



NEW YORK RANGERS AT BUFFALO SABRES

Thursday, October 12, 2023 | 7:00 P.M. | KeyBank Center | Broadcast: MSG



BUFFALO SABRES

0-0-0 | 0 PTS

2022-23 Top Scorers

Tage Thompson: 78 GP, 47 G, 47 A, 94 PTS
Jeff Skinner: 79 GP, 35 G, 47 A, 82 PTS
Alex Tuch: 74 GP, 36 G, 43 A, 79 PTS

Season Series:

Oct. 12 at BUF | 7:00 P.M.
Nov. 27 at NYR | 7:00 P.M.
Dec. 23 at NYR | 7:30 P.M.

NEW YORK RANGERS

0-0-0 | 0 PTS

2022-23 Top Scorers

Artemi Panarin: 82 GP, 29 G, 63 A, 92 PTS
Mika Zibanejad: 82 GP, 39 G, 52 A, 91 PTS
Adam Fox: 82 GP, 12 G, 60 A, 72 PTS

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

All three matchups between Buffalo and New York in 2022-23 were decided in overtime or a shootout.

A win in tonight's game would give **Don Granato** three consecutive wins in season-opening contests as a head coach. **Granato** currently holds a 2-0-0 record as a head coach in such games.

A win in tonight's game would give the Sabres three consecutive wins against the Rangers for the first time since the team won three straight contests against New York from April 2, 2016 to Jan. 3, 2017.

If he plays tonight, **Zach Benson** (18 years, 153 days) would become the second-youngest Sabre to appear in a regular-season game, behind only Pierre Turgeon (18 years, 41 days).

Alex Tuch (1+6) and **Casey Mittelstadt** (5+5) each ended the 2022-23 season having tallied at least one point in each of their last six games.

If he scores the Sabres first goal, **JJ Peterka** would become the first Sabres skater since Connor Sheary from 2018-19 to 2019-20 to record Buffalo's first goal of the season in consecutive years.

Kyle Okposo leads all Buffalo skaters in points against the Rangers with 33 (11+22) in 58 total games against New York.

Should he start in tonight's game, **Devon Levi** (21 years, 289 days) would become the youngest Sabres goaltender since Mika Noronen (21 years, 110 days) on Oct. 5, 2000 (4-2 win vs. Chicago) to start in a season-opening game.

OPENING NIGHT

Tonight's game marks the 53rd season-opener in franchise history.

The Sabres are 27-20-5 all-time in season-openers; 19-11-5 when opening at home.

Buffalo is 24-21-7 all-time in their first home game of the season. This is the team's ninth season-opener in the last 10 seasons to take place at home.

Tonight's game marks just the second time the Sabres have opened their season against the Rangers in franchise history. Buffalo is 1-0-0 against New York in season-openers.

BUFFALO INJURY REPORT

Jack Quinn (Achilles, IR); **Matt Savoie** (upper body, IR)

ON THIS DATE

The Sabres are 7-9-3 all-time on October 12.

October 12, 1971: Rick Martin scores his first NHL goal against the Blues in St. Louis.

October 12, 1989: Mike Foligno appears in his 500th Sabres game. Foligno would finish his Sabres career with 664 games played, tied with Ric Seiling for the 11th most in franchise history.

RJ WAY

The Buffalo Sabres have multiple tributes planned to honor the team's late Hall-of-Fame broadcaster Rick Jeanneret, who passed away this summer at age 81.

The Sabres will wear a commemorative "RJ" jersey patch for all home and road games.

Prior to tonight's game, the Sabres will dedicate an "RJ Way" trailblazing sign at the corner of Illinois Street and Pery Street. The ceremony will take place at 4 p.m. in Alumni Plaza. All fans in attendance for tonight's game will receive a commemorative "RJ Way" street sign.

The Jeanneret family will be honored in a pregame ceremony ahead of tonight's game, including a ceremonial faceoff.

2022-23 HEAD-TO-HEAD

Buffalo Sabres		New York Rangers
42-33-7	Record	47-22-13
17-20-4	Home Record	23-13-6
25-13-3	Road Record	24-9-8
7-2-1	Last 10 Games	5-2-3
3.57 (3rd)	Goals For Per Game	3.33 (12th)
3.62 (26th)	Goals Against Per Game	2.63 (4th)
23.4% (9th)	Power Play	24.1% (7th)
73.0% (28th)	Penalty Kill	81.2% (13th)
45.1% (32nd)	Team FO%	49.1% (20th)
51.4% (14th)	Team SAT% (5-on-5)	49.8% (17th)



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