



VS



COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS GAME DAY PREVIEW

Columbus Blue Jackets vs. Florida Panthers || Mar. 5, 2026 || Nationwide Arena || 7:00 pm ET || Game 61 (Home 30)

GAME DAY SCHEDULE

10:30am ET: Morning Skate followed by Media with Players and Head Coach Rick Bowness

7:00pm ET: Game vs. Florida

Post-Game: Locker room will open approximately five minutes after the game's conclusion. Head Coach Rick Bowness will be available immediately after player availability.

BROADCAST INFO

TV: FANDUEL SPORTS NETWORK

Steve Mears (play-by-play)

Jody Shelley (analyst)

Dave Maetzold (reporter)

Brian Giesenschlag (host)

Jean-Luc Grand-Pierre (analyst)

RADIO: 97.1 THE FAN

Bob McElligott (play-by-play)

Dylan Tyrer (host)

COLUMBUS PR

Todd Sharrock (614) 746-5403

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Jack Weller (614) 530-7535

jweller@bluejackets.com

For More Information

PR X Account: @BlueJacketsPR

Website: BlueJackets.com/PressBox

Game Notes: Game Notes available at Media.NHL.com

MEDIA ENTRANCES

Morning Skate: Nationwide Arena Security Entrance

Game Night: Nationwide Arena Box Office (Opens at 4:30pm)

OhioHEALTH INJURY REPORT

Brendan Smith (Lower Body) 22

Zach Werenski (Illness) 2

Boone Jenner (Lower Body) 1

TOTAL MAN GAMES LOST: 162

COLUMBUS

31-21-8 (70 pts.)

16-8-5 (37 pts.)

15-13-3 (33 pts.)

4th, Metropolitan

9th, Eastern

3.12 (17th-T) / 3.17 (21st-T)

19.6 (19th-T) / 77.2 (24th-T)

29.9 (5th) / 30.1 (27th-T)

Mar. 3 at CBJ 3, NSH 2

Mar. 7 vs. Utah

HEAD-TO-HEAD

Record

At Home

On the Road

Division Rank

Conference Rank

GF / GA (NHL rank)

PP / PK (NHL rank)

SF / SA (NHL rank)

Last Game

Next Game

FLORIDA

30-28-3 (63 pts)

16-14-3 (35 pts)

14-14-0 (28 pts)

8th, Atlantic

14th, Eastern

2.98 (19th) / 3.34 (25th-T)

19.3 (21st) / 82.4 (7th-T)

29.1 (8th-T) / 26.2 (6th)

Mar. 3 at NJD 5, FLA 1

Mar. 6 at Detroit

ALL-TIME SERIES CBJ RECORD

26-21-0-7 (16-7-0-4 at Home)

THIS SEASON (CBJ, 0-0-1)

Dec. 6, 2025 - at FLA 7, CBJ 6 (OT)

Mar. 5, 2026 - at Columbus (7 pm ET)

Mar. 12, 2026 - at Florida (7 pm ET)

2024-25 RECORD (CBJ 0-2-1)

Oct. 15, 2024 - at CBJ 3, FLA 4

Mar. 6, 2025 - at FLA 3, CBJ 0

Mar. 20, 2025 - FLA 1, at CBJ 0 (OT)

MATCHUP NOTES

- ★ Florida has won the past nine meetings since Dec. 13, 2022 (CBJ; 0-6-3) after Columbus won two-straight from Feb. 24-Nov. 20, 2022.
- ★ The teams have combined for seven-plus goals in nine of the last 13 meetings overall since Jan. 15, 2022 as well as in six of the past seven contests at Nationwide Arena since Mar. 11, 2021.
- ★ The winning team has scored four or more goals in 16 of the past 198 games of the series.
- ★ The winning team has won by multiple goals in 13 of the last 17 meetings of the series, including 11 instances by three-plus goals.
- ★ CBJ have recorded three shutouts in the all-time series (MR: Merzlikins, 1-0 OT win at CBJ on Feb. 4, 2020) and two hat tricks (MR: Werenski, 4-1 W at CBJ on Dec. 31, 2019).



JACKET TO WATCH - C Sean Monahan

Has 8-6-14 with 5 multi-point efforts in 20 career games vs. Florida. Notched a goal in his last home game on Oct. 15, 2024 and has posted points in six of his past seven at home vs. club (5-4-9).



PANTHER TO WATCH - C Sam Reinhart

Has 13-23-36 with eight multi-point efforts in 28 career GP against Columbus. Has points in each of his last nine meetings (5-14-19, 6 multi-point efforts).



TEAM NOTES

- ★ Columbus has earned points in three-straight games (2-0-1) after sweeping a back-to-back set for the fifth time this season with a 5-4 OT win at the NY Rangers on Monday and 3-2 victory over Nashville on Tuesday.
- ★ CBJ, who are in the middle of a four-game homestand, have recorded points in 10 of 11 games played at Nationwide Arena in 2026 (8-1-2).
- ★ Since Dec. 22, the Blue Jackets have gone 17-6-2 (36 pts., .720 points pct.) and rank third-T in the NHL in points and points percentage, fourth-T in penalty kill pct. (.83.1), sixth in save pct. (.906), seventh in goals-against/game (2.68) as well as 11th in goals for/game (3.44).
- ★ The club has scored the opening goal in 14 of the past 16 games and is tied for the league lead in scoring first 38 times in 2025-26 (26-7-5).

PLAYER NOTES

- ★ C **Charlie Coyle** notched his second game-winner of the season on Tuesday and has posted 6-10-16 and five multi-point efforts in the last 10 games since Jan. 24.
- ★ C **Adam Fantilli** has tied his career high with goals in four-straight games (4-2-6). He also has points in five consecutive outings (4-3-7) and has totaled 5-7-12 in the past 10 contests.
- ★ RW **Kirill Marchenko** has collected points in consecutive games (2-2-4) and has registered points in seven of his past eight contests since Jan. 24 (4-6-10).
- ★ LW **Mason Marchment** has recorded points in four of the last five contests (1-4-5) and has notched 10-7-17 in 18 contests as a Blue Jacket.
- ★ RW **Mathieu Olivier** has totaled 5-2-7 and 27 hits in the last nine contests.
- ★ D **Zach Werenski**, who has missed the past two games due to illness, set a club record for defensemen with points in nine-straight games (2-11-13). He also has points in 22 of his past 24 games played since Dec. 11 (11-24-35, 11 multi-point efforts).



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IN-GAME INFORMATION & ACTIVATIONS

ANTHEM: The OSU Alumni Band

CANNONEER: WWE Superstar Mark Henry

KID STARTER, presented by OhioCot: Jackson Holmes, Age 9, EYHA Mavericks

MILITARY HONOREE, presented by Elk + Elk: Szu-yu Chu, Staff Sgt, U.S. Army Reserve

1ST INTERMISSION: OhioHealth Future Jackets, Blue Jackets Hockey League 8U (Scrimmage)

2ND INTERMISSION: N/A

50/50 BENEFICIARY, presented by Kemba Financial Credit Union: A Special Wish Foundation

THEME NIGHT ACTIVATIONS: N/A

BLUE LINE ITEM OF THE GAME: Blue84 Hooded Sweatshirt -
On sale for \$54.99.
Available online and in the main team store, while supplies last.

