in the 2006 Olympic Winter Games in Torino, Italy. Wilson, who coached the quartet in 2006, also coached Drury and the 2010 U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team to a silver medal at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Additionally, Chelios and Tkachuk were inducted into the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame together as part of the Class of 2011. Chris Drury also trained one summer with fellow Class of 2015 inductee **Angela Ruggiero**.

ROSTER BREAKDOWN

Home States of Team USA		Other Leagues	
New York	4	AHL	1
Michigan	3	National A-Swiss	1
Colorado	2	OHL	6
Illinois	2	WHL	2
Massachusetts	2	USHL	1
Minnesota	2		
Missouri	2	-----	
Wisconsin	2		
Arizona	1		
Connecticut	1		
Ohio	1		
Tale of the Tape			
<u>Birth Year</u>		Average Age: 19 years, 1 mo.	
1996	14	Average Height: 6'0"	
1997	7	Average Weight: 184 lbs.	
1998	1	Shoots/Catches: L: 14; R: 8	
<u>By College</u>		Youngest Player:	
Boston University	2	Chad Krys (4/10/98)	
University of North Dakota	2	Oldest Player:	
Boston College	1	Scott Eansor (1/3/96)	
Harvard University	1		
Miami University	1		
St. Cloud State University	1		
University of Michigan	1		
University of Notre Dame	1		
Yale University	1		



TEAM USA AND THE NHL



BREAKDOWN

Overall NHL Draft Picks: 14
 2016 NHL Draft Eligible: 5
 NHL Free Agents: 3

FIRST ROUND (5)

Zach Werenski (CBJ, 8th ovr., 2015)
 Sonny Milano (CBJ, 16th ovr., 2014)
 Nick Schmaltz (CHI, 20th ovr., 2014)
 Colin White (OTT, 21st ovr., 2015)
 Brock Boeser (VAN, 23rd ovr., 2015)

SECOND ROUND (6)

Alex Nedeljkovic (CAR, 37th ovr., 2014)
 Brandon Carlo (BOS, 37th ovr., 2015)
 Ryan MacInnis (ARZ, 43rd ovr., 2014)
 Ryan Donato (BOS, 56th ovr., 2014)
 Christian Dvorak (ARZ, 58th ovr., 2014)
 Brandon Halverson (NYR, 59th ovr., 2014)

THIRD ROUND (1)

Louie Belpedio (MIN, 80th ovr., 2014)

FOURTH ROUND (1)

Will Borgen (BUF, 92nd ovr., 2015)

FIFTH ROUND (1)

Anders Bjork (BOS, 146th ovr., 2014)

2016 NHL DRAFT ELIGIBLE

F Alex DeBrincat
 D Chad Krys
 F Auston Matthews
 D Charlie McAvoyn
 F Matthew Tkachuk

FREE AGENTS

F Scott Eansor
 D Brandon Fortunato
 F Ryan Hitchcock

BY TEAM

Boston Bruins	3
Arizona Coyotes	2
Columbus Blue Jackets	2
Buffalo Sabres	1
Carolina Hurricanes	1
Chicago Blackhawks	1
Minnesota Wild	1
New York Rangers	1
Ottawa Senators	1
Vancouver Canucks	1

CCM/USA HOCKEY

ALL-AMERICAN PROSPECTS GAME

Sixteen players on the U.S. National Junior Team have skated in the CCM/USA Hockey All-American Prospects Game, which provides the best U.S. players eligible for next year's NHL Entry Draft the opportunity to showcase their skills on a national stage. To date, 74 alumni have been drafted in the NHL, including 15 first-round selections. Eight players skated in the 2013 game, including **Louie Belpedio, Anders Bjork, Ryan Donato, Ryan Hitchcock, Ryan MacInnis, Sonny Milano, Alex Nedeljkovic,** and **Nick Schmaltz**; four players skated in the 2014 game, including **Brock Boeser, Brandon Carlo, Zach Werenski** and **Colin White**; and four players skated in the 2015 game, including **Alex DeBrincat, Chad Krys, Charlie McAvoyn** and **Matthew Tkachuk**.

