



# COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS POST-GAME NOTES



**FEB. 22, 2025 || NATIONWIDE ARENA || VS. CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS**

BOX SCORE	RECORDS	1 <sup>ST</sup>	2 <sup>ND</sup>	3 <sup>RD</sup>	OT	FINAL
Columbus	Overall: 27-22-8, 62 pts (Home: 18-6-4, 40 pts)	1	2	2		5
Chicago	Overall: 17-32-7, 41 pts (Away: 6-18-4, 16 pts)	0	1	0		1

## GAME AT A GLANCE

### THREE STARS

**1<sup>st</sup>** – Z. Werenski, CBJ (1-2-3); **2<sup>nd</sup>** – K. Johnson (2-0-2, GWG); **3<sup>rd</sup>** – E. Merzlikins, CBJ (27-of-28, W)

### GOAL SCORERS

**Columbus:** K. Johnson (18), PPG – K. Johnson (19), D. Mateychuk (2), Z. Werenski (18), A. Fantilli (16)

**Chicago:** PPG – C. Smith (8)

### GOALTENDERS

**Columbus:** E. Merzlikins (27 saves, W)

**Chicago:** P. Mrazek (16 saves, L)

### SPECIAL TEAMS

**Columbus PP:** 1-for-1, 2 shots

**Chicago PP:** 1-for-4, 6 shots

## BLUE JACKETS TEAM NOTES

- ★ The Blue Jackets stretched their win streak to five-straight over the Blackhawks following tonight's victory. It set a new club best win streak against Chicago (4-straight from Feb. 27, 2004-Dec. 30, 2005).
- ★ Columbus, which played its first game following the 4 Nations Face-Off break, improved to 6-1-1 in its last eight games at Nationwide Arena following tonight's win.
- ★ The team has recorded points in 13 of the past 15 home contests (10-2-3) as well as 18 of the last 21 played at Nationwide Arena (14-3-4).
- ★ The Blue Jackets are 18-6-4 (40 points) at home in 2024-25, posting the most points through the first 28 home games of a single season in CBJ history and tying for the second-most wins through as many games (19, 2016-17).
- ★ The club has recorded 185 goals (not including SO goals) through 57 games this season. It's tied for the second-most goals scored through 57 games played and two shy of the franchise best 187 scored in the 2021-22 season.
- ★ Columbus has scored goals in 117-of-the-169 periods played in regulation this year after scoring in all three periods for the 21<sup>st</sup> time this season. The club scored twice in the second and third periods for their 48<sup>th</sup> and 49<sup>th</sup> multi-goal frames of the season.
- ★ Columbus scored first for the 35<sup>th</sup> time this season (21-9-5) and for the seventh time in the last 11 contests.
- ★ CBJ blueliners have tallied 17-51-68 in the last 25 games and 38-105-143 this season after finishing with 2-2-4 tonight.
- ★ Tonight's attendance was a crowd of 18,809, marking the fourth-straight sellout at Nationwide Arena (18,784 average).

## BLUE JACKETS PLAYER NOTES

- ★ **C Adam Fantilli** (16-17-33, 57 GP) has notched 5-5-10 in the past 10 contests as well as 9-9-18 in 19 contests since Jan. 2 after scoring a third period goal. His goal marked the 28<sup>th</sup> of his CBJ career which surpassed D Zach Werenski for the fourth-most by a Blue Jackets player before age 21 (Nash, 58; Dubois, 47; C. Sillinger, 32).

