Welcome to another fantasy hockey season. It's been a pretty interesting offseason for many teams. Lots of new faces in new places (looking at you, Tavares). With the NHL season around the corner, that also means another fantasy hockey season is about to start!

The draft kit has been set up to help you take down your upcoming draft. You can download the entire draft kit as a PDF, or each section individually. If you have any questions about the draft kit or you need some clarification on something mentioned, don't hesitate to reach out to me on twitter <u>@fuzzychris91</u>

Fantasy Hockey Draft Rules

In this section, we'll take a look at some draft rules that could help you win your league. Are these rules going to work? Maybe, but it doesn't hurt to give them a try, right? You can use a combination of these rules, or all of them! Let's get right to it.

Always Draft the Best Player Available

I can't stress this one enough. I've seen people do some terrible things because they "absolutely" have to draft a certain position because of "scarcity." Don't be like the Montreal Canadiens-- draft the best player available!

Many experts will talk about how deep the C position is, and that's true. If you look at the <u>top-20 player rankings in fantasy for 2018-19</u>, there are 11 centres, seven wingers and two goalies. Some of those players have duo-position eligibility (we'll look at that later on), but the majority are listed at C.

This doesn't mean that you should be drafting a winger ahead of a centre! Lots of leagues have UTIL spots, which should be used to roster centers. If you put yourself in a position where you feel the need to pass up on a player because you can't fit them into your lineup, don't!



You can always draft a player and trade them immediately after the draft or at the beginning of the season to another owner who's lack at that same position. I've used this strategy in MLB (drafting a ton of good SPs and moving them for hitters during the season) and it's worked out pretty well for the last couple of years. The science isn't exactly the same, but it's not far.

Every fantasy team will experience injuries, so having bench players who can produce is a huge bonus. It's usually the difference between winning a league, and losing one. If you're in a deep league (16 or more teams) or your league has a really deep bench, this becomes even more important.

It's rare that all 32 NHL teams will play on the same night, so there's a good chance that he will still be in your lineup more often than not. It will happen that you'll have to make some tough decisions on a Saturday, but game matchups/injuries/line matchups will dictate your decisions.

There's really no reason to pass up on the best player available at the draft. Don't get cute with your picks, just stick to what the board allows you to draft.

Drafting a Goalie

Drafting a goalie has become somewhat of an art in fantasy. If you play NHL DFS, you know how hard it is trying to pick a goalie every night that isn't going to be terrible. In season long, it's all about timing. Everyone wants an elite goalie on their team, but what is considered an elite?

For the last couple of years, I've used the 30 win plateau as a benchmark to evaluate elite goalies, but then I had a Snickers and realized that isn't a good way of evaluating goalies. Instead, i've gone with a more modern formula-- winning percentage. Take the number of games a goalie starts and divide it by the number of wins. Simple math that gives you a pretty decent number.

You can't stop there though, you also have to look at other stats. To simplify life, I use a 2.50 GAA and a .920 SV% as a benchmark to evaluate if a goalie is elite or not. The goal is to narrow down a list of goalies that have a 60+ winning percentage, a below 2.50GAA and a SV% above .920. If you want to get really technical, you can look at five-on-five SV% and GAA to give you a more accurate breakdown.

If you exclude the 60% winning percentage, seven goalies from last season have a GAA below 2.50 and a SV% above .920%:

- -John Gibson
- -Sergei Bobrovsky
- -Jonathan Quick
- -Connor Hellebuyck
- -Pekka Rinne
- -Antti Raanta (yes, it's true)
- -Marc-Andre Fleury

If you now adjust the winning percentage to those seven goalies, only three make the list: Pekka Rinne (71%), Connor Hellebuyck (68%) and Marc-Andre Fleury (63%).



