



2023-24 BUFFALO SABRES

SEASON RECAP



Rasmus Dahlin led all Sabres skaters in assists (39), power-play points (20) and time on ice per game (25:25) this season. **Dahlin** ended the season tied with **Alex Tuch** for first among all Sabres skaters in points (59).

With his goal on April 5 vs. Philadelphia, **Dahlin** gained sole possession of third place all-time in points by a Sabres defenseman. **Dahlin** currently sits at 292 career points and trails only Mike Ramsey (329) and Phil Housley (558) on Buffalo's all-time list.

With his goal on April 9 at Dallas, **Dahlin** joined Housley as the only two defensemen in Sabres history to record 20 or more goals in a single season. **Dahlin's** 20 goals this season were the most by a Sabres defenseman in a single season since Housley recorded 21 goals in 80 games in 1989-90.

Dahlin recorded the 56th goal of his career on Dec. 23 at NY Rangers, surpassing Alexei Zhitnik and gaining sole possession of fourth place on Buffalo's all-time list for goals by a defenseman.

Dahlin recorded 235 shots this season, which is tied with Housley for the second-most ever by a Sabres defenseman in a single season (John Van Boxmeer, 258, 1980-81). His 235 shots ranked second among all NHL defensemen in 2023-24.

This season, **Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen** (54 games played) became the first Sabres goaltender since Ryan Miller in 2011-12 to appear in 50 or more games and record a goals-against average of 2.57 or lower in a single season. **Luukkonen's** 54 games played were the most by a Sabres goaltender since Robin Lehner (59) in 2016-17.

Luukkonen's 27 wins this season were the most by a Sabres goaltender in a single season since Ryan Miller recorded 31 wins in 61 games in 2011-12.

Luukkonen was the first Sabres goaltender since Ryan Miller in 2011-12 (six shutouts) to record five or more shutouts in a single season. He became the fourth-youngest Sabres goaltender to record five or more shutouts in a single season.

Tage Thompson registered four goals on March 29 vs. New Jersey and became the fourth Sabres skater to record multiple games of four or more goals in their tenure with Buffalo. Dave Andreychuk (three times), Rick Martin (four times) and Alexander Mogilny (twice) are the only other Sabres skaters who have done so.

Thompson became one of four active players (Anze Kopitar, two times; Nathan MacKinnon, two times; Alexander Ovechkin, four times) with multiple four-goal games. He is the ninth Sabres skater to record four or more goals at least one time with Buffalo.

Thompson led all Sabres skaters in goals (29), power-play goals (9), power-play goals per 60 minutes (2.82), points per game played (0.79), shots (246) and shots per 60 minutes (11.47).

JJ Peterka improved his goal total from 12 in 2022-23 to 28 in 2023-24 and he led all Sabres skaters in even-strength goals (25). This season, **Peterka** set new single-season career highs in goals, assists (22), points (50) and games played (82).

On April 15 at Tampa Bay, **Peterka** became the 116th Sabres skater to appear in every game of a season with Buffalo. He is the only Sabres skater who played in all 82 games this season.

Peterka's goal on March 29 vs. New Jersey gave him a goal in four consecutive games and it made him the youngest (22 years, 75 days) Sabres skater since Donald Audette (22 years, 58 days) from Nov. 8 to 20, 1991 (five games) to record a goal streak of four or more games.

Tuch recorded seven game-winning goals in 2023-24, the most among all Sabres skaters this season. He became the first Sabres skater since Mogilny from 1992-93 to 1993-94 to record seven or more game-winning goals in back-to-back seasons.

Tuch registered 82 takeaways in 75 games played this season, more than any Sabres skater has registered in a season since the league began tracking the stat in 2005-06. Since playing his first game with Buffalo on Dec. 29, 2021, **Tuch** has amassed 186 takeaways, the most among all Sabres skaters in that span.

Tuch recorded 37 assists in 75 games and led all Sabres skaters in assists per game played (0.49), assists at 5-on-5 (24) and primary assists at 5-on-5 (15).

On April 2 vs. Washington, **Jeff Skinner** became the 13th skater to appear in their 1,000th NHL game as a member of the Sabres and the 393rd skater in NHL history to reach 1,000 games played.