NHL FAMILY TIES

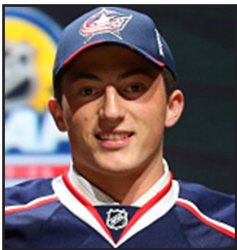
Four players in tonight's lineup have family members with National Hockey League experience, including **Anders Bjork** (cousin of Erik Condra); **Ryan Donato** (son of Tom Donato); **Ryan MacInnis** (son of Al MacInnis); and **Matthew Tkachuk** (son of Keith Tkachuk, cousin of Tom Fitzgerald as well as Jimmy and Kevin Hayes). Additionally, **Nick Schmaltz's** brother, Jordan, signed with the St. Louis Blues this offseason after being drafted by them in the first round of the 2013 NHL Draft.

IN THE NHL RECORD BOOKS

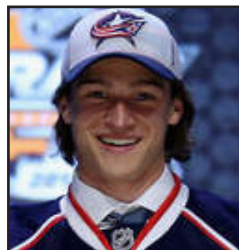
While head coach **Ron Wilson** is eighth all-time in National Hockey League history in wins (648), assistant coach **Chris Chelios** retired as the all-time leader in games played by a defenseman in league history (1,651). A three-time Norris Trophy winner (1989, 1993, 1996), Chelios' 948 career points (185-793) rank 10th all-time among NHL defensemen.

STANLEY CUP WINNERS

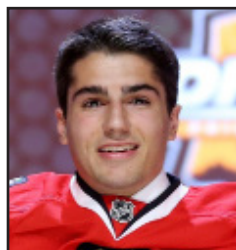
Both assistant coaches behind Team USA's bench are Stanley Cup champions. **Chris Chelios** won three Stanley Cups (Montreal 1986; Detroit 2002, 2006) during his 26-year NHL career while **Danton Cole** helped the New Jersey Devils claim the Stanley Cup in 1995 for the first time in organization history.



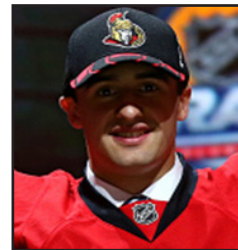
Zach Werenski
 Columbus Blue Jackets
 1st. rd., 8th overall, 2015