Those are your three elite goalies from last season that I would be looking to target again this season. This doesn't means that a goalie like Andrei Vasilevskiy isn't a good pick, It just means that he isn't considered elite (in my books) and that if you wanted to reach a round on any of those three, you probably should. Is there some risk that Las Vegas doesn't repeat their magic from last season? Yes. Is it possible that Rinne loses his starting job to Saros? Yes. These are all factors to consider, but when you look at the numbers, these are

the goalie that are worth targeting in your upcoming draft.

Don't be afraid to draft any of the other four who didn't hit the 60% winning percentage. If you are in a points league that penalizes you for a goalie loss, those four goalies above don't maximize your return quite as well as the three others. If you league has no penalty, or you're in a category league, all seven of those goalies are a great pick (we'll look more are different type of leagues in another article).

"Undraftable" Players

Let me start off by saying one thing--no player is "undraftable in fantasy hockey. Undraftable should be forgotten from every ones vocabulary. Not only is it not an actual word, but there no reason to pass up on a player may hold value just because you have some preconceived idea that's probably not true.

My favourite is the "I can't draft player X because he's always gets hurt." First name that people yell out is usually Evgeni Malkin. I'll give people some credit--Malkin hasn't played 82 games since 2008-09 and last season was the first time since 2011-12 that he played more than 70 games in a season (excluding the lockout season of course).

That being said, Malkin has averaged over a point-per-game since he entered the league back in 2006-07. Last season, he finished with 98-points in 78 games, giving him 1.26 points per game, his highest total since 2011-12.

Some players get hurt a lot (looking at you Kris Letang too), but that doesn't mean you should be passing up on these players! I'll take a point-per-game player in the top-5 EVERY DAY of the week.

Second excuse people love to say is "player X had a terrible preseason, so I can't draft him" or the "he's going to lose playing/ power play time to player Y, so he's not worth drafting anymore." You can't predict an 82 game schedule, period. Can the preseason hurt a player? No, because it's the preseason, and nothing counts. People love to buy into the hype of players having a good preseason, but that shouldn't add to a players value (with the exception of rookies).

If Sidney Crosby has one point the entire preseason, he shouldn't be knocked in your rankings because of that.

It's simple-- you draft a player that can give you the most value. Is Milan Lucic good? of course not, but I'll take a risk on him in round-15 of a 12-team league if there's a chance that he plays with McDavid again. At worst, he flops and five weeks into the season he ends up on the bench.

Rookie Drafting

I love drafting rookies late in fantasy hockey. It's become an art that I try to improve on every year. The motto in any fantasy league is still true-- you can't win a league on draft day, but you can lose it.

Rookies are a high risk/ high reward that can help you win a league. Draft the wrong ones too early, and you're passing up on a player that could have made the difference for you. Rookies hold value in leagues, but you can't get carried away with reaching for a kid who just may not work out.



In keeper and dynasty leagues, the formula is different, but in redraft leagues, it's important to evaluate rookies as they are--unpredictable. This season, Most people will be looking at Dahlin, Zadina and Svechnikov as early targets, but the real targets to look at late in drafts are Yamamoto (EDM), Tolvanen (NSH) and Mittelstadt (BUF). Of course, it's still early for rookies and the preseason will help us better understand which players we should be targeting. I'll have a rookie section in the draft kit updated as we start to clear up which players could stick around for the season, and which players are

probably heading back to juniors.

Fantasy Hockey Draft Strategies

There are so many different types of leagues out there. The most common ones are: head-to-head (H2H), points-only, Rotisserie (ROTO) and categories (H2HCat). You can even

have leagues that are a mix of the above. What's important is that you build the right draft strategy based on your league type and your league settings. Generic draft guides won't give you an advantage come draft day. In fact, it could put you a step behind the competition. Let's look at some different strategies for each of the leagues mentioned above.

Points-Only League

This is probably the most common league out there: points-only league. It's really simple-- at the end of the season, the team with the most points wins! How do teams collect points? Usually it based on player points (goals, assists, points) and goalie stats (wins and shutouts). Again, this can vary from league to league, but well use player points and goalie stats.

