



GAME NOTES

GAME NOTES – MARCH 26, 2021

GAME #1 VANCOUVER GIANTS VS KAMLOOPS BLAZERS

WE'RE BACK – For the first time since March 7th, 2020 the Vancouver Giants are set to take the ice for a regular season WHL game. Tonight the G-Men officially launch their 20th season in the WHL when they take the ice in Kamloops against the Kamloops Blazers. This marks the first of 24 games on the season for the Giants, all of which will be taking place in either Kamloops or Kelowna.

THE MATCHUP – Tonight marks the first of six meetings on the season between the Vancouver Giants and the Kamloops Blazers. Last season the G-Men went 3-4-1-0 against Kamloops. Tristen Nielsen (5G, 4A) led all Giants skaters with nine points against the Blazers. Connor Zary (4G, 9A) led the Blazers in response with 13 points. Over the past five seasons, the Giants have compiled a record of 18-13-1-0 against the Blazers.

RETURNING CAST – Despite some key departures in all three zones of the ice, the Vancouver Giants have a solid group of returning players who are ready to lead. Up front, the over-age duo of Tristen Nielsen and Eric Florchuk will be tasked with leading the G-Men offensively after combining for 51 goals and 122 points last season. 2002-born forward Justin Sourdif (**FLA, 20**) has game-changing offensive skills and should be poised for a big season. Defensively, captain Alex Kannok Leipert and Connor Horning will be tasked with big minutes in all situations. Between the pipes, Colorado Avalanche prospect Trent Miner (**COL, 19**) is now the elder statesmen in the Giants net.

2019-20 GIANTS REGULAR SEASON SINGLE GAME HIGHS AND LOWS

Most Goals Scored: 12 (Feb 4 vs TC)	Most Goals (Player): 3 (Florchuk, Romanm Sourdif)	Least Goals Scored: 0 (Oct 4 at BDN)
Most Goals Conceded: 6 (Sept 28 at KAM)	Most Assists (Player): 3 (Nielsen)	Least Goals Conceded: 0 (Sept 29 vs KEL)
Most PP Goals Scored: 4 (Jan 18 at VIC)	Most Points (Player): 4 (Sourdif)	Least Shots on Goal: 17 (Nov 17 vs LET)
Most PP Goals Conceded: 4 (Oct 18 at KAM)	Longest Point Streak: Byram, Florchuk (13)	Least Shots Conceded: 14 (Sept 29 vs KEL)
Most Shots on Goal: 58 (Feb 4 vs TC)	Longest Winning Streak: 11 games	Last Hat-Trick: M. Roman (Feb 15 at SEA)
Most Shots Conceded: 47 (Jan 3 at KAM)		Last Shutout: T. Miner (Feb 28 vs VIC)

LAST FIVE GAMES OF 2019-20

March 7 – Vancouver 2 at Prince George 3 (OT)
March 6 – Vancouver 4 at Prince George 5
March 4 – Vancouver 2 at Kamloops 4
March 1 – Vancouver 1 at Victoria 4
February 29 – Vancouver 6 at Victoria 2

Record – 1-3-1-0 GF – 15 GA – 18

NEXT 5 GAMES

March 28 – Vancouver vs Kelowna (6:00 PM) – At Kamloops
March 30 – Vancouver vs Victoria (7:00 PM) – At Kamloops
March 31 – Vancouver at Prince George (7:00 PM) – At Kamloops
April 3 – Vancouver vs Kamloops (7:00 PM) – At Kamloops
April 5 – Vancouver at Kelowna (7:05 PM) – At Kelowna

*(Watch every game at <https://watch.chl.ca/whl>)

GIANTS 2019-20 STATISTICAL LEADERS

Goals: Tristen Nielsen, 30
Assists: Bowen Byram, 38
Points: Tristen Nielsen, 65
Plus/Minus: Justin Sourdif, +30
Penalty Minutes: Bowen Byram, 76
Power Play Goals: Tyler Preziuso, 10
Game Winning Goals: Justin Sourdif (6)
Goals Against Average: David Tendeck, 2.29
Save Percentage: David Tendeck, .920
Shutouts: David Tendeck, 3

