



# BUFFALO SABRES

14-18-4

Last Game: 4-1 L vs. BOS | Last 10: 4-4-2 | Home: 7-9-1  
Next Game: December 31 at Ottawa Senators

# COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS

12-18-7

Last Game: 6-5 OTW vs. TOR | Last 10: 4-4-2 | Road: 4-8-4  
Next Game: January 2 vs. Boston Bruins



**December 30, 2023**  
**KeyBank Center**  
**Buffalo, New York**

### COACHING STAFF

**Head Coach:** Don Granato  
**Assistant Coach:** Mike Bales  
**Assistant Coach:** Jason Christie  
**Assistant Coach:** Matt Ellis  
**Assistant Coach:** Marty Wilford

### PRONUNCIATIONS

**Cozens, Dylan:** (KUH-zihnz)  
**Dahlin, Rasmus:** (dah-LEEN)  
**Girgensons, Zemgus:** (GEER-gehn-suhnz, ZEHM-guhz)  
**Jokiharju, Henri:** (yoh-kee-HAHR-yoo, HEHN-ree)  
**Luukkonen, Ukko-Pekka:** (LOO-koh-nehn, OO-koh-PEH-ka)  
**Mittelstadt, Casey:** (MIH-tuhl-stadt)  
**Okposo, Kyle:** (oh-POH-soh)  
**Olofsson, Victor:** (OH-lawf-suhn)  
**Peterka, JJ:** (pih-TUHR-kuh)  
**Samuelsson, Mattias:** (SAM-yew-uhl-suhn, ma-TEE-uhs)

### SPECIAL TEAMS

**Power Play**  
14-for-105 (13.3%) -- T-26th  
**Penalty Kill**  
90-for-115 (78.3%) -- 23rd

### LEADING SCORERS

**Casey Mittelstadt:**  
36 GP, 9 G, 21 A, 30 PTS  
**Rasmus Dahlin:**  
35 GP, 10 G, 19 A, 29 PTS  
**Jeff Skinner:**  
33 GP, 14 G, 11 A, 25 PTS

### LEADING SCORERS VS. CBJ

**Jeff Skinner:**  
35 GP, 13 G, 19 A, 32 PTS  
**Erik Johnson:**  
38 GP, 4 G, 18 A, 22 PTS  
**Kyle Okposo:**  
30 GP, 11 G, 6 A, 17 PTS

### LAST 5 GAMES VS. CBJ

12/19/23: **CBJ 9** at BUF 4  
04/14/23: **BUF 5** at CBJ 2  
02/28/23: **CBJ 5** at BUF 3  
12/07/22: **BUF 9** at CBJ 4  
02/20/22: **BUF 3** at **CBJ 7**

### FORWARDS

## 53 JEFF SKINNER

5'11", 200 lbs. • Toronto, ON  
**2023-24:**  
33 GP, 14 G, 11 A, 25 PTS, 20 PIM  
**Career:**  
965 GP, 347 G, 302 A, 649 PTS, 437 PIM

## 72 TAGE THOMPSON

6'6", 220 lbs. • Phoenix, AZ  
**2023-24:**  
26 GP, 9 G, 10 A, 19 PTS, 14 PIM  
**Career:**  
327 GP, 112 G, 104 A, 216 PTS, 139 PIM

## 89 ALEX TUCH

6'4", 215 lbs. • Syracuse, NY  
**2023-24:**  
29 GP, 9 G, 15 A, 24 PTS, 28 PIM  
**Career:**  
408 GP, 118 G, 162 A, 280 PTS, 133 PIM

## 77 JJ PETERKA

6'0", 189 lbs. • Munich, DEU  
**2023-24:**  
36 GP, 12 G, 13 A, 25 PTS, 10 PIM  
**Career:**  
115 GP, 24 G, 33 A, 57 PTS, 36 PIM

## 24 DYLAN COZENS

6'3", 195 lbs. • Whitehorse, YT  
**2023-24:**  
34 GP, 6 G, 13 A, 19 PTS, 25 PIM  
**Career:**  
235 GP, 54 G, 84 A, 138 PTS, 137 PIM

## 22 JACK QUINN

6'1", 185 lbs. • Ottawa, ON  
**2023-24:**  
4 GP, 2 G, 0 A, 2 PTS, 6 PIM  
**Career:**  
81 GP, 17 G, 24 A, 41 PTS, 21 PIM

## 12 JORDAN GREENWAY

6'6", 231 lbs. • Canton, NY  
**2023-24:**  
24 GP, 3 G, 7 A, 10 PTS, 23 PIM  
**Career:**  
358 GP, 45 G, 88 A, 133 PTS, 250 PIM