The strategy here is actually quite simple, yet at the same time, extremely complex. If you draft players who don't accumulate points, you'll fall behind very quickly, maybe too far behind to catch up! The waiver wire becomes very important to try and find players who are on a hot streak, and to let certain players go who aren't performing up to expectations.

The strategy that has worked best for me is to target forwards who are averaging close to a point-per-game (0.9P/GM), defenceman averaging 0.6P/GM and goalies with 30-plus wins. This is a formula that I use specifically, you can adjust it to meet your league settings.

What works with this strategy is it will adjust for player injuries. Some players are going to get hurt, but if they average over 0.9P/GM, they are worth a roster spot in my books.

This strategy does have it flaws, specifically with rookies. Since they have no prior NHL experience, It's hard to accurately predict how many points in a season they will have. For points-only leagues, I usually stay away from rookies altogether, but that's a risk i'm willing to take.

If we break down those numbers, <u>43 forwards averaged over 0.9P/GM</u>, <u>21 defecemen averaged over 0.6P/GM</u> and <u>12 goalies with 30+ wins</u>. These are very raw numbers, so they will have some flaws. This also doesn't take into account a decline in a players expected points. Every draft strategy will have flaws, but it's about limiting those flaws. I've had some success in recent years with the strategy and i'll be using it again this upcoming season.

<u>Head-to-Head (H2H)</u>

I love playing head-to-head fantasy hockey. Some people hate this format, but I love the ability to face a new opponent every week! H2H focuses on drafting players who will accumulate points based on goals, assists, shots on goal saves and goals against. As always, leagues can vary in how players accumulate points. The goal here to finish with more points than they other team you're facing.

The draft strategy here is to focus on players who rack up a bunch of points (duh!) and to target goalies who win games, make a boat load of saves and give up very few goals.

The best strategy here is to target forwards who average about 0.9P/GM and close to 200 SOG per year. You'll also want to look at players who have a lot of success on the power play. Players like Steven Stamkos and Alex Ovechkin are power play gods. Some leagues reward players who score goals and rack up assists on the power play or penalty kill. These players become extra valuable.

For defenceman, you'll want to look at players who average around 0.6P/GM, collect points on the power play, and in some cases, block shots and hit. Some leagues will reward players who dish out hits and who block a ton of shots. This adds a specific value to players who may not rack up a ton of points, but can block shots on a nightly basis (TJ Brodie comes to mind off the bat).

I'll say this about blocked shots and hits-- I won't go out my way to over value those two categories. If two players have the same amount of points, I'll look to draft the player that averages a higher amount of blocked shots per game, but I won't draft a player who blocks more shots over a player who collects points. Shots blocked in a "nice have" stat. It adds value to some players who may not have much value in standard leagues because they don't rack up points.

As for hits, I won't even consider it when drafting a defenceman. All NHL players hit, some more than others, but some leagues reward 0.2 points per hit. At the end of the day, it's not a huge margin to force my hand to draft a player who hits more than another.

Rotisserie (ROTO)

I'm going to be brutally honest here-- I hate roto leagues. I don't play them and I never will. I understand the concept, but I have draft based on category needs and not the best player available! It's more common to play roto in baseball, but there are some roto leagues out there for hockey.

A rotisserie league usually has five to eight categories. Depending on the number of teams in your league, you'll get points for how high in that category you are.

For example, in a 12-team league, if you lead the league in hits, you'll accumulate 12 points. If you're last in that same category, you'll accumulate one point. In a eight category league with 12 teams, a "perfect score" would be 96 points (12x8). The goal is to get as close to 96 as possible. Every day, you could go up, or down, depending on if another team jumps you in a certain category.

The best draft strategy here is to draft a player who fills multiple categories. Neglecting a category completely could really hurt your team, so you'll need to build a draft strategy that fits your league specific rules.