YEAR-BY-YEAR ROSTER BREAKDOWN

20-year-olds (00) - 3 (Florchuk, Kannok Leipert, Nielsen)
19-year-olds (01) - 5 (Bader, Hall, Horning, Miner, Wilton)
18-year-olds (02) - 8 (Brown, Chabot, Gendron, Kohle, Plummer, Shepard, Stacha, Sourdif)
17-year-olds (03) - 5 (Camazzola, Lies, Ostapchuk, Pentecost, Sim)
16-year-olds (04) - 2 (Cull, Langkow)
15-year-olds (05) - 1 (Leslie)

REGIONAL ROSTER BREAKDOWN

BC - 10 (Nielsen, Horning, Sourdif, Brown, Shepard, Gendron, Plummer, Camazzola, Pentecost, Cull)
Alberta - 8 (Florchuk, Bader, Hall, Chabot, Sim, Plummer, Ostapchuk, Leslie)
Saskatchewan - 2 (Kannok Leipert, Kohle) Manitoba - 3 (Miner, Lies, Wilton)
Other Countries - 2 (Stacha, SVK) (Langkow, USA)



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SOURDIF DRAFTED BY PANTHERS – On October 7th, 2020 Giants forward Justin Sourdif was drafted by the Florida Panthers in Round 3 (87th Overall) in the 2020 NHL Draft. Sourdif, a product of Surrey, B.C. was originally selected third overall by the Giants in the 2017 WHL Bantam Draft. Since then he's appeared in 125 career regular season games with the Giants and has compiled 49 goals and 51 assists for 100 points along with 75 penalty minutes and a +56 rating. Additionally, Sourdif has suited up in 24 playoff games with Vancouver. Justin Sourdif is the second Giant to ever be selected by the Florida Panthers and is the 33rd Giants player to ever be drafted to the National Hockey League. The other Giant selected by Florida was Michal Repik in 2007. He is the 21st Giants forward to ever be drafted to the NHL. The Vancouver Giants have now had at least one player drafted in 16 of the past 19 years.

MINER SHINES IN THE AHL – Before returning to the Vancouver Giants to start the 2020-21 season, 2001-born goaltender Trent Miner got his first taste of pro hockey when he signed an Amateur Tryout Agreement with the AHL's Colorado Eagles. Miner, a seventh-round pick of the Colorado Avalanche from 2019 appeared in five games with the Eagles, posting a 2-3-1 record with a 2.86 goals-against-average, a .906 save percentage and one shutout.

OSTAPCHUK ON THE RADAR – 2003-born forward Zack Ostapchuk is the next Giant hoping to hear his name called at the NHL Draft. The product of St. Albert, AB is entering his second season with the Giants after posting five goals and three assists for eight points in 44 games last season. He was originally selected 10th overall by the Giants in the 2018 WHL Bantam Draft. In January, Ostapchuk was one of 36 WHL players to crack NHL Central Scouting's Preliminary Players to Watch List.

MICHAEL DYCK EARNS SILVER AT 2021 WORLD JUNIORS – Vancouver Giants head coach Michael Dyck served as an assistant coach with Canada at the 2021 IIHF World Juniors which took place in Edmonton, AB. Despite a dominant performance from Canada through much of the tournament, they dropped the Gold Medal game to the United States by a 2-0 score on January 5th. Vancouver Giants alumnus Bowen Byram was also a part of Canada's World Junior team. Giants defenceman Marko Stacha also competed in the tournament for a second straight year as a representative of Slovakia.

GIANTS ADD KEITH McCAMBRIDGE TO COACHING STAFF – On November 13, 2020 the Vancouver Giants hired Keith McCambridge as their new associate coach. Keith McCambridge joins the Giants after spending 10 seasons coaching in the American Hockey League. During his AHL tenure, he served as head coach of the Hartford Wolf Pack (2017-2019), The Manitoba Moose (2015-16) and the St. John's IceCaps (2011-2015). Additionally, he spent six seasons with the ECHL's Alaska Aces where he served as a head coach (2007-2009), an assistant coach (2006-07) and a player/coach (2003-2006).

QUICK FACTS –

- Goaltender Drew Sim made his WHL debut last season on March 4, 2020 in Kamloops against the Blazers.
- Marko Stacha, Colton Langkow, and Mazden Leslie are all eligible to make their WHL debuts tonight.
- WHL veterans Adam Hall, Bryce Bader, Dallan Wilton are all eligible to make their Vancouver Giants debuts tonight.
- Justin Sourdif's next goal will mark the 50th of his WHL career.
- Giants captain Alex Kannok Leipert is three games away from 200 for his WHL career.



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