



VS



COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS GAME DAY PREVIEW

Columbus Blue Jackets vs. Buffalo Sabres || Jan. 3, 2026 || Nationwide Arena || 3:00 pm ET || Game 40 (Home 19)

GAME DAY SCHEDULE

No Morning Skate

12:30pm ET: Media Availability

3:00pm ET: Game vs. Buffalo

Post-Game: Locker room will open approximately five minutes after the game's conclusion. Head Coach Dean Evason will be available immediately after player availability.

BROADCAST INFO

TV: FANDUEL SPORTS NETWORK

Steve Mears (play-by-play)

Jody Shelley (analyst)

Dave Maetzold (reporter)

Brian Giesenschlag (host)

Jean-Luc Grand-Pierre (analyst)

RADIO: 97.1 THE FAN

Bob McElligott (play-by-play)

Dylan Tyrer (host)

COLUMBUS PR

Todd Sharrock (614) 746-5403

tsharrock@bluejackets.com

Glenn Odebralski (614) 406-4957

godebralski@bluejackets.com

Lindy Noel (217) 820-5489

lnoel@bluejackets.com

Jack Weller (614) 530-7535

jweller@bluejackets.com

For More Information

PR X Account: @BlueJacketsPR

Website: BlueJackets.com/PressBox

Game Notes: Game Notes available at Media.NHL.com

MEDIA ENTRANCES

Morning Skate: Nationwide Arena

Security Entrance

Game Night: Nationwide Arena Box Office (Opens at 12:00pm)

OhioHEALTH INJURY REPORT

Erik Gudbranson (Upper Body) 31

Zach Werenski (Lower Body) 4

Isac Lundstrom (Lower Body) 3

Sean Monahan (Maintenance) 2

Brendan Smith (Lower Body) 1

Miles Wood (Lower Body)

TOTAL MAN GAMES LOST: 85

COLUMBUS

17-16-6 (40 pts.)

8-6-3 (19 pts.)

9-9-3 (21 pts.)

8th, Metropolitan

16th, Eastern

2.92 (20th-T) / 3.33 (26th-T)

18.6 (19th-T) / 75.0 (30th)

30.2 (4th) / 30.6 (30th)

Dec. 31 at CBJ 2, NJD 3

Jan. 4 vs. Pittsburgh

HEAD-TO-HEAD

Record

At Home

On the Road

Division Rank

Conference Rank

GF / GA (NHL rank)

PP / PK (NHL rank)

SF / SA (NHL rank)

Last Game

Next Game

BUFFALO

21-14-4 (46 pts.)

12-5-2 (26 pts.)

8-9-2 (18 pts.)

4th, Atlantic

8th, Eastern

3.10 (15th) / 3.10 (16th-T)

18.8 (18th) / 85.0 (2nd)

28.6 (12th) / 29.2 (25th)

Dec. 31 at DAL 1, BUF 4

Jan. 6 vs. Vancouver

ALL-TIME SERIES CBJ RECORD

28-16-1-3 (13-8-1-0 at home)

THIS SEASON (CBJ, 1-0-0)

Oct. 28, 2025 - CBJ 4, at BUF 3 (OT)

Jan. 3, 2026 - at Columbus (3 pm ET)

Apr. 9, 2026 - at Buffalo (7 pm ET)

2024-25 RECORD (CBJ 2-1-0)

Oct. 17, 2024 - at CBJ 6, BUF 4

Feb. 4, 2025 - at BUF 3, CBJ 2

Apr. 10, 2025 - at CBJ 3, BUF 2

MATCHUP NOTES

- ★ Columbus has earned points in 13 of the last 17 meetings in the series dating back to Mar. 31, 2019 (10-4-3).
- ★ CBJ have won two-straight home games in the series after Buffalo won three-straight from Dec. 7, 2022-Feb. 23, 2024.
- ★ Five of the past six overall meetings, including three-straight, have been decided by a single goal. Four of the past six games at Nationwide Arena have been decided by multiple goals.
- ★ The Blue Jackets have converted on 6-of-14 power play opportunities in the last nine overall meetings (42.9 pct.). CBJ have scored a power play goal in three consecutive home contests (3-of-7; 42.9 pct.).
- ★ The club has killed off all 11 Buffalo power play chances over the last six matchups overall.
- ★ RW Kirill Marchenko has 4-4-8 in nine career outings, including assists in his past four games (1-4-5).
- ★ D Zach Werenski has 2-15-17 in 20 career GP against the Sabres and has points in seven of last eight contests (2-9-11) after collecting 1-1-2 on Oct. 28.