Like I said, i'm not an expert in this category, so I won't pretend like I know what i'm talking about. If you play ROTO NHL, stop.

Categories (H2HCat)

Categories is a combination on H2H and Roto. It's a pretty common league format in the NHL world. There are so many different ways to play H2HCat, no one strategy is the best.

H2HCat can be broken up into two ways: one-win and wins. In the one-win format, the team that wins the most categories in a week wins the week (just like H2H). In wins, you'll pick up a win for every category that you win. For example, if you win seven out of the ten categories against your opponent, your record at the end of the week will be 7-3 and your opponent's record would be 3-7. Both leagues are a ton of fun to play in, but they have two very different strategies.

In H2HCat one-win, your goal is to win the most amount of categories to pick up the weekly win. This means that if you win the week 10-0 or 6-4, you still win the week. Most people are perfectionists, so they try to win EVERY category. This doesn't have to be the case. You only need to win one more category than your opponent. Just like in hockey, if you win 1-0 or 9-2, you still get two points in the standings.

The best strategy for this format is to focus on winning a few categories and just punting the rest. If your league for some reason still has the plus-minus (+/-) and penalty minutes (PIMs) stat, you should probably think about changing leagues. Ok, maybe don't do that last part, but you shouldn't be drafting players who have a really good plus-minus or that rack up a ton of penalty minutes. Both these stats are random and It becomes hard to track from one season to another.

There are exceptions of course. Patrice Bergeron is a plus-minus king and Tom Wilson love to rack up penalty minutes, but i'm not bumping them in my rankings, especially not Wilson. For both the categories, I'll punt them and focus on more important categories, such as goals, assists, shots and power play points.

In H2HCat wins, you might have to give Tom Wilson stronger consideration. You can't just win every week 6-4, you need a couple of 9-1 or 10-0 weeks to make it to the top of the leaderboard. In this format, I love to focus on "stat stuffers." These players do a lot of everything right. The best example is Evgeni Malkin. He can score goals, pick up assists, shoots the puck often enough, collects a bunch of power play points and can collect penalty minutes. He's a

player that will stuff every category. These players are incredibly value in this type of format. If you can target these type of players, you'll do just fine every week.

This logic is also true for goalies. In one-win leagues, you can focus on goalies that win a lot of games and have a low GAA, but in H2HCat wins, you have to focus on everything!

As I mentioned earlier, there isn't a perfect draft strategy for any of these leagues, but if you're using a point-only draft strategy for a H2HCat wins league, there's a good chance you are going to struggle all season long.

The draft kit rankings will focus mainly on H2H points and H2HCat, the most common draft styles in fantasy hockey.

Reaching at The Draft Table

As mentioned earlier in the draft kit, you can't win your pool on draft day, but you can lose it. It's so important in fantasy hockey to find value, so sometimes, you're going to have to take some risks. Stats aside, some players drop in rankings for so many reasons. Sometimes the drop is merited, other times, it's just smoke. In this section, we'll take a look at some player who you should reach on. Hold on to your hockey sticks!

ADP and rankings will be based on the most up to date information from Yahoo!

Evgeni Malkin

Current ADP: 14.3

My ADP: 5

By now you should have a good idea of how I feel about Evgeni Malkin. For some reason, Yahoo! Has Malkin's ADP sitting at 14.3, which is absolutely hilarious. Here's a player who's averaging over a point-per-game since he entered the league (1.19P/GP) and he's going in the second round of standard leagues. He's the fifth best fantasy player this year. Once McDavid, Kucherov, Ovechkin and Crosby are off the board, Malkin should be the next pick. He can score goals, rack up assists, pick up power play points and collect penalty minutes. There's no reason why Malkin should be going outside the top-5, even if you believe that he's injury prone (which of course, isn't a thing). Draft Malkin at five and don't look back.