## 37 CASEY MITTELSTADT

6'1", 195 lbs. • Eden Prairie, MN  
**2023-24:**  
36 GP, 9 G, 21 A, 30 PTS, 20 PIM  
**Career:**  
313 GP, 57 G, 112 A, 169 PTS, 70 PIM

## 9 ZACH BENSON

5'10", 170 lbs. • Chilliwack, BC  
**2023-24:**  
26 GP, 4 G, 9 A, 13 PTS, 16 PIM  
**Career:**  
26 GP, 4 G, 9 A, 13 PTS, 16 PIM

## 50 ERIC ROBINSON

6'2", 211 lbs. • Bellmawr, NJ  
**2023-24:**  
14 GP, 2 G, 2 A, 4 PTS, 15 PIM  
**Career:**  
273 GP, 39 G, 46 A, 85 PTS, 55 PIM

## 19 PEYTON KREBS

6'0", 186 lbs. • Calgary, AB  
**2023-24:**  
34 GP, 2 G, 4 A, 6 PTS, 20 PIM  
**Career:**  
169 GP, 18 G, 37 A, 55 PTS, 92 PIM

## 21 KYLE OKPOSO

6'0", 216 lbs. • St. Paul, MN  
**2023-24:**  
36 GP, 8 G, 6 A, 14 PTS, 12 PIM  
**Career:**  
1020 GP, 238 G, 368 A, 606 PTS, 532 PIM

### DEFENSEMEN

## 26 RASMUS DAHLIN

6'3", 204 lbs. • Lidköping, SWE  
**2023-24:**  
35 GP, 10 G, 19 A, 29 PTS, 22 PIM  
**Career:**  
390 GP, 56 G, 206 A, 262 PTS, 280 PIM

## 23 MATTIAS SAMUELSSON

6'4", 224 lbs. • Philadelphia, PA  
**2023-24:**  
32 GP, 1 G, 3 A, 4 PTS, 22 PIM  
**Career:**  
141 GP, 3 G, 23 A, 26 PTS, 62 PIM

## 25 OWEN POWER

6'6", 221 lbs. • Mississauga, ON  
**2023-24:**  
36 GP, 2 G, 12 A, 14 PTS, 6 PIM  
**Career:**  
123 GP, 8 G, 44 A, 52 PTS, 32 PIM

## 10 HENRI JOKIHARJU

6'0", 200 lbs. • Oulu, FIN  
**2023-24:**  
30 GP, 2 G, 7 A, 9 PTS, 2 PIM  
**Career:**  
303 GP, 15 G, 61 A, 76 PTS, 104 PIM

## 33 RYAN JOHNSON

6'1", 195 lbs. • Newport Beach, CA  
**2023-24:**  
20 GP, 0 G, 2 A, 2 PTS, 4 PIM  
**Career:**  
20 GP, 0 G, 2 A, 2 PTS, 4 PIM

## 75 CONNOR CLIFTON

5'11", 192 lbs. • Matawan, NJ  
**2023-24:**  
33 GP, 0 G, 9 A, 9 PTS, 44 PIM  
**Career:**  
265 GP, 10 G, 42 A, 52 PTS, 201 PIM

### GOALTENDERS

## 1 UKKO-PEKKA LUUKKONEN

6'5", 217 lbs. • Espoo, FIN  
**2023-24 (NHL):**  
17 GP, 6-8-2, .892 SV%, 3.21 GAA  
**Career (NHL):**  
63 GP, 26-27-8, .897 SV%, 3.40 GAA  
**vs. CBJ:**  
2 GP, 1-1-0, .775 SV%, 5.86 GAA

## 27 DEVON LEVI

6'0", 192 lbs. • Dollard-des-Ormeaux, QC  
**2023-24 (NHL):**  
16 GP, 7-5-2, .889 SV%, 3.31 GAA  
**Career (NHL):**  
23 GP, 12-7-2, .895 SV%, 3.19 GAA  
**vs. CBJ:**  
2 GP, 1-0-0, .878 SV%, 4.11 GAA

### SCRATCHES

## 6 ERIK JOHNSON

6'4", 225 lbs. • Bloomington, MN  
**2023-24:**  
34 GP, 3 G, 0 A, 3 PTS, 19 PIM  
**Career:**  
954 GP, 91 G, 249 A, 340 PTS, 533 PIM

## 31 ERIC COMRIE

6'1", 190 lbs. • Edmonton, AB  
**2023-24 (NHL):**  
7 GP, 1-5-0, .863 SV%, 4.01 GAA  
**Career (NHL):**  
54 GP, 23-24-2, .893 SV%, 3.40 GAA

## 71 VICTOR OLOFSSON

5'11", 182 lbs. • Ornskoldsvik, SWE  
**2023-24:**  
30 GP, 4 G, 8 A, 12 PTS, 4 PIM  
**Career:**  
293 GP, 87 G, 92 A, 179 PTS, 28 PIM

Projected lines are unofficial and subject to change.



