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***BLOG: Life without Samberg begins
Samberg will miss 6-8 weeks with a broken wrist***

By Jamie Thomas

WINNIPEG – Before Saturday night, things were going as planned for the Winnipeg Jets.

That is until the Flames Ryan Lomberg hit Dylan Samberg in the second period at Canada Life Centre by the Calgary bench. Samberg left the game and did not return.

Following the Jets practice at hockey for all centre, head coach Scott Arniel delivered the bad news with regards to Samberg.

Not an ideal situation for Winnipeg as they are already without their top defensive forward in Adam Lowry and now will go forward without one of the best defensive defencemen.

“Unfortunate. He's a big part of our hockey team. But we've asked guys to step up before, and this is all part of that battle. Guys battling for jobs,” said Arniel.

“And like I said whether that's in practice or the exhibition games. Every day you're doing something, you're being evaluated, and here we go. Now we got opportunities.”

Last season, Samberg blocked a Steven Stamkos shot while killing a penalty in Nashville and broke his has opened for others.

“Yeah, for sure. I think we showed that last season, when Sammy broke his foot there,” said Haydn Fleury.

“And, just the rest of us just, just have to step up, absorb a little bit more of a load. And just do what we do best.”

Connor Hellebuyck was supposed to start the next two preseason games against Minnesota and Calgary. The Vezina and Hart winner was on the ice warming up before practice and then suddenly left, Arniel said Hellebuyck didn't feel quite right and did not commit to Hellebuyck starting Tuesday night.

When practice did get underway, there was another surprise as Arniel had put his lines in a blender and mixed things up.

Arniel said that the lines centred by Toews, Barron and Namestnikov will be going up against the Wild and another trio with Brad Lambert in the middle will round out the forwards. A lot of the reason behind the changes is seeing Toews with some different wingers other than Gustav Nyquist and Cole Perfetti.

“It's just a chance to kind of get veteran guys and kind of playing with some players maybe that don't necessarily, I want to see, Nino and Fetts and JT,” said Arniel.

"That's something that you know down the road may happen I don't know so I just it's kind of getting a feel on different looks."

Winnipeg Free Press

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/2025/09/29/jets-hellebuyck-misses-practice-samberg-out-6-8-weeks>

Jets' Hellebuyck misses practice, Samberg out 6-8 weeks

By: Mike McIntyre

The news was flying fast and furious as the Winnipeg Jets hit the ice for what turned into a manic Monday.

First came the surprise sight of goaltender Connor Hellebuyck — the NHL's reigning Hart and Vezina Trophy winner — cutting short what was supposed to be a full on-ice session. After warming up with teammates at Hockey For All Centre, he left the ice just as the official skate began.

"He didn't feel quite right, so he just came off," is how Jets coach Scott Arniel described it.

"He didn't feel quite right, so he just came off."

Could it be illness? An injury? Something else? Arniel wasn't offering specifics, but the thought of the club's undisputed MVP missing any time is unsettling. Hellebuyck has yet to appear in the preseason — that was by design — though he was expected to play the final two exhibition games Tuesday in Minnesota and Friday in Calgary.

"We'll see," is all Arniel could offer. This is obviously a storyline to keep an eye on. The Jets still have backup Eric Comrie and young prospects Thomas Milic and Domenic DiVincentiis as the other goaltenders in camp.

Hellebuyck wasn't the only notable absence. Defenceman Dylan Samberg was missing after leaving Saturday's preseason game against Calgary following a heavy but clean hit from Flames forward Ryan Lomberg.

"He's got a broken wrist. He's going to be out six to eight weeks," Arniel revealed.

That leaves a huge hole in the lineup. Samberg brings elite defensive play, physicality, penalty-killing prowess and an improving offensive touch. Based on the timeline, he could miss 14 to 20 games, with a projected return between Nov. 8 and Nov. 22.

"Unfortunate. He's a big part of our hockey team," said Arniel, calling the injury a "freak accident."

"We've asked guys to step up before. This is all part of that battle, guys battling for jobs. Like I said, whether that's in practice or that's in exhibition games, every day you're doing something, you're being evaluated. Here we go. Now we've got opportunities and guys are going to have to step up for that spot."

Samberg, 26, is coming off a career-best season and signed a three-year extension this summer worth \$5.75 million annually. The Jets endured a similar stretch without him last year, when he missed 21 games with a broken foot from blocking a Steven Stamkos slapshot. Winnipeg went 11-8-2 during his absence, compared to 45-14-2 the rest of the season.

"The rest of us just have to step up and, you know, absorb a little bit more of a load. And just do what we do best," said defenceman Haydn Fleury, who got the first crack last time at filling Samberg's spot on the second pairing with Neal Pionk.

"It is a big hole for us as he is a great player."

Whether recent hockey history repeats itself remains to be seen. For what it's worth, Logan Stanley was skating beside Pionk on Monday, while Fleury was with Dylan DeMelo, who normally is on the top pairing with Josh Morrissey. Luke Schenn was instead with Morrissey, while Ville Heinola and Colin Miller was the other defensive duo.

