

DALLAS STARS

19-13-0, 38 PTS (4th in Central)

Last Game: 12/20 3-1 L vs. NYR

Next Game: 12/27 vs. MIN

Last 10 Games: 5-5-0

PP: 17/104 (16.4%)

PK: 77/91 (84.6%)

UTAH HOCKEY CLUB

16-11-5, 37 PTS (5th in Central)

Last Game: 12/20 2-1 W at MIN

Next Game: 12/27 vs. COL

Last 10 Games: 7-1-2

PP: 22/91 (22.0%)

PK: 91/115 (79.1%)

DALLAS STARS AT UTAH HOCKEY CLUB // DEC. 23, 2024 // 8 P.M. CT // DELTA CENTER // SALT LAKE CITY, UT

LAST GAME

Dallas 1 vs. New York Rangers 3

Goals: Hintz

Goalie: Oettinger (27/30)

PP: 0/7 PK: 3/3 Shots: Dallas 42 – New York Rangers 30

Three Stars: 1. NYR – I. Shesterkin 2. NYR – R. Smith 3. DAL – R. Hintz

- **Roope Hintz** scored the team's lone goal and now has eight points (4-4–8) in his last seven games against the Rangers dating back to March 10, 2020.
- The goal gave **Hintz** nine points (7-2–9) in his last nine home games dating back to Nov. 20.
- The Stars went a perfect 3-for-3 on the penalty kill on Friday to finish their six game-homestand a perfect 14-for-14 on the penalty kill.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Friday, Dec. 27, 2024: Dallas vs. Minnesota, 7 p.m. CT, American Airlines Center (Victory+/The Ticket)*

Sunday, Dec. 29, 2024: Dallas at Chicago, 7:30 p.m. CT, United Center (ESPN/The Ticket)

Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2024: Dallas vs. Buffalo, 7 p.m. CT, American Airlines Center (Victory+/The Ticket)

Thursday, Jan. 2, 2024: Dallas vs. Ottawa, 7 p.m. CT, American Airlines Center (Victory+/The Ticket)

Saturday, Jan. 4, 2024: Dallas vs. Utah, 7 p.m. CT, American Airlines Center (Victory+/The Ticket)

RECENT TRANSACTIONS

Dec. 15, 2024: Loaned D Lian Bichsel and G Magnus Hellberg to Texas (AHL)

Dec. 16, 2024: Recalled D Lian Bichsel from Texas (AHL)

Dec. 18, 2024: Recalled D Alexander Petrovic from Texas (AHL)

Dec. 19, 2024: Loaned D Lian Bichsel and D Alexander Petrovic to Texas (AHL)

Dec. 20, 2024: Recalled D Lian Bichsel and F Justin Hryckowian from Texas (AHL)

Dec. 21, 2024: Loaned F Justin Hryckowian to Texas (AHL)

CURRENT INJURIES

MAN GAMES LOST: 38

Tyler Seguin (hip; IR) – 9 games – day-to-day

Matt Dumba (upper body; IR) – 5 games – day-to-day

GAME NOTES

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

- Tonight is the second of three games the Stars will play against the Hockey Club this season and the final time the two teams are facing off in Utah this year. The teams will play each other next on Jan. 4 in Dallas.
- Tonight is also the final game that the Stars will play before the NHL's three-day holiday break. They will next take the ice on Dec. 27 against Minnesota.
- Entering play Sunday, the Stars and the Washington Capitals were the only NHL teams this season that have not lost more than two consecutive games.
- The Stars have allowed only 2.59 goals against per game this season, which was the fourth-best mark in the NHL entering play Sunday. Dallas has allowed two or fewer goals in 17 of the 30 games that they have played this year.
- The Stars have had four different rookies score a goal for them this season: **Logan Stankoven** (4), **Lian Bichsel** (2), **Mavrik Bourque** (2) and **Oskar Bäck** (2). Entering play Sunday, Dallas, San Jose and Vancouver were the only NHL teams to have four different rookies score at least one goal this season.

KILLING IT

- Entering play Sunday, the Stars had the fifth-ranked penalty kill in the NHL this season with an 84.6 percent success rate.
- Dallas has allowed only 14 power-play goals against this season, which was the third-best mark in the NHL this season entering play Sunday. Their 0.44 power-play goals against per game were also tied for the third-best mark in the NHL entering play Sunday.

