



GAME NOTES – SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

GAME #1 VANCOUVER GIANTS AT PRINCE GEORGE COUGARS

HERE WE GO AGAIN – The Vancouver Giants kick off their 19th season in the Western Hockey League tonight when they do battle with the Prince George Cougars. Over the course of their first 18 seasons, the Vancouver have accumulated one WHL Championship (2006), one Memorial Cup Championship (2007) and have captured six B.C. Division championship banners. The Giants captured the 2019 Western Conference Championship by compiling a record of 48-15-3-2. Michael Dyck’s team advanced to the Rogers WHL Championship series and took their series with the Prince Albert Raiders to overtime in Game 7. Tonight the page officially turns as the Giants pursuit of the 2020 Ed Chynoweth Cup can officially begin.

OPPOSITION – The Prince George Cougars are coming off a season where they finished fifth in the B.C. Division and 10th in the Western Conference standings. Their overall record was 19-41-5-3. Last season the Giants finished with an 8-1 record against Prince George and were a perfect 4-0 against them at CN Centre. Bowen Byram led all Giants with 10 points (3G, 7A) in nine meetings with Prince George. Justin Sourdif led all Giants with four goals. Between the pipes, both David Tendeck and Trent Miner secured four victories against the Cougars.

QUICK FACTS – The Giants are 3-1-0-1 lifetime when starting their season on the road. Tonight marks the first time in 19 seasons that the Vancouver Giants have started their season against the Prince George Cougars. Tonight in Prince George, defenceman Jacob Gendron (Prince George, BC) makes his WHL debut. The former Cariboo Cougar (BCMML) scored twice for the Giants in six pre-season games.

2019-20 GIANTS REGULAR SEASON SINGLE GAME HIGHS AND LOWS

Most Goals Scored: 10 (Nov. 16 vs REG) Most Goals Conceded: 6 (Nov 17 at EVT) Most PP Goals Scored: 3 (Feb. 15 vs. SPO) Most PP Goals Conceded: 3 Most Shots on Goal: 71 (Oct 16 vs SC) Most Shots Conceded: 43 (Dec 30 at CGY)	Most Goals (Player): 2 (Hardy, Byram, Roman) Most Assists (Player): 3 (Milos Roman) Most Points (Player): 5 (Bowen Byram) Longest Point Streak (Player): 11 Koch Longest Winning Streak: 8 games	Least Goals Scored: 0 (Nov 11 vs PG) Least Goals Conceded: 0 Least Shots on Goal: 19 (Oct 20 vs POR) Least Shots Conceded: 16 (Oct 16 vs SC) Last Hat-Trick: James Malm (Oct 3 at KEL) Last Shutout: Trent Miner (Mar 6 at KEL)
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LAST FIVE PLAYOFF GAMES

May 13 – Vancouver 2 at P.A. 3 (OT - Game 7)
May 12 – Vancouver 4 at P.A. 2 (Game 6)
May 10 – Vancouver 4 vs P.A. 3 (Game 5)
May 8 – Vancouver 0 vs P.A. 1 (Game 4)
May 7 – Vancouver 2 vs P.A. 8 (Game 3)

Record – 2-2-1-0 GF – 12 GA – 17

NEXT 5 GAMES

September 21 – Vancouver at Prince George (7:00 PM)
September 27 – Vancouver vs Portland (7:30 PM)
September 28 – Vancouver at Kamloops (7:00 PM)
September 29 – Vancouver vs Kelowna (4:00 PM)
October 4 – Vancouver at Brandon (7:30 PM)

*(Watch every game at whl.neulion.com) *If necessary

GIANTS 2018-19 STATISTICAL LEADERS

Goals: Davis Koch, 28
Assists: Davis Koch, 50
Points: Davis Koch, 78
Plus/Minus: Bowen Byram, +34
Penalty Minutes: Alex Kannok Leipert, 93
Power Play Goals: Milos Roman, 17
Game Winning Goals: Milos Roman, 8
Goals Against Average: Trent Miner, 1.98
Save Percentage: Trent Miner, .924
Shutouts: David Tendeck, 4