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**KeyBank Center**  
**Buffalo, New York**

### COACHING STAFF

**Head Coach:** Pascal Vincent  
**Assistant Coach:** Jared Boll  
**Assistant Coach:** Josef Boumedienne  
**Assistant Coach:** Steve McCarthy  
**Assistant Coach:** Mark Recchi  
**Goaltending Coach:** Niklas Backstrom

### PRONUNCIATIONS

**Bemstrom, Emil:** (BEHM-struhm, eh-MIHL)  
**Chinakhov, Yegor:** (CHEE-nah-kahv, YEH-gohr)  
**Fantilli, Adam:** (fan-TIHL-ee)  
**Gaudreau, Johnny:** (goo-DROH)  
**Gudbranson, Erik:** (guh-d-BRAN-suhn)  
**Jiricek, David:** (YIHR-ih-chehk)  
**Marchenko, Kirill:** (mahr-CHEHN-koh, kih-RIHL)  
**Merzlikins, Elvis:** (muhrz-LIH-kihnhz, EHL-vihs)  
**Provorov, Ivan:** (PROH-voh-rawv, IGH-vuhn)  
**Tarasov, Daniil:** (ta-RA-sahv, da-NIHL)  
**Texier, Alexandre:** (TEHX-ee-ay, al-ehx-AHN-druh)  
**Voronkov, Dmitri:** (vohr-AHN-kahv)

### SPECIAL TEAMS

**Power Play**  
16-for-103 (15.5%) -- 25th  
**Penalty Kill**  
84-for-104 (80.8%) -- 13th

### LEADING SCORERS

**Zach Werenski:**  
34 GP, 1 G, 24 A, 25 PTS  
**Johnny Gaudreau:**  
37 GP, 7 G, 18 A, 25 PTS  
**Adam Fantilli:**  
37 GP, 10 G, 12 A, 22 PTS

### LEADING SCORERS VS. BUF

**Johnny Gaudreau:**  
17 GP, 10 G, 10 A, 20 PTS  
**Ivan Provorov:**  
26 GP, 5 G, 11 A, 16 PTS  
**Damon Sevenson:**  
29 GP, 1 G, 12 A, 13 PTS

### LAST 5 GAMES VS. BUF

12/19/23: **CBJ 9** at BUF 4  
04/14/23: **BUF 5** at CBJ 2  
02/28/23: **CBJ 5** at BUF 3  
12/07/22: **BUF 9** at CBJ 4  
02/20/22: BUF 3 at **CBJ 7**

### FORWARDS

## 13 JOHNNY GAUDREAU

5'9", 163 lbs. • Salem, NJ  
**2023-24:**  
36 GP, 6 G, 16 A, 22 PTS, 10 PIM  
**Career:**  
718 GP, 237 G, 468 A, 705 PTS, 164 PIM

## 11 ADAM FANTILLI

6'2", 194 lbs. • Nobleton, ON  
**2023-24:**  
36 GP, 9 G, 12 A, 21 PTS, 14 PIM  
**Career:**  
36 GP, 9 G, 12 A, 21 PTS, 14 PIM

## 17 JUSTIN DANFORTH

5'8", 188 lbs. • Oshawa, ON  
**2023-24:**  
36 GP, 9 G, 7 A, 16 PTS, 14 PIM  
**Career:**  
87 GP, 21 G, 12 A, 33 PTS, 28 PIM

## 59 YEGOR CHINAKHOV

6'1", 204 lbs. • Omsk, RUS  
**2023-24:**  
25 GP, 10 G, 6 A, 16 PTS, 6 PIM  
**Career:**  
117 GP, 21 G, 22 A, 43 PTS, 32 PIM

## 10 DMITRI VORONKOV

6'5", 240 lbs. • Angarsk, RUS  
**2023-24:**  
30 GP, 6 G, 11 A, 17 PTS, 25 PIM  
**Career:**  
30 GP, 6 G, 11 A, 17 PTS, 25 PIM