- The Stars have not allowed a power-play goal against in six consecutive games, going 14-for-14 on the penalty kill dating back to Dec. 8 vs. Calgary.
 - The Stars are one of three teams (Carolina, Los Angeles) that have been perfect on the penalty kill since Dec. 8.
- If the Stars were to remain perfect on the penalty kill tonight, it would mark the first time that this team has gone seven straight games without surrendering a power-play goal against since Jan. 30 to Feb. 18, 2022. They went 15-for-15 on the penalty kill during that stretch.
- **Thomas Harley** has allowed 3.44 power-play goals against per 60, which was tied for the fifth-best mark in the NHL entering play Sunday among defensemen that have at least 40 minutes of shorthanded ice time this season.
- **Esa Lindell** has skated 113:51 minutes on the penalty kill this season, which was fourth-highest total of any NHL skater this season entering play Sunday.
 - **Lindell**, who skated 7:58 of shorthanded ice time, was on the ice for all but two seconds of Dallas' eight penalty kill minutes in their game on Dec. 16 against the Washington Capitals.

TOUGH AS NILS

- **Nils Lundkvist** recorded the primary assist on **Roope Hintz's** goal in Dallas' last game and now has three assists on the season.
- Since Dec. 8, when **Lundkvist** has been on the ice during 5-on-5 play, the Stars have outscored their opponents 2-1 and outshot them 44-36. His 54 percent Corsi rating during that span ranks second among Stars defensemen to play in at least four games since Dec. 8, trailing only **Thomas Harley** (60.2 percent).
- **Lundkvist** has totaled 18 shots on goal since Nov. 29, which ranked fifth among NHL defensemen that have averaged less than 18 minutes off ice time per game during that span entering play Sunday.
 - This includes recorded six shots on Dec. 4 against Los Angeles, which match his career high and were the second-most by a Stars defenseman in a single game this season (**Miro Heiskanen**; 7 on 10/22 at BUF and 11/11 at PIT).
- In all this season, **Lundkvist** is averaging 16.2 shot attempts per 60, which is the sixth-best mark on the Stars roster and tops all Dallas defensemen.
 - He trails **Mason Marchment** (17.5), **Logan Stankoven** (17.3), **Wyatt Johnston** (17.2), **Tyler Seguin** (17.1) and **Jason Robertson** (16.5).

ROBO ON THE GOGO

- **Jason Robertson** enters tonight's matchup having totaled eight points (2-6—8) in his last eight games played dating back to Dec. 4 against the Los Angeles Kings.
- During that span, the Stars have outscored their opponents 5-3 and outshot them 62-41 when **Robertson** has been on the ice during 5-on-5 play according to Natural Stat Trick.
- With two assists in Dallas' game on Dec. 16 against Washington, **Robertson** moved into 23rd on the franchise's all-time scoring list with 335 (140-195—335) career points. He now sits four points shy of Al MacAdam for 22nd all-time.
- **Robertson** enters tonight's game four assists shy of recording 200 career assists. When he reaches the milestone, he will become the 27th player in Stars franchise history at the seventh player from the 2017 draft class to total 200 NHL assists.

BENN THERE DONE THAT

- Dallas' game on Dec. 18 was the 1,143rd game of captain **Jamie Benn's** career, which is the most-ever by a Stars skater.
 - **Benn** surpassed Mike Modano's 1,142 games with Dallas.
- **Benn's** 1,144 career games rank second on the franchise's all-time list behind Modano, who played in 317 games for the North Stars before the team relocated to Dallas.
- **Benn** also ranks in the top five in franchise history in career goals (389, second), assists (538, third) and points (927, second).
- Dallas' last game on Dec. 20 against the Rangers was the 329th consecutive game that **Benn** played in, which is the fifth-longest active Iron Man streak in the NHL.

ROAD WARRIORS

- **Matt Duchene** is the team's leading scorer when playing on the road this year, totaling 16 points (5-11—16) in 14 games.
- **Miro Heiskanen** has eight points (4-4—8) in his last eight road games dating back to Nov. 11 against the Pittsburgh Penguins. His four even-strength goals during that span topped all NHL defensemen entering play Sunday.
- **Mason Marchment** has 15 points (7-8—15) in 14 road games played this season.