YEAR-BY-YEAR ROSTER BREAKDOWN

20-year-olds (99) - 5 (Hardy, Watts, Roman, Plouffe, Tendeck)
19-year-olds (00) - 6 (Bulych, Kannok Leipert, J. Shepard, Nielsen, Bafaro)
18-year-olds (01) - 6 (Byram, Svejkovsky, Patrician, Alkhimov, Miner, Draffin)
17-year-olds (02) - 7 (Sourdif, Little, Brown, C. Shepard, Euerby, Gendron, Plummer)
16-year-olds (03) - 2 (Ostapchuk, Lies)

REGIONAL ROSTER BREAKDOWN

BC – 12 (Hardy, Tendeck, J. Shepard, Nielsen, Bafaro, Byram, Sourdif, Little, Brown, C. Shepard, Euerby, Gendron)
Alberta – 5 (Patrician, Plummer, Ostapchuk, Plouffe, Draffin)
Saskatchewan – 2 (Kannok Leipert, Bulych) Manitoba - 2 (Miner, Lies)
Other Countries - 4 (Roman [SVK], Watts [USA], Svejkovsky (USA), Alkhimov (RUS)





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DRAFT DAY:

The 2019 NHL Draft in Vancouver was a memorable one for two Vancouver Giants. Both Bowen Byram (D – 2001, Cranbrook, BC) and Trent Miner (G – 2001, Brandon, MB) were selected by the Colorado Avalanche. Bowen Byram was snagged by the Avs with their first-round pick (fourth overall). Byram became the fifth Giant to ever be selected in the first round of the NHL Draft. He and Evander Kane share the honour of being the highest Vancouver Giants ever selected in the NHL Draft. Byram has since signed a three-year entry-level contract with Colorado and remains with the Avalanche to this day.

In Round 7 Colorado once again came calling, this time for goaltender Trent Miner. Miner became the third Giants goaltender ever selected in the NHL Draft joining David Tendeck and Tyson Sexsmith. 2019 marked the first time ever that one NHL team selected two Vancouver Giants in the same draft.

The following Vancouver Giants have been drafted by NHL Teams:

- Bowen Byram (COL – Round 1, 2019 – SIGNED)
- Milos Roman (CGY – Round 4, 2018 – Unsigned)
- David Tendeck (ARZ – Round 6, 2018 – Unsigned)
- Alex Kannok Leipter (WSH – Round 6, 2018 – Unsigned)
- Trent Miner (COL – Round 7, 2019 – Unsigned)

MILESTONE WATCH:

- Five Giants: Braedy Euerby, Jacob Gendron, Cole Shepard, Justin Lies and John Little have never played a WHL regular season game. For some, that will change tonight in Prince George.
- Giants defenceman Dylan Plouffe is 67 games shy of reaching 311 games played in a Giants uniform. If he gets there he'd surpass Neil Manning for the all-time games played record for the G-Men. Plouffe also leads all active Vancouver Giants with 101 career WHL points.
- Milos Roman ranks fourth all-time in Import Scoring for the Vancouver Giants. Through 98 games, Milos Roman has scored 37 goals while adding 55 assists for 92 points. The Slovakian-born Calgary Flames prospect needs just three points to surpass Mario Bliznak for third all-time. He has represented Slovakia in each of the past three World Junior championships.
- Tristen Nielsen is 13 goals shy of 50 for his WHL career.
- Jackson Shepard is 19 games shy of 200 for his WHL career. Tonight he'll make his Vancouver Giants debut.

ALL EYES ON SOURDIF:

Fresh off a historic rookie season with the Giants, and a Silver Medal in the summer with Hockey Canada, 2002-born forward Justin Sourdif will be a player worth watching in 2019-20. Last season Sourdif scored 23 goals making him just the third 16-year-old Giant to ever surpass 20 goals in a season. In August, Sourdif helped lead Canada to a Silver Medal at the 2019 Hlinka Gretzky Cup. He also represented Canada at the 2018 World Under-17 Challenge. Sourdif has been pegged by many as a top NHL Draft prospect in a stacked 2020 NHL Draft Class. He was originally selected by the Vancouver Giants with the third overall selection in the 2017 WHL Bantam Draft.

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