Anze Kopitar

Current ADP: 35.4

My ADP: 20

Before you block me, just hear me out. Kopitar has never scored more than 30-goals in a



season till last season and finished with 50-plus assists for just the second time. Why the excitement for a player that overperformed in 2017-18? The Kings were a middle-of-the-pack team in terms of scoring goals (16th, 2.89 GF/GP) and Kopitar still managed to do a ton of damage. He played most of last season with Dustin Brown on his wing, and now Ilya Kovalchuk is in town. Even if Kovalchuk is older, he can still shoot the puck and score goals. Kopitar probably won't break the 90-point plateau again, but even if he finishes with 80-points, that's top-20 production. Any player that can

average a point per game and play 75-plus games should be drafted in the top-20. This isn't rocket science. The Kings captain plays all situations, so his opportunity to rack up points is there. Don't sleep on Kopitar this season.

Brock Boeser

Current ADP: 66.1

My ADP: 55

Brock Boeser broke onto the NHL scene last season and looked like a player who's been scoring goals for ten years. He's got an NHL shot and he's going to display it a lot this season. I wouldn't go crazy trying to draft Boeser, but he should be going in the fifth round of a 10-12 team league. Had he not injured himself, he would have won Rookie of the Year. 29 goals in 62 games is impressive, but he could probably finish with 35-plus goals in 82 games. On top of it, the Canucks are going to be a terrible team this season, so they'll be playing a lot of catch-up hockey, which puts Boeser on the ice a lot. Anything inside the top-50 is too far of a reach for my liking, but if he's there in the 5th round, scoop him up.

Jeff Skinner

Current ADP: 94.8

My ADP: 75

Maybe the excitement around Skinner is too high, but there's reason to believe that he can repeat his 2016-17 number in 2018-19. He scored 37-goals that season, then dropped down to 24 last season. He spent way too much time on the third line in Carolina and that obviously hurt his numbers. Now in Buffalo, the Toronto native will have a chance to play on the top line with Jack Eichel. Those two together are going to be dangerous. Buffalo is still a terrible team, but terrible teams play a lot of catch-up hockey and Skinner can score goals. Maybe 75 is too high for most people, but if he's still around at 80, don't pass up on him. He's going to get every opportunity to score goals, and that's all a player of his skill level needs.

Max Pacioretty

Current ADP: 118

My ADP: 95

Here's a fun fact for everyone: Max Pacioretty has an ADP of 118, while Martin Marincin has an ADP of 114. See the problem with that? Look, Pacioretty is coming off his worst season in a Habs uniform and his supporting cast didn't get better in the offseason. Jonathan Drouin is still playing centre and Tomas Plekanec is back with the team. None of this is going to help Pacioretty, but there's no reason for a five-time 30-goal scorer to be going outside the top-100. His 17-goals last season is enough to scare away fantasy owners, but he's proven he can score a bunch of goals at this level and with this upcoming season being a very important one (contract year), Pacioretty is out to prove he deserves \$7M a season. Montreal has openly told everyone that they don't plan on resigning their captain, and while that's a huge mistake for Montreal, Pacioretty is going to boost that trade value so he can bounce from this shit show market. He's a goal-scoring winger who deserves forgiveness after one down season.

Antti Raanta

Current ADP: 136.4

My ADP: 85

Honestly, Raanta should have an ADP of about 70, but since he plays for Arizona, you can draft Jeff Skinner and grab Raanta on the turn. The Coyotes are a really bad team, but they are a lot better when Raanta is in goal. He finished last season with a 2.24 GAA and a .930 SV%. That's elite for an NHL goalie, and for some reason, people are forgetting him in drafts because he

plays in a state that doesn't have ice or snow. To put this into perspective: Carep Price has an ADP of 45.4 and there's a legit argument that Raanta should be going ahead of him. This doesn't mean that you should be drafting the Coyotes' goaltender inside round four, but he shouldn't have an ADP outside the top-100. This is a case of people drafting the players name and not his expected fantasy projection. There's a good chance that arizona finishes with more points than Montreal! All this to say-- draft Raanta.