Sonny Milano
 Columbus Blue Jackets
 1st. rd., 16th overall, 2014



Nick Schmaltz
 Chicago Blackhawks
 1st. rd., 20th overall, 2014



Colin White
 Ottawa Senators
 1st. rd., 21st overall, 2015



Brock Boeser
 Vancouver Canucks
 1st. rd., 23rd overall, 2015

TEAM USA HISTORY

IIHF World Junior Championship

Past Tournaments

Year	Location	Gold	Silver	Bronze	U.S. Record	U.S. Finish
2015	Montreal/Toronto, Canada	Canada	Russia	Slovakia	2-1-0-2	5th
2014	Malmö, Sweden	Finland	Sweden	Russia	3-0-0-2	5th
2013	Ufa, Russia	United States	Sweden	Russia	5-0-0-2	Gold
2012	Calgary/Edmonton, Canada	Sweden	Russia	Canada	3-0-0-3	7th
2011	Buffalo/Niagara, New York	Russia	Canada	United States	5-0-0-1	Bronze
2010	Regina/Saskatoon, Canada	United States	Canada	Sweden	5-1-1-0	Gold
2009	Ottawa, Canada	Canada	Sweden	Russia	3-1-0-2	5th
2008	Pardubice/Liberec, Czech Republic	Canada	Sweden	Russia	4-0-0-2	4th
2007	Leksand/Mora, Sweden	Canada	Russia	United States	3-1-2-1	Bronze
2006	Kamloops/Kelowna/Vancouver, Canada	Canada	Russia	Finland	3-3-1	4th
2005	Grand Forks, N.D./Thief River Falls, Minnesota	Canada	Russia	Czech Republic	3-4-0	4th
2004	Helsinki/Hameenlinna, Finland	United States	Canada	Finland	6-0-0	Gold
2003	Halifax/Sydney, Canada	Russia	Canada	Finland	4-3-0	4th
2002	Pardubice/Hradec Kralove, Czech Republic	Russia	Canada	Finland	4-1-2	5th
2001	Moscow/Podolsk, Russia	Czech Republic	Finland	Canada	5-2-0	5th
2000	Skellefteå/Umeå, Sweden	Czech Republic	Russia	Canada	2-3-2	4th
1999	Winnipeg, Canada	Russia	Canada	Slovakia	3-3-0	8th
1998	Helsinki/Hameenlinna, Finland	Finland	Russia	Switzerland	4-3-0	5th
1997	Geneva/Morges, Switzerland	Canada	United States	Russia	4-1-1	Silver
1996	Boston, Massachusetts	Canada	Sweden	Russia	3-3-0	5th
1995	Red Deer, Canada	Canada	Russia	Sweden	3-4-0	5th
1994	Ostrava/Frydek-Mistek, Czech Republic	Canada	Sweden	Russia	1-5-1	6th
1993	Gävle/Fulunä, Sweden	Canada	Sweden	Czechoslovakia	4-3-0	4th
1992	Füssen/Kaufbeuren, Germany	CIS	Sweden	United States	5-2-0	Bronze
1991	Saskatoon, Canada	Canada	Soviet Union	Czechoslovakia	4-2-1	4th
1990	Helsinki/Turku, Finland	Canada	Soviet Union	Czechoslovakia	1-6-0	7th
1989	Anchorage, Alaska	Soviet Union	Sweden	Czechoslovakia	3-3-1	5th
1988	Moscow, Soviet Union	Canada	Soviet Union	Finland	1-6-0	6th
1987	Piestany, Czechoslovakia	Finland	Czechoslovakia	Sweden	4-3-0	4th
1986	Hamilton, Canada	Soviet Union	Canada	United States	4-3-0	Bronze
1985	Helsinki/Turku, Finland	Canada	Czechoslovakia	Soviet Union	2-5-0	6th
1984	Nyköping, Sweden	Soviet Union	Finland	Czechoslovakia	2-5-0	6th
1983	Leningrad, Soviet Union	Soviet Union	Czechoslovakia	Canada	3-4-0	5th
1982	Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota	Canada	Czechoslovakia	Finland	2-5-0	6th
1981	Füssen/Augsburg, Germany	Sweden	Finland	Soviet Union	2-3-0	6th
1980	Helsinki, Finland	Soviet Union	Finland	Sweden	1-3-1	7th
1979	Karlstad, Sweden	Soviet Union	Czechoslovakia	Sweden	2-3-0	6th
1978	Montreal, Canada	Soviet Union	Sweden	Canada	4-2-0	5th
1977	Bystrica-Zlôven, Czechoslovakia	Soviet Union	Canada	Czechoslovakia	1-5-1	7th

Record vs. Opponent

Opponent	Games	Record	GF	GA	Opponent	Games	Record	GF	GA
Austria	2	2-0-0-0-0	15	2	Kazakhstan	4	4-0-0-0-0	34	4
Belarus	4	3-0-0-1-0	23	11	Latvia	2	2-0-0-0-0	24	3
Canada	43	7-1-3-29-3	119	177	Norway	6	5-0-0-1-0	62	17
Czech Republic	21	11-1-1-7-1	70	60	Poland	5	3-0-0-1-0	29	12
Czechoslovakia	16	4-0-0-12-0	51	90	Russia	16	5-0-0-11-0	38	61
Denmark	2	2-0-0-0-0	15	4	Soviet Union	12	1-0-0-11-0	32	76
Finland	31	11-3-0-16-1	121	141	Slovakia	15	11-0-0-3-1	68	34
Germany	11	10-0-1-0-0	65	14	Switzerland	22	20-0-0-0-2	128	43
West Germany	13	10-0-0-3-0	80	45	Sweden	31	13-1-0-15-2	100	114
Japan	1	1-0-0-0-0	12	2	Ukraine	2	0-0-0-2-0	5	7

Record vs. Opponent in Playoffs

	CAN	CZE	FIN	RUS	SVK	SWE	Total
Gold	2-1	NA	NA	NA	NA	1-0	3-1
Bronze	0-1	0-1	0-2	0-1	NA	2-0	2-5
Semifinal	1-4	1-1	1-0	0-2	NA	1-0	4-7
Quarterfinal	0-1	4-1	2-0	0-3	0-1	2-1	8-7
Total	3-7	5-3	3-2	0-6	0-1	6-1	17-20

