



GAME NOTES

GAME NOTES – MARCH 30, 2021

GAME #3 VANCOUVER GIANTS VS VICTORIA ROYALS

THE STORY SO FAR – The Vancouver Giants are off to a 1-1 start in their young season. The Giants kicked off their 2020-21 campaign with a 7-3 loss Friday against Kamloops, but stormed back in a big way Sunday with a 6-0 shutout victory over Kelowna. Tristen Nielsen led the way with five points (3G, 2A) while 15-year-old defenceman Mazden Leslie chimed in with two goals in his WHL debut.

THE MATCHUP – Tonight marks the first of six meetings on the season between the Vancouver Giants and the Victoria Royals. Last season the Giants were 6-4 against Victoria and were 5-1 against them in the span of their six most recent meetings. The Giants and Royals have faced each other in each of the previous two WHL postseasons, and were likely going to square off in 2020 were it not for COVID-19.

WHEELING AND 'NIELING' – Over-age forward Tristen Nielsen has exploded out of the gates for the Giants having secured four goals and three assists for seven points in a span of two games. He's picking up right where he left off last season when he led the Giants in both goals (30) and points (65).

A DEBUT FOR THE AGES – Under-age defenceman Mazden Leslie made his WHL debut Sunday against Kelowna and made an immediate impact. Leslie scored his first two career WHL goals in the second period and was named the game's second star. He was drafted 10th overall in 2020.

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

March 28, 2021 – Vancouver 6 vs Kelowna 0
Mar 26, 2021 – Vancouver 3 at Kamloops 7
Mar 7, 2020 – Vancouver 2 at Prince George 3 (OT)
Mar 6, 2020 – Vancouver 4 at Prince George 5
Mar 4, 2020 – Vancouver 2 at Kamloops 4

Record – 1-3-1-0 GF – 17 GA – 19

NEXT 5 GAMES

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
April 7 – Vancouver at Victoria (7:05 PM) – At Kelowna
April 8 – Vancouver vs Prince George (7:00 PM) – At Kamloops

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

GIANTS 2020-21 STATISTICAL LEADERS

Goals: Tristen Nielsen, 4
 Assists: Justin Sourdif, 4
 Points: Tristen Nielsen, 7
 Plus/Minus: Tristen Nielsen, +6
 Penalty Minutes: Justin Lies, 12
 Power Play Goals: Tristen Nielsen, 1
 Game Winning Goals: Tristen Nielsen (1)
 Goals Against Average: Trent Miner, 0.00
 Save Percentage: Trent Miner, .1000
 Shutouts: Trent Miner, 1

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 127 career regular season games with the Giants and has compiled 49 goals and 55 assists for 104 points along with 79 penalty minutes and a +61 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. He's 1-0 so far with the G-Men this season.

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 –

- Justin Sourdif's next goal will mark the 50th of his WHL career.
- Giants captain Alex Kannok Leipert will play in his 200th career WHL game tonight against Victoria.
- Mazden Leslie was the first under-aged Giant to score a goal since Dawson Holt scored in March, 2015.
- Tristen Nielsen was the first Giant to record five points in a game since Bowen Byram (2G, 3A) did so in January, 2018.
- Justin Sourdif led all Giants with four goals and six assists (10 points) against the Victoria Royals last season.



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