Anthony Mantha

Current ADP: 167.2

My ADP: 150.

It's kind of funny that Filip Zadina (164.4) has a higher ADP than Mantha (167.2) and there's no guarantee that Zadina even plays in the NHL this season. Someone is going to have to score goals in Detroit, and it's not going to be Justin Abdelkader or Tyler Bertuzzi! Mantha just missed



the 50-point plateau last season, but he could manage to hit 60 this season. He finished 2016-17 with 36 points and followed that up last season with 48 points. If the trend continues, 60 is right around the corner. Imagine getting a 60-point player at inside the top-150! Crazy, but it could happen. If you're thinking about Zadina at 164, skip the high risk factor and go with Mantha at 150. You're welcome.

Casey Mittelstadt

Current ADP: N/A

My ADP: 195

You can probably get Mittelstadt for free as a free agent, but the smart move would be to take a shot at him with you last selection in the draft. At this stage, there's nothing to lose and everything to gain. In deep drafts (14-20 team leagues) you can take a shot at him around the 200th pick. He's only played six NHL games, but he finished with five points, including his first NHL goal. Save you last two picks in the draft for rookies that could hit big.

Play the Fade Game

It's important to find value in every draft, and that includes trying to navigate the players that may not offer a great return on investment. We hear the talk all the time about players that may be a "bust" or that are being "overvalued" prior to draft season. A players ADP is what fantasy owners use to gauge if a player will outperform that draft position, or fall short. An ADP can move as we approach the regular season, but don't get caught up in the hype. Let's take a look at some players that won't outperform their current ADP.

ADP and rankings will be based on the most up to date information from Yahoo!

Patrick Kane

Current ADP: 8.1

My ADP: 15

It's really tough to trust a player that has seen his point total drop from 106 in 2015-16 to just 76 in 2017-18. Look, 76 points is great, but most fantasy hockey players are drafting the name and not the results. The Chicago Blackhawks aren't the same powerhouse team there were a couple of years ago. Why anyone would want to draft Kane over players like Tavares, MacKinnon or even Seguin is beyond me. Can Patrick Kane score goals? Of course, but he managed to do that only 27 times last season on a team that was 21st in GF/GP (2.78). If Kane is around in the second round, take a stab at him, but there's no reason to take a risk this early in the draft.

Frederik Andersen

Current ADP: 36.5

My ADP: 50

There is a lot of hype around the Toronto Maple Leafs and how good this team can be this season. As great as they are on offence, their blueline is still league average and Frederik Andersen isn't as good as everyone thinks. His SV% has been steady over the last four years (.914-.918%) but his GAA keeps climbing, hitting 2.81 last season. A goalie giving up close to three goals a game isn't worth a third round pick. There are a ton of solid goalies that you can grab later on in the draft. Andersen is going to rack up a bunch of wins because the Leafs are

going to win a lot of games, but fantasy wise, Andersen might not hit value if he's going off the board in the third round in a 12 team league.

Carey Price

Current ADP: 45.7

My ADP: 95



There's all this talk about Price having a bounce back season, but let's get real for a moment. The Habs have a terrible defence, their offence is even worse than last season and Claude Julien is still the team's head coach. Price will do better than his 3.11 GAA and .900 SV%, but let's not pretend like he's going to have Vezina Trophy numbers like he did a couple of years ago. There's no reason for Price to be going off the board in the fourth round.

Marc-Andre Fleury has a stellar season and his ADP is 48.3! People who are taking Price this early are buying his name. Let someone else deal with him and grab another goalie that might actually win 30-plus games this season.