TEAM USA ALL-TIME RECORDS

Single Tournament

Most Goals						Most Assists					
Rank	Name	Pos.	Year	GP	G	Rank	Name	Pos.	Year	GP	A
1	Jeremy Roenick	F	1989	7	8	1	Doug Weight	F	1991	7	14
2	Auston Matthews⁺	F	2016	5	7	2	Derek Stepan*	F	2010	7	10
	Johnny Gaudreau*	F	2013	7	7		Phil Kessel*	F	2006	7	10
	Chris Bourque*	F	2006	7	7	4	Pat Peake	F	1993	7	9
	Peter Ferraro	F	1993	7	7		Mike Modano	F	1989	7	9
	Scott Young	F	1987	7	7		Alfie Turcotte	F	1984	7	9
	Mark Green	F	1978	6	7		Bobby Crawford	F	1978	6	9
8	Jerry D'Amigo*	F	2010	7	6	8	Kyle Palmieri*	F	2010	7	8
	Chris Kreider*	F	2010	7	6		Jordan Schroeder*	F	2009	6	8
	James van Riemsdyk*	F	2009	6	6		Kevin Shattenkirk*	D	2009	6	8
	Colin Wilson*	F	2008	6	6		Jeremy Roenick	F	1989	7	8
	Jon DiSalvatore	F	2001	7	6		Tom Pederson	F	1989	7	8
	Jeff Taffe	F	2001	7	6						
	Brian Gionta*	F	1999	6	6						
	Jeff Farkas	F	1998	7	6						
	Adam Deadmarsh	F	1995	7	6						
	Brian Rolston	F	1993	7	6						
	Trent Klatt	F	1991	8	6						
	Keith Tkachuk	F	1991	7	6						
	Mike Modano	F	1989	7	6						
	John LeClair	F	1989	7	6						
	David Emma	F	1989	7	6						
	Darren Turcotte	F	1987	7	6						
	Steve Leach	F	1986	7	6						
	Paul Ranheim	F	1986	7	6						
	Wally Chapman	F	1984	7	6						
	Paul Miller	F	1977	7	6						

Career Tournament

Games Played				Points					
Rank	Name	Years	GP	Rank	Name	Pos.	Years	GP	A
1	Brian Lee	2005-07	21	1	Jordan Schroeder*	F	2008-09	19	27
	Adam Deadmarsh	1993-95	21	2	Jeremy Roenick	F	1988-89	14	25
	Brian Rolston	1991-93	21	3	James van Riemsdyk*	F	2007-09	19	22
	Ted Crowley	1988-90	21	4	Brian Rolston	F	1991-93	21	20
	Scott Young	1985-87	21		Mike Modano	F	1988-89	14	20
	Chris Biotti	1985-87	21	6	Doug Weight	F	1991	7	19
	Brian Leetch	1985-87	21		Pate Peake	F	1992-93	14	19
	Steve Leach	1984-86	21		Zach Parise*	F	2003-04	13	19
9	Patrick O'Sullivan	2003-05	20		Peter Ferraro	F	1992-93	14	19
	Ryan Suter	2003-05	20		Brian Gionta*	F	1998-99	13	19
	Andrew Hilbert	1999-01	20						

Goals						Assists					
Rank	Name	Pos.	Years	GP	G	Rank	Name	Pos.	Years	GP	A
1	Jeremy Roenick	F	1988-89	14	13	1	Jordan Schroeder*	F	2008-09	19	20
2	James van Riemsdyk*	F	2007-09	19	12	2	Doug Weight	F	1991	7	14
3	Brian Gionta*	F	1998-99	13	11	3	Jeremy Roenick	F	1988-89	14	12
4	Brian Rolston	F	1991-93	21	10		Phil Kessel*	F	2005-06	14	12
	Mike Modano	F	1988-89	14	10		Kyle Palmieri*	F	2010-11	13	12
	Peter Ferraro	F	1992-93	14	10	6	Bobby Crawford	F	1977-79	18	11
	John LeClair	F	1988-89	14	10	7	Brian Rolston	F	1991-93	21	10
	Steve Leach	F	1984-86	21	10		Ryan Suter*	D	2003-05	20	10
	Chris Kreider*	F	2010-11	13	10		James van Riemsdyk*	F	2007-09	19	10
9	Zach Parise*	F	2003-04	13	9		Mike Modano	F	1988-89	14	10
	Pat Peake	F	1992-93	14	9		Pat Peake	F	1992-93	14	10
	Scott Young	F	1985-87	21	9		Chris Ferraro	F	1992-93	14	10
	Colin Wilson*	F	2008-09	12	9		Zach Parise*	F	2003-04	13	10
	Mike York	F	1996-98	19	9		Derek Stepan*	F	2010	7	10
	Keith Tkachuk	F	1991-92	14	9						

