



VS



COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS GAME DAY PREVIEW

Columbus Blue Jackets vs. Tampa Bay Lightning || Oct. 18, 2025 || Nationwide Arena || 7 pm ET || Game 5 (Home 3)

GAME DAY SCHEDULE

10:00am ET: Optional Skate
10:30am ET: Media Availability
7:00pm ET: Game vs. Tampa Bay
Post-Game: Locker room will open approximately five minutes after the game's conclusion. Head Coach Dean Evason 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: 93.3 THE BUS
Bob McElligott (play-by-play)
Dylan Tyrer (host)

COLUMBUS PR

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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

Erik Gudbranson (Upper Body) 2
Miles Wood (Upper Body) 1

TOTAL MAN GAMES LOST: 3

COLUMBUS

1-3-0
0-2-0
1-1-0
7th
14th
2.75 (22nd-T) / 3.25 (19th-T)
9.1 (29th-T) / 53.3 (32nd)
31.8 (6th-T) / 37.0 (31st)
Oct. 16 at CBJ 1, COL 4
Oct. 21 at Dallas

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

TAMPA BAY*

1-2-1
0-2-0
1-0-1
7th
13th
3.25 (14th-T) / 4.00 (28th-T)
30.0 (3rd) / 87.5 (10th)
21.0 (30th-T) / 31.5 (28th)
Oct. 14 at WSH 3, TBL 2 (OT)
Oct. 17 at Detroit

* Tampa Bay visits Detroit at Little Caesars Arena on Friday

ALL-TIME SERIES CBJ RECORD

16-29-1-6 (11-12-1-2 at home)

THIS SEASON (CBJ, 0-0-0)

Oct. 18, 2025 - at Columbus (7 pm ET)
Jan. 24, 2026 - at Columbus (7 pm ET)
Mar. 10, 2026 - at Tampa Bay (7 pm ET)

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

Nov. 21, 2024 - at CBJ 7, TBL 6 (OT)
Dec. 17, 2024 - at TBL 5, CBJ 3
Mar. 4, 2025 - at TBL 6, CBJ 2

MATCHUP NOTES

- ★ Columbus has picked up points in seven of the last 11 games of the series played at Nationwide Arena (5-4-2).
- ★ CBJ have scored a power play goal in four of the last five meetings (4-of-13; 30.8 pct.).
- ★ The winning team has scored four goals or more in 13-straight contests in the series overall since Apr. 25, 2021 with the teams combining for six-plus tallies in 11 of those games.
- ★ The winning team has also recorded four-plus goals in the past nine consecutive played at Nationwide Arena dating back to Jan. 23, 2021.
- ★ 11 of the last 12 overall contests in the series have been decided by multiple goals.
- ★ The clubs have combined for 60-plus shots in five-straight games as well as in eight of the last 10.



JACKET TO WATCH - D ZACH WERENSKI

Has posted 8-12-20 with five multi-point efforts in 24 career GP against the Lightning, including 2-3-5 game in his last home meeting on Nov. 21, 2024. Has points in 6 of last 7 home GP (4-6-10).



LIGHTNING TO WATCH - RW NIKITA KUCHEROV

Has 14-33-47 with 15 multi-point efforts in 30 career GP against the Blue Jackets. Has an active 5-game assists streak (1-11-12). Has totaled 6-12-18 in 15 career games at Nationwide Arena.



TEAM NOTES

- ★ The Blue Jackets finish their three-game homestand against Tampa Bay after falling 3-2 to New Jersey on Monday and 4-1 to Colorado on Thursday.
- ★ CBJ play seven of its games in the month of October against teams that made the 2025 Stanley Cup Playoffs, including six-straight from Oct. 11-24 in Minnesota, New Jersey, Colorado, Tampa Bay, Dallas, Washington and Toronto.
- ★ The Jackets hit the road on Oct. 21 for a one-game trip to Dallas. Columbus will then play its first and second of 15 back-to-back games on Oct. 24 (vs. Washington) and 25 (at Pittsburgh) before playing Oct. 28 (at Buffalo) and Oct. 29 (vs. Toronto).
- ★ The club ranks sixth in the NHL in faceoff percentage, winning 137-of-253 draws (54.2 pct.). The 2007-08 team holds the team record at 52.3 pct.

PLAYER NOTES

- ★ RW **Kirill Marchenko**, who has points in three-straight games (4-1-5), is the first Blue Jacket to record 20-plus goals in each of his first three NHL campaigns.
- ★ D **Ivan Provorov** has points in three consecutive contests (1-2-3) after notching his first goal of the season while skating in his 700th career NHL game against Colorado on Thursday.
- ★ G **Jet Greaves** (55-of-59, .932 SV%) and G **Elvis Merzlikins** (80-of-87, .920 SV%) have combined to turn aside 135-of-146 shots faced through the first four contests this season (.925 SV%).

1ST ANNIVERSARY GAME

- ★ CBJ welcome back the club's first head coach, Dave King, along with four former players from the inaugural 2000-01 season for the first of five 25th Anniversary Celebrations games on Saturday.
- ★ The club will recognize King, along with defensemen Rostislav Klesla and Jean-Luc Grand Pierre, forward Kevin Dineen and goaltender Ron Tugnutt, prior to the contest against the Lightning.