William Karlsson

Current ADP: 64.0

My ADP: 79

What William Karlsson did last season was crazy, so crazy that people are buying into the idea that he may be able to repeat last season's success. There's no way that he does. Prior to last season, his career high in goals was nice. His shooting percentage (Sh%) was a whopping 23.4%. What Las Vegas did as a team was a miracle, but Karlsson is going to come back down to earth, and it's going to be a pretty big drop. He may not even crack the 25-goal mark this season! Fantasy hockey fans are expecting a regression from Karlsson, but we all can't decide

on how large of a regression he will have. If his sh% comes back down to his career average, his in line for 15-20 goals this season. Too much risk to be taking in the sixth round.

Martin Marincin

ADP: 114.8

My ADP: N/A

Can someone explain why Martin Marincin is being drafted this early? He's currently being draft ahead of players like Pacioretty, Jake Muzzin, Jake Gardiner and even Brayden Point! There's no explanation for this. Marincin spent most of last season in the AHL and has a whopping three NHL goals since breaking into the league back in 2013-14. Maybe this has something to do with Yahoo! Adding hits as a category, but even with that new stat category, Marincin is barely an NHL player. Just don't let autodraft make a mistake and pick him for your team when you turn away from your screen for a minute.

Rasmus Dahlin

Current ADP: 106

My ADP: 135

There's a lot of hype with Dahlin now getting a chance to showcase his skills in the NHL, but expectation need to be tempered here. Rookie defenceman don't usually have a ton of success in their first NHL season, especially from a fantasy perspective. Dahlin has a ton of skill, no question about it, but he's now playing in a league with the best players. He's going to struggle, and that could mean that he doesn't return on his current ADP. There are lots of talented NHL defenceman going after Dahlin, so go with the safer pick here and let someone else take a high risk/ high reward chance.

Duncan Keith

Current ADP: 148.2

My ADP: 190

Duncan Keith scored a whopping two goals last season and added 30 assists for a grad total of 32 points. Why are people still drafting him inside the top-150? He's going to bounce back, right? Maybe, but in a 14 or 16 team league, there's no point in taking a risk on a player who is 35-year-old and might be on the decline. The Blackhawks aren't going to be any better this season than last, so Keith is an easy fade in fantasy hockey. In a 10-team league, he can pretty much go undrafted.

Player Rankings

Below you will find my up-to-date player rankings for your upcoming draft. The rankings will be updated about once a week once preseason games start. Players that move up in the rankings will be highlighted in green, while players that fall in the rankings will be highlighted in red.

The rankings are based on Yahoo! default settings and are tailored for H2H points or H2HCat. The rankings are broken down into three categories: forwards, defencemen and goalies. For now, I won't have overall rankings. Over the years, these overall rankings have not played panned out very well. As mentioned earlier, it's all about finding value at the draft table and being able to adjust on the fly. If your league starts to go crazy drafting defenseman early, go the other way and load up on forwards. Zig when your league starts to zag.

There will also be a goalie index spreadsheet available at the end of the rankings. This index will show you which goalies are expected to be the starter, which goalies are probable to backup and who is next in line in the AHL. There are going to be some battles for starting jobs in training camp, so it's important to not draft the wrong starter or maybe find some value in a goalie who may become a starter.

The index will be updated during training camp to reflect any changes that may occur. Make sure to check it as often as possible.

Happy drafting!

Forwards

- Connor McDavid 1. 2. Nikita Kucherov
- 3. Alexander Ovechkin
- 4. Sidney Crosby
- Evgeni Malkin 5.
- Nathan Mackinnon 6.
- Jamie Benn
- 8. Patrik Laine
- 9. **Brad Marchand**
- 10. Steven Stamkos
- Tyler Seguin
- 12. Blake Wheeler
- 13. John Tavares
- 14. Taylor Hall
- 15. Patrick Kane
- 16. Auston Matthews
- 17. David Pastrnak
- 18. Claude Giroux
- 19. Anze Kopitar
- 20. Johnny Gaudreau
- 21. Jack Eichel
- 22. Vladimir Tarasenko
- 23. Phil Kessel
- 24. Aleksander Barkov
- Artemi Panarin 25.
- 26. Alexander Radulov
- 27. Leon Draisaitl
- 29. Jakub Voracek
- 30. Filip Forsberg
- 31. Nicklas Backstrom
- 32. Patrice Bergeron
- 33. **Evgeny Kuznetsov**
- 34. Mitch Marner
- 35. Joe Pavelski
- 36. Mikko Rantanen
- 37. J.T. Miller
- 38. Clayton Keller
- 39. Jonathan Marchessault
- 40. James van Riemsdyk
- 41. Brayden Schenn
- 42. Logan Couture
- 43. Sean Monahan
- 44. Vincent Trocheck
- 45. **Brock Boeser**
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- 51. Andrei Svechnikov
- 52. Matthew Tkachuk
- 53. Pierre-Luc Dubois
- 54. Eric Staal
- 55. Max Pacioretty