After recording 46 points (24+22) this season, **Skinner** has amassed 291 points (153+138) in 427 games with Buffalo, the most goals and points by any Sabres skater in that span.

Skinner (146 goals in his first 400 games with Buffalo) became one of 10 Sabres skaters who recorded 145 or more goals in their first 400 games with the Sabres. Among Sabres skaters with fewer than 500 games played with Buffalo, **Skinner** ranks second in even-strength goals (123), trailing only Mogilny (130).

Zach Benson's 11 even-strength goals this season were the most ever by a Sabres skater in a single season at age 18 or younger. Housley's eight even-strength goals in 1982-83 rank second.

Benson ranks fourth all-time in points by a Sabres skater in their age 18 season (30), trailing only **Dahlin** (44), Housley (66) and Pierre Turgeon (42).

Benson became the third Sabres skater to record a multi-goal game at age 18 or younger on March 14 vs. NY Islanders, joining Housley (Jan. 23, 1983) and Turgeon (Oct. 21, 1987 and Nov. 4, 1987).

On April 5 vs. Philadelphia, **Benson** (18 years, 329 days) became the second-youngest Sabres skater ever to record multiple assists in consecutive games. **Dahlin** (18 years, 247 days) from Dec. 15 to 16, 2018 (1+4) is the youngest Sabres skater who has done so.

Dylan Cozens recorded three shorthanded goals in 2023-24, the most among all Sabres skaters. He became the first Sabres skater since Evander Kane in 2017-18 (3) to record three or more shorthanded goals in a single season.

Cozens' two shorthanded goals on March 2 vs. Vegas are tied for the most ever by a Sabres skater in a single game. He joined Kane (Oct. 7, 2017), Don Luce (Dec. 22, 1974), Michael Peca (Dec. 31, 1997) and Bob Sweeney (April 1, 1995) as the only Sabres forwards to do so with Buffalo.

Cozens finished the season tied with Tuch for the team lead in individual shorthanded shot attempts at 5-on-5 (23) and he led all Sabres centers in shorthanded time on ice (125:52) and shorthanded time on ice per game (1:36).

On March 7 at Nashville, **Bowen Byram** became the first defenseman acquired by Buffalo in a trade to record a goal in their debut with the Sabres since Alexei Zhitnik on Feb. 15, 1995.

Byram (1+1) joined Van Boxmeer (Oct. 11, 1979; 0+2) and Lee Fogolin (March 7, 1987; 0+2) as the only Sabres defensemen acquired in a trade to notch multiple points in their debut with Buffalo.

With two goals on March 12 vs. Detroit, **Byram** became the only Sabres defenseman all-time to record three or more goals in their first three games with Buffalo.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Nov. 19	Rasmus Dahlin 1 G, 2 A, 28:59 TOI	
Dec. 21	Alex Tuch 4 A, +2, 16:14 TOI	
Jan. 4	Jeff Skinner 1 G, 3 A, +1, 15:57 TOI	
Feb. 13	Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen 33 SV, 0 GA	
March 2	Dylan Cozens 2 SHG, +1, 12:29 TOI	
March 7	Bowen Byram 1 G, 1 A, +1, 24:58 TOI	
March 14	Zach Benson 2 G, +2, 15:16 TOI	
March 29	Tage Thompson 4 G, +3, 16:07 TOI	

LEADING SCORERS

1st	Alex Tuch - Right Wing 75 GP, 22 G, 37 A, 59 P, 19:30 TOI/GP
2nd	Rasmus Dahlin - Defenseman 81 GP, 20 G, 39 A, 59 P, 25:25 TOI/GP
3rd	Tage Thompson - Center 71 GP, 29 G, 27 A, 56 P, 18:07 TOI/GP

UP NEXT

- Friday, May 10 to Sunday, May 26**
2024 IIHF Men's World Championship
- Sunday, June 2 to Saturday, June 8**
2024 NHL Scouting Combine
- Friday, June 28 to Saturday, June 29**
2024 NHL Draft
- Monday, July 1**
Free agency begins



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