BICHS BETTER HAVE MY MONEY

- Dallas' game against the Predators on Dec. 12 marked the first NHL game of defenseman **Lian Bichsel's** career.
- In making his NHL debut, **Bichsel** became:
 - The 33rd player and 13th defenseman selected in the 2022 NHL Draft to appear in an NHL regular-season game.

- The eighth player drafted by the Stars between 2017 and 2024 to play in at least one regular-season game for Dallas.
 - The 46th Swiss player and 15th Swiss defenseman in league history to appear in an NHL regular-season game.
- **Bichsel** scored his first NHL goal in the game, making him the third defenseman in franchise history to score in his NHL debut according to NHL Stats, joining Daniel Poulin (Dec. 12, 1981) and Bryan Maxwell (Feb. 16, 1987). **Bichsel's** goal came exactly 43 years to the day after Poulin's.
- Additionally, **Bichsel** recorded five hits in the game, which is tied for the most by a Stars skater in a single game this season.
- **Bichsel** scored the second goal of his NHL career in Dallas' last game (and his third NHL game) on Dec. 16 against the Washington Capitals, making him the second defenseman in franchise history to score two goals within his first three NHL games according to NHL Stats, joining Minnesota North Stars blueliner Derian Hatcher (2 in 1991-92).
- **Bichsel's** goal was the eventual game winner, making him the club's second-youngest defenseman with a game-winning goal according to NHL Stats, behind only **Miro Heiskanen** (4; youngest: 19 years, 99 days on Oct. 25, 2018).
 - **Bichel** was 20 years and 212 days old on Dec. 16.
- **Bichel's** two goals this season were just one shy of tying New Jersey's Seamus Casey for the league lead among rookie defensemen entering play Sunday.
 - **Bichsel**, Casey and the Islanders' Isaiah George were the only rookie defensemen to score a game-winning goal this season entering play Sunday.
- Standing at 6'7", there are only four players to appear in a regular-season game this year that are taller than **Bichsel**: New York's Matt Rempe (6'9"), Vancouver's Tyler Myers (6'8"), Chicago's Louis Crevier (6'8") and Calgary's Adam Klapka (6'8").
- **Bichsel** was originally selected by the Stars with the 18th-overall pick of the 2022 NHL Draft, the only Swiss player to be drafted that year. It made him the seventh-highest drafted Swiss player in NHL history, behind Nico Hischier (first overall, 2017), Nino Niederreiter (fifth overall, 2010), Timo Meier (ninth overall, 2015), Kevin Fiala (11th overall, 2014), Sven Bärtschi (13th overall, 2011) and Michel Riesen (14th overall, 1997).
 - Defenseman Mirco Müller was also drafted 18th overall, taken by San Jose in 2013.

ONE FOR THE HISTORY BOOKS

- **Jake Oettinger's** next shutout will be the 12th of his career, which will tie Jon Casey for the sixth-most in franchise history.
- **Miro Heiskanen** is one assist shy of tying Brad Maxwell (217) for seventh on the franchise's all-time assists list by defensemen.
- **Matt Duchene** is five points away from recording his 100th point with the Stars.
- **Esa Lindell** enters tonight's contest four assists shy of tying Alex Goligoski (155) for 25th all-time among Stars/North Stars defensemen.

CONNECT FOUR

- Stars forward **Roope Hintz** (Finland), defensemen **Miro Heiskanen** (Finland) and **Esa Lindell** (Finland), and goaltender **Jake Oettinger** (United States) have all been selected to represent their home country at the 4 Nations Face-Off, which will be held in Montreal and Boston from Feb. 12 to 20, 2025.
- Dallas is one of six NHL teams to have at least one forward, defenseman and goaltender from their roster to be selected for the 4 Nations Face-Off, with the others being Boston, Minnesota, Vancouver, Vegas and Winnipeg.
- Only six teams have had more players selected to a 4 Nations roster than the Stars: Colorado, Florida, Minnesota, Tampa Bay and Vegas. The full breakdown is as follows:

PLAYERS SELECTED	TEAMS
0	Washington
1	Calgary, Chicago, Columbus, Los Angeles, NY Islanders, San Jose, Seattle
2	Buffalo, Detroit, Ottawa, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Utah
3	Carolina, Edmonton, Montreal, Nashville, Philadelphia, Winnipeg
4	Boston, Dallas , New Jersey, NY Rangers, Toronto, Vancouver
5	Colorado, Minnesota, Tampa Bay
6	--
7	Florida, Vegas

- All four players have previously represented their home countries in international competition.
 - **Heiskanen** has played for Finland at the 2017 and 2018 IIHF World Junior Championships, 2018 and 2022 (gold) IIHF World Championships and at the 2018 Winter Olympic Games.
 - **Lindell** suited up for the Fins at the 2014 IIHF World Junior Championship, where he won a gold medal. He again represented Finland at the 2015, 2016 (silver) and 2022 (gold) IIHF World Championships and at the 2016 World Cup of Hockey.
 - **Hintz** previously played for Finland at the 2015 and 2016 IIHF World Junior Championships, winning a gold medal at the later tournament.
 - **Oettinger** has played for Team USA at the 2017 and 2018 IIHF World Junior Championships and at the 2021 IIHF World Championship. He medaled in all three tournaments, winning bronze in 2018 and 2021 and gold in 2017.

- The 4 Nations Face-Off will mark the first time that all three of **Heiskanen**, **Hintz** and **Lindell** are playing for Finland together.
 - **Heiskanen** and **Lindell** previously won a gold medal together at the 2022 IIHF World Championship.
- The Stars will also be well-represented among the 4 Nations staff, with **Jim Nill** (Associate GM), **Pete DeBoer** (Assistant Coach) and **Misha Donskov** (Assistant Coach) all set to join Canada's staff for the tournament. Additionally, former Star **Jere Lehtinen** will serve as Finland's General Manager.

CONNECTIONS

- Two Stars defensemen played for the Arizona Coyotes (now Utah Hockey Club), **Ilya Lyubushkin** from 2018-19 to 2021-22 and **Matt Dumba** during the 2023-24 season.
- Stars goaltender **Casey DeSmith** and Utah forward Nick Bjugstad were teammates with the Pittsburgh Penguins in 2018-19 and 2019-20.
- Stars defenseman **Matt Dumba** and Utah forward Nick Bjugstad and defenseman Ian Cole were all teammates with the Minnesota Wild in 2020-21. Both Matt Dumba and Nick Bjugstad also played the following 2021-22 season together for the Wild.
- Stars forward **Matt Duchene** and Utah forward Alex Kerfoot both played for the Colorado Avalanche for a short time during the 2017-18 season.
- Stars forward **Mason Marchment** and Utah forward Alex Kerfoot were both members of the Toronto Maple Leafs for a short time during the 2019-20 season.
- Stars forward **Colin Blackwell** and defenseman **Ilya Lyubushkin** were teammates with Utah forward Alex Kerfoot with the Toronto Maple Leafs for the 2021-22 season.
- Stars goaltender **Casey DeSmith** and Utah defenseman Ian Cole were teammates for a handful of games with Pittsburgh in 2017-18 and crossed paths again as members of the Vancouver Canucks in 2023-24.
- Stars goaltender **Casey DeSmith** and Utah defenseman Olli Matta were both members of the Pittsburgh Penguins for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 seasons.
- Stars defenseman **Brendan Smith** and Utah defenseman Ian Cole shared the ice in Carolina for the 2021-22 season.
- Stars forward **Matt Duchene** and Utah goaltender Connor Ingram were teammates for a short time in Nashville in 2021-22 where Ingram played three games.
- Stars forward **Colin Blackwell** and Utah goaltender Jaxson Stauber were both members of the Blackhawks during the 2022-23 season where Stauber played six games.
- Stars forward **Matt Duchene** and Utah assistant coach Mario Duhamel were both members of the Colorado Avalanche in 2013-14 to 2014-15 where Duhamel was a video coach.
- Stars defensemen **Matt Dumba** and **Ilya Lyubushkin** were with the Arizona Coyotes while Utah assistant coach Mario Duhamel was an assistant coach in Arizona from 2021-22 to 2023-24. Dumba played under Duhamel in 2023-24 and Lyubushkin played under Duhamel in 2021-22.