## 86 KIRILL MARCHENKO

6'3", 195 lbs. • Barnaul, RUS  
**2023-24:**  
34 GP, 13 G, 8 A, 21 PTS, 10 PIM  
**Career:**  
93 GP, 34 G, 12 A, 46 PTS, 26 PIM

## 91 KENT JOHNSON

6'0", 178 lbs. • Port Moody, BC  
**2023-24:**  
20 GP, 4 G, 7 A, 11 PTS, 0 PIM  
**Career:**  
108 GP, 20 G, 34 A, 54 PTS, 16 PIM

## 4 COLE SILLINGER

6'1", 199 lbs. • Columbus, OH  
**2023-24:**  
31 GP, 3 G, 9 A, 12 PTS, 19 PIM  
**Career:**  
174 GP, 22 G, 32 A, 54 PTS, 78 PIM

## 52 EMIL BEMSTROM

6'0", 195 lbs. • Nykoping, SWE  
**2023-24:**  
21 GP, 4 G, 5 A, 9 PTS, 4 PIM  
**Career:**  
193 GP, 30 G, 37 A, 67 PTS, 22 PIM

## 42 ALEXANDRE TEXIER

6'1", 201 lbs. • Saint-Martin-d'Hères, FRA  
**2023-24:**  
34 GP, 6 G, 6 A, 12 PTS, 12 PIM  
**Career:**  
157 GP, 28 G, 33 A, 61 PTS, 56 PIM

## 16 BRENDAN GAUNCE

6'3", 219 lbs. • Sudbury, ON  
**2023-24:**  
4 GP, 0 G, 2 A, 2 PTS, 2 PIM  
**Career:**  
157 GP, 11 G, 15 A, 26 PTS, 63 PIM

## 96 JACK ROSLOVIC

6'1", 198 lbs. • Columbus, OH  
**2023-24:**  
14 GP, 2 G, 6 A, 8 PTS, 6 PIM  
**Career:**  
400 GP, 73 G, 125 A, 198 PTS, 60 PIM

### DEFENSEMEN

## 9 IVAN PROVOROV

6'1", 220 lbs. • Yaroslavl, RUS  
**2023-24:**  
36 GP, 2 G, 17 A, 19 PTS, 4 PIM  
**Career:**  
568 GP, 67 G, 169 A, 236 PTS, 200 PIM

## 78 DAMON SEVERSON

6'2", 202 lbs. • Melville, SK  
**2023-24:**  
21 GP, 3 G, 5 A, 8 PTS, 12 PIM  
**Career:**  
668 GP, 61 G, 210 A, 271 PTS, 400 PIM

## 23 JAKE CHRISTIANSEN

6'0", 193 lbs. • West Vancouver, BC  
**2023-24:**  
0 GP, 0 G, 0 A, 0 PTS, 0 PIM  
**Career:**  
207 GP, 9 G, 29 A, 38 PTS, 92 PIM

## 44 ERIK GUDBRANSON

6'5", 222 lbs. • Ottawa, ON  
**2023-24:**  
32 GP, 3 G, 9 A, 12 PTS, 44 PIM  
**Career:**  
743 GP, 31 G, 88 A, 119 PTS, 809 PIM

## 22 JAKE BEAN

6'1", 191 lbs. • Calgary, AB  
**2023-24:**  
33 GP, 2 G, 2 A, 4 PTS, 14 PIM  
**Career:**  
158 GP, 11 G, 36 A, 47 PTS, 58 PIM

## 55 DAVID JURICEK

6'4", 207 lbs. • Klatovy, CZE  
**2023-24:**  
30 GP, 1 G, 8 A, 9 PTS, 18 PIM  
**Career:**  
34 GP, 1 G, 8 A, 9 PTS, 20 PIM

### SCRATCHES

## 2 ANDREW PEEKE

6'3", 214 lbs. • Parkland, FL  
**2023-24:**  
12 GP, 0 G, 4 A, 4 PTS, 2 PIM  
**Career:**  
207 GP, 9 G, 29 A, 38 PTS, 92 PIM

## 24 MATHIEU OLIVIER

6'1", 222 lbs. • Biloxi, MS  
**2023-24:**  
19 GP, 1 G, 4 A, 5 PTS, 15 PIM  
**Career:**  
133 GP, 9 G, 18 A, 27 PTS, 184 PIM

## 90 ELVIS MERZLIKINS

6'3", 184 lbs. • Riga, LAT  
**2023-24 (NHL):**  
23 GP, 7-8-6, .907 SV%, 3.25 GAA  
**Career (NHL):**  
173 GP, 62-70-28, .906 SV%, 3.15 GAA

Projected lines are unofficial and subject to change.