JACKET TO WATCH - C BOONE JENNER



Has posted 7-7-14 with 3 multi-point outings in 25 career GP vs. Buffalo. Has tallied points in 8 of past 10 contests vs. the club (4-6-10). Has points in 3 of his past 4 home outings (2-2-4).



SABRE TO WATCH - RW ALEX TUCH



Has tallied 5-9-14 with 3 multi-point outings in 16 career GP vs. Columbus. Has tallied multi-point efforts in 2 of last 3 contests (2-3-5) after collecting 2 assists on Oct. 28.



TEAM NOTES

- ★ Columbus had its three-game win streak snapped with a 3-2 loss to New Jersey on Wednesday. The club finished 2025 with a 41-33-9 record (91 pts, .548 points pct.), posting the highest points percentage since 2020 (.617).
- ★ CBJ are in a stretch of five games, including four at home, over eight days from Dec. 28-Jan. 4 (2-1-0).
- ★ The Blue Jackets play their eighth of 15 back-to-back sets of the campaign, hosting Buffalo on Saturday and Pittsburgh on Sunday. The club, which swept the last set on Dec. 27-28, is 8-4-2 in back-to-backs (4-1-2 in 1st GP; 4-3-0 in 2nd GP).
- ★ The Jackets have scored the first goal in seven of the last eight contests and 10 of the past 13.
- ★ CBJ lead the NHL in faceoff percentage (54.9 pct.) and rank third in penalty kill pct. (87.0 pct.) since Dec. 13 (8 GP).
- ★ The Jackets lead the NHL in goals by defensemen and rank fifth-T in points with 31-65-96 in 39 contests.

PLAYER NOTES

- ★ C Charlie Coyle notched a goal on Wednesday and has collected 3-8-11 in the last 15 games since Nov. 28.
- ★ G Jet Greaves finished with a 2.29 GAA and .922 SV%, stopping 259-of-281 shots faced in 10 games in December.
- ★ C Boone Jenner collected an assist vs. New Jersey and became the fourth Blue Jacket to record 400 career points (205-195-400, 766 GP), joining Rick Nash (567), Zach Werenski (424) and Cam Atkinson (402).
- ★ LW Mason Marchment tallied a goal on Wednesday to become the first player to record points in his first five games with the Blue Jackets (4-2-6).
- ★ RW Kirill Marchenko has posted points in four consecutive outings (4-1-5) after recording an assist on Wednesday.
- ★ D Denton Mateychuk, who had his career-high four-game points streak (1-4-5) snapped on Wednesday, has averaged 25:29 of ice time over his past five contests.
- ★ D Zach Werenski was announced to Team USA's roster for the 2026 Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina on Friday. He has registered multiple points in each of his past three games (5-2-7) and four times over the past five contests (5-5-10). He also has points in 16 of his past 19 contests overall (10-19-29).



VS



COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS GAME DAY PREVIEW

Columbus Blue Jackets vs. Buffalo Sabres || Jan. 3, 2026 || Nationwide Arena || 3:00 pm ET || Game 40 (Home 19)

IN-GAME INFORMATION & ACTIVATIONS

PUCK DROP: 3:08 p.m.

ANTHEM: Leighton Augenstein

CANNONEER: Quinn Halstead

MILITARY HONOREE, presented by Elk + Elk: N/A

1ST INTERMISSION: OhioHealth Future Jackets, Columbus Flames 12u Blue

2ND INTERMISSION: Bob Evans Farms Guess the Jacket Video

50/50 BENEFICIARY, presented by Kemba Financial Credit Union: Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio

THEME NIGHT ACTIVATIONS: Kids Takeover, presented by Bob Evans Farms

- A CBJ sticker sheet will be given to kids ages 13 and under in attendance.
- Kids will take on Blue Jackets roles throughout the evening, including Social Media Correspondent, Public Address Announcer, members of the Jet's Pizza Boom Brigade, and more.
- Activities like balloon artists, face painting, and more will be available on the main concourse.

BLUE LINE ITEM OF THE GAME: Exclusive Blue Jackets 6-7 t-shirt available only in youth sizes at the Blue Line at Nationwide Arena and online at thebluelineonline.com. (Limited quantities available)



BLUE LINE

ITEM
OF THE
GAME