STRAIGHT FROM THE SOURCE

- Josh Clark profiled Jim Nill's tenure with the Stars, which includes thoughts from Jamie Benn and Matt Dumba, in his latest piece for DallasStars.com - [The architect: How Jim Nill has cultivated a new era of Stars hockey](#).
- Lia Assimakopoulos talked with Logan Stankoven, Texas Stars head coach Niel Graham and Mavrik Bourque himself about [Bourque's journey to the NHL](#) and finally cracking the Stars' opening night roster.
- [Wyatt Johnston joined The Musers on Sportsradio 96.7 and 1310 The Ticket](#) from Stars media day to discuss brining a veteran presence to Dallas' locker room despite only being 21 years old, coping with the physical demands of the NHL and navigating his first pro season without Joe Pavelski.
- Fresh off of signing a two-year contract extension, Mike Heika of DallasStars.com profiled [what's ahead for Stars defenseman Thomas Harley](#) this season as he prepares to take another crucial step in his career.
- In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, Albert Perez of NHL.com sat down with NHL alum and the Stars' Vice President of Cultural Growth and Strategy, Al Montoya, to discuss the [Stars' bid to grown and engage with their Hispanic fanbase](#).
- Mike Heika of DallasStars.com dove deep into [what makes Esa Lindell a core member of the Stars organization](#), both on and off the ice, after the blueliner signed a five-year contract extension a year ahead of hitting free agency.

STARS REAL-TIME STATS LEADERS

Hits: Benn (47), Marchment (43), Blackwell (37)

Blocked Shots: Lindell (59), Heiskanen (54), Lyubushkin (50)

Shots: Johnston (91), Stankoven (79), Marchment (77)

STARS' RECORD IN 10-GAME SEGMENTS [W-L-OT (PTS), GF/GA, PP, PK]

1-10: 7-3-0 (14), 32/23, 6/32, 28/31

11-20: 6-4-0 (12), 37/27, 4/30, 20/27

21-30: 6-4-0 (12), 28/25, 7/31, 25/29

31-40: 0-2-0 (0), 4/8, 0/11, 4/4

OVERTIME RESULTS (1-0)

Dec. 14, 2024 vs. St. Louis: Duchene

SHOOTOUT RESULTS (1-0)

Oct. 15, 2024 vs. San Jose: Duchene

UPCOMING NHL MILESTONES (PLAYER ... NEEDS ... MILESTONE)

Games Played

Matt Dumba ... 7 games ... 700 NHL games

Wyatt Johnston ... 4 games ... 200 NHL games

Starts

N/A

Goals

Jamie Benn ... 11 goals ... 400 NHL goals

Assists

Jason Robertson ... 4 assists ... 200 NHL assists

Points

N/A

RECENT MILESTONES

Oskar Bäck ... First NHL game ... Oct. 10, 2024 at NSH

Pete DeBoer ... 100th win as Stars head coach ... Oct. 10, 2024 at NSH

Oskar Bäck ... First NHL point (assist) ... Oct. 17, 2024 at WSH

Mavrik Bourque ... First NHL point (assist) ... Oct. 22, 2024 at BUF

Roope Hintz ... 400th NHL game ... Oct. 24, 2024 at BOS

Jason Robertson ... 300th NHL game ... Oct. 24, 2024 at BOS

Jake Oettinger ... 200th NHL game ... Nov. 1, 2024 vs. FLA

Mavrik Bourque ... First NHL goal ... Nov. 1, 2024 vs. FLA

Oskar Bäck ... First NHL goal ... Nov. 14, 2024 vs. BOS

Tyler Seguin ... 800th NHL point ... Nov. 14, 2024 vs. BOS

Mason Marchment ... 100th NHL assist ... Nov. 18, 2024 vs. ANA

Jake Oettinger ... 200th NHL start ... Nov. 29, 2024 vs. COL

Esa Lindell ... 200th NHL point ... Dec. 1, 2024 vs. WPG

Lian Bichsel ... First NHL game and first NHL goal ... Dec. 12, 2024 vs. NSH

MEDIA RESOURCES

[Stars Press Site](#)

[NHL Media Site](#)

[Pronunciation Guide](#)

[NHL Stats](#)

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Lindsey Brown will be the Stars PR representative traveling with the team to Utah.