*Currently in the NHL, ^Minimum three games played, +Tournament in Progress

TEAM USA ALL-TIME GOALTENDER RECORDS

Single Tournament

<u>Goals Against Average[^]</u>					<u>Save Percentage[^]</u>				
Rank	Name	Year	GP	GAA	Rank	Name	Year	GP	SV%
1	Al Montoya*	2004	6	1.33	1	John Gibson*	2013	7	.955
	Rick DiPietro	2001	6	1.33	2	Al Montoya*	2004	6	.944
3	John Gibson*	2013	7	1.36	3	Jack Campbell	2011	6	.941
4	Jean-Marc Pelletier	1998	3	1.67	4	Thatcher Demko	2015	4	.939
5	Jack Campbell	2011	6	1.70	5	Jeff Frazee	2007	5	.938
6	Jeff Frazee	2007	5	1.72	6	Bobby Goepfert	2003	7	.937
7	Thatcher Demko	2015	4	1.74	7	Rick DiPietro	2000	5	.935
8	Bobby Goepfert	2003	7	1.77	8	Mike Dunham	1992	6	.932
9	Rick DiPietro	2000	5	1.81	9	Rick DiPietro	2001	6	.927
10	Mike Heinke	1991	4	2.00	10	Jeff Callinan	1993	3	.924

Career Tournament

<u>Games Played</u>				<u>Minutes Played</u>			
Rank	Name	Year(s)	GP	Rank	Name	Year(s)	MIN
1	Alan Perry	1984-86	18	1	Alan Perry	1984-86	968:40
2	Jack Campbell	2010-12	14	2	Jack Campbell	2010-11	816:46
3	Al Montoya*	2004-05	13	3	Al Montoya*	2004-05	753:15
4	Rick DiPietro	2000-01	11	4	Rick DiPietro	2000-01	658:40
5	John Vanbiesbrouck	1982-83	10	5	Brian Boucher	1996-97	576:43
	Brian Boucher	1996-97	10	6	Mike Dunham	1991-92	540:00
7	Jason Glickman	1988-89	9	7	John Vanbiesbrouck	1982-83	479:36
	Mike Dunham	1991-92	9	8	John Gibson*	2012-13	458:07
9	John Gibson*	2012-13	8	9	Jason Glickman	1988-89	451:40
10	Jason Bacashihua	2002	7	10	Jason Bacashihua	2002	420:00
	Robert Goepfert	2003	7				
	Mike Richter	1985-86	7				
	Cory Schneider*	2005-06	7				

<u>Goals Against Average[^]</u>				
Rank	Name	GP	Year(s)	GAA
1	Rick DiPietro	11	2000-01	1.55
2	Jean-Marc Pelletier	3	1998	1.67
3	John Gibson*	8	2012-13	1.70
4	Thatcher Demko	4	2015	1.74
5	Robert Goepfert	7	2003	1.77
6	Mike Heinke	4	1991	2.00
7	Jack Campbell	14	2010-12	2.20
8	Jeff Frazee	6	2006-07	2.25
9	Brian Boucher	10	1996-97	2.29
10	Al Montoya*	13	2004-05	2.39

<u>Wins</u>				
Rank	Name	Year(s)	Wins	
1	Jack Campbell	2010-12	10	
2	Al Montoya*	2004-05	9	
3	Rick DiPietro	2000-01	7	
4	Brian Boucher	1996-97	6	
	Mike Dunham	1991-92	6	
6	John Gibson*	2012-13	5	
	Jeff Frazee	2006-07	5	
	Alan Perry	1984-86	5	
9	Mike Lee	2010	4	
	Jeremy Smith	2008	4	
	Bobby Goepfert	2003	4	
	Jason Bacashihua	2002	4	
	John Vanbiesbrouck	1982-83	4	
	Paul Joswiak	1978	4	

<u>Shutouts</u>				
Rank	Name	Year(s)	SO	
1	Al Montoya*	2004-05	2	
	Rick DiPietro	2000-01	2	
	Brian Boucher	1996-97	2	
4	Thatcher Demko	2015	1	
	Brandon Halverson	2015	1	
	John Gibson*	2012-13	1	
	Jack Campbell	2010-12	1	
	Thomas McCollum	2009	1	
	Jean-Marc Pelletier	1998	1	
	Mike Heinke	1991	1	

*Currently in the NHL
[^]Minimum three games played