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- 4. Seth Jones
- 5. Drew Doughty
- 6. Dustin Byfuglien
- Kris Letang
- 8. P.K Subban
- John Klingberg

10. Shayne Gostisbehere

- 11. Roman Josi
- 12. Tyson Barrie
- 13. John Carlson
- 14. Torey Krug
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- 17. Morgan Rielly
- 18. Ryan Ellis
- 19. Zach Werenski
- 20. Ivan Provorov
- 21. Keith Yandle
- 22. Mark Giordano

Alex Pietrangelo

- 24. Mikhail Sergachev
- 25. Rasmus Dahlin
- 26. Jake Muzzin

27. Aaron Ekblad

- 28. Ryan Suter
- 29. Jake Gardiner
- 30. Sami Vatanen
- 31. Matt Dumba
- 32. Jeff Petry
- 33. Justin Faulk
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- 35. Rasmus Ristolainen

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- 37. Will Butcher
- 38. Nick Leddy
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- 44. Hampus Lindholm
- 45. Darnell Nurse

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- 47. Marc Edouard Vlasic
- 48. Noah Hanifin
- 49. Jacob Trouba
- 50. Olli Maatta
- 51. Esa Lindell
- 52. Michael Del Zotto
- 53. Duncan Keith
- 54. Adam Larsson
- 55. Ryan Pullock
- 56. Mike Green
- 57. Jack Johnson
- 58. Ryan McDonagh

Victor Mete

- 60. Brent Seabrook
- 61. Zdeno Chara
- 62. Mattias Ekholm
- 63. Erik Johnson
- 64. Nikita Zadorov
- 65. Jared Spurgeon
- 66. Alec Martinez
- 67. Brayden McNabb
- 68. Matt Niskanen
- 69. T.J Brodie
- 70. Tyler Myers
- 71. Justin Schultz
- 72. Cam Fowler

73. Oscar Klefbom

- 74. Dmitry Orlov
- 75. Mike Matheson

Goalie

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- 2. Connor Hellebuyck
- 3. Marc Andre Fleury
- 4. Braden Holtby
- Jonathan Quick

Pekka Rinne

- 7. John Gibson
- 8. Sergei Bobrovski
- 9. Matt Murray

10. Antti Raanta

- 11. Tukka Rask
- 12. Devan Dubnyk
- Frederik Andersen 13.
- 14. Martin Jones

Semyon Varlamov 15.

- 16. Ben Bishop
- 17. Corey Crawford

Henrik Lundqvist

- 19. Roberto Luongo
- 20. Jake Allen
- 21. Cam Talbot

Carey Price

- Brian Elliott 23.
- 24. Mike Smith
- 25. Craig Anderson
- 26. Robin Lehner

Jonathan Bernier

Corv Schneider

- 29. Petr Mrazek
- 30. Jacob Markstrom
- 31. Jimmy Howard
- 32. Juuse Saros
- 33. Cam Ward
- 34. Thomas Greiss
- 35. Carter Hutton
- 36. Philipp Grubauer
- 37. Malcolm Subban

Michael Neuvirth

39. Aaron Dell

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40. Jaroslav Halak

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