- ★ **C Boone Jenner** (0-1-1, 1 GP) made his season debut tonight and collected an assist on Werenski's third period goal. He has recorded points in each of his last five games against the Blackhawks (5-3-8) and has picked up 3-1-4 in his last three-straight against the club at Nationwide Arena.
- ★ **LW Kent Johnson** (19-19-38, 43 GP) has scored in back-to-back games (3-0-3) after his two tallies tonight. It's his third multi-goal effort of the season, tying him for the second-most on the team (Monahan). He has now posted 7-5-12 in his past 11 contests this season and sits two-points shy of tying his single-season career high (16-24-40 in 2022-23).
- ★ **LW Joseph Labate** (0-0-0, 1 GP) made his CBJ debut tonight, finishing with 5 PIM and a +1 on 7:19 TOI.
- ★ **RW Kirill Marchenko** (21-35-56, 54 GP) added the primary helper on Fantilli's third period goal and now has points in seven of his last eight games (3-4-7) as well as 13 of his last 15 contests (5-9-14). He improved to 4-2-6 in his six career games against Chicago as well as posting 2-2-4 in his three career home games vs. the club.
- ★ **D Denton Mateychuk** (2-2-4, 20 GP) scored for his first points since Jan. 9 (1-1-2).
- ★ **G Elvis Merzlikins** (20-14-4) posted his 88<sup>th</sup> career win tonight (88-93-34), surpassing Joonas Korpisalo for the third-most in franchise history. It marks the second time in his career he's posted 20 wins in a season after setting a career high with 27 in 2021-22.
- ★ **C Cole Sillinger** (9-20-29, 52 GP) posted his fifth multi-point effort of the season with two assists and set a new single-season career high in assists (13-19-32 in 2023-24). He has recorded 2-4-6 in his last seven games played. He has posted 2-6-8 in seven career matchups against Chicago, including points in four-straight games (2-5-7) after tonight.
- ★ **LW Dmitri Voronkov** (19-17-36, 48 GP) assisted twice for his 11<sup>th</sup> multi-point effort of the season and his first points since Feb. 2 at Dallas.
- ★ **D Zach Werenski** (18-44-62, 56 GP) tallied his fifth three-point effort of the season with a goal and two assists to extend his franchise record home points streak to 22-straight games (13-27-41). It tied Phil Housley (22 GP in 1991-92) for the third-longest run by a defenseman in NHL history, trailing only Bobby Orr (25 GP in 1974-75) and Paul Coffey (23 GP in 1985-86).
  - His streak is also the fourth-longest home point streak by an active player in the league. Only Nathan MacKinnon (35 GP in 2023-24), Connor McDavid (26 GP in 2023-24) and Nikita Kucherov (24 GP in 2022-23) have posted longer runs.
  - He has posted 14-32-46 in 28 home games this season, tying the franchise record set by Johnny Gaudreau (46 in 41 GP; 2022-23) for the most in a single season. He also tied MacKinnon (13-33-46 in 28 GP) for the most in the NHL at home this season.
  - His first assist marked the 60<sup>th</sup> point of his season, the first time he has posted as many in a single season and became the first defenseman (17<sup>th</sup> overall player) in CBJ history to record 60 points in a campaign.
  - His multi-assist effort was the 39<sup>th</sup> of his CBJ career, tying Rick Nash for the most in franchise history.
  - He has recorded points in eight of his past nine games (3-8-11) and 7-16-23 in the last 19 outings.
  - The blueliner has now tallied 1-7-8 in his last three-straight home games against Chicago as well as 1-13-14 in six-straight games overall to improve to 3-16-19 in 18 career contests.
  - With 108-256-364 in 542 games for his CBJ career, he sits one point shy of tying Boone Jenner for the third-most points in CBJ franchise history and two assists shy of trying Rick Nash for the most in franchise history.

## BLUE JACKETS POST-GAME AUDIO INTERVIEWS

[HC Dean Evason](#) | [F Kent Johnson](#) | [G Elvis Merzlikins](#) | [D Zach Werenski](#)

## BLACKHAWKS POST-GAME AUDIO INTERVIEWS

[Interim HC Anders Sorensen](#) | [F Craig Smith](#) | [D Alex Vlasic](#)

## BLUE JACKETS UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Sunday, Feb. 23	No Practice
Monday, Feb. 24	10:30am ET practice (OhioHealth Ice Haus)
Tuesday, Feb. 25	7pm ET vs. Dallas (Nationwide Arena)
Wednesday, Feb. 26	11am ET practice (OhioHealth Ice Haus)