Depth options Kale Clague and Elias Salomonsson skated in the afternoon session with the so-called bubble players.

"We have a diverse group of guys who can skate, along with the physical aspects, PK guys and power-play guys. And a couple of guys who can do it all for us," Stanley said of the next-man-up mentality, particularly on the back end.

"It sucks when anyone goes down, especially a guy who looked so good coming into camp. It is a big hole for us as he is a great player. He plays big minutes and is great on the penalty kill."

Samberg's injury comes at a time when team captain Adam Lowry is also sidelined after undergoing offseason hip surgery. His timeline is for a return in either late October or early to mid-November. That means the Jets — who have been the stingiest defensive squad for the last two seasons — will start this one without their top shutdown centre and defenceman.

Buckle up.

On the forward front, Arniel put his lines into a bit of a blender on Monday.

Mark Scheifele and Kyle Connor had Gustav Nyquist on the right wing, while Gabe Vilardi moved down to join Vlad Namestnikov and Alex Iafallo. Nino Niederreiter skated with Jonathan Toews and Cole Perfetti. The lone trio unchanged was Morgan Barron centering Cole Koepke and Tanner Pearson.

"It's just kind of getting a feel on different looks," Arniel said of the tweaks.

"The rest of us just have to step up and, you know, absorb a little bit more of a load. And just do what we do best."

All but Scheifele, Connor and Nyquist are expected to play Tuesday in Minnesota.

The Jets also made three roster moves Monday: forward Danny Zhilkin was assigned to the Manitoba Moose, while Mason Shaw and Phil Di Giuseppe were placed on waivers with the intent of sending them to the farm club if unclaimed.

Winnipeg now has 42 players left in camp, including the injured Samberg, Lowry and Kieron Walton, a junior prospect recovering from a concussion who will return to the OHL once cleared. The Jets must trim to a maximum of 23 healthy skaters by next Monday. The Jets begin their 82-game slate on Oct. 9 when they host the Dallas Stars at Canada Life Centre.

"I think training camp can get long and gruelling, and you're starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel here," Fleury said.


"And this group is just excited to get going. I think we got a good mojo around the team. All the guys are excited to be back, and we're having a lot of fun together, a lot of good banter."

Global Winnipeg

<https://globalnews.ca/news/11455706/analysis-winnipeg-jets-dylan-samberg-injury/>

ANALYSIS: Jets' Samberg joins growing list of NHLers injured in pre-season

By Kelly Moore Global News

ANALYSIS: Jets' Samberg joins growing list of NHLers injured in pre-season -  [View image in full screen](#)

Don't get hurt.

It's the rallying cry for veterans during the NHL pre-season. And certainly the hope of coaches and GMs. But it has been a rough fall to date in the National Hockey League.

While we await official news on the extent of what Scott Arniel described as the freak injury that forced top-four defenceman Dylan Samberg to leave Saturday's 4-2 win over Calgary early in the second period, the Jets are not alone by any measure when it comes to costly personnel losses in the lead-up to the regular season.

At the very top of that list would be two-time defending Stanley Cup champs, the Florida Panthers, who have lost the services of Sasha Barkov for what amounts to the entire 82-game schedule, based on a seven-to-nine month recovery period from a knee injury suffered during a training camp practice. Barkov is arguably the NHL's best all-around player — so good luck to the Panthers in dealing with that crushing blow.

Another team captain, Jamie Benn of Dallas, has a collapsed lung and will be re-evaluated in late October, according to the Stars.

Montreal rookie defenceman David Reinbacher and Seattle power forward Kaapo Kakko will each miss time with broken hands.

The list goes on, and practically every team around the league has their own tale of woe.

If Samberg does have to miss any considerable length of time, it's not ideal for the Jets. But as coach Arniel and some of his players have been saying before and during training camp, this might be the deepest collection of talent this team has ever had.

And it could wind up being put to the test a lot sooner than was wanted. So Logan Stanley, Ville Heinola and Kale Clague — this could be the opportunity you've been preparing for.

Let's see who among that trio of depth left-shot defenders is ready to take the puck and go with it.

<https://globalnews.ca/news/11456719/winnipeg-jets-dylan-samberg-out-6-8-weeks-broken-wrist/>

Winnipeg Jets D-man Dylan Samberg out 6-8 weeks with a broken wrist

By Kelly Moore Global News

Following Saturday night's 4-2 preseason win over the Calgary Flames, Winnipeg Jets head coach Scott Arniel described Dylan Samberg having to leave the game early in the second period as a result of a "freak injury."

On Monday afternoon, the Jets bench boss added some clarity to the situation by confirming Samberg suffered a broken wrist in a collision with Flames forward Ryan Lomberg, and will be sidelined for the next six to eight weeks.

"Man oh man, it's like the first day of camp last year when we lost two D," Arniel told reporters at the Jets Hockey For All Centre practice facility on Monday afternoon. "Unfortunately, he's a big part of our hockey team but we've asked guys to step up before and this is all part of that battle."

A season ago, Samberg suffered a fractured bone in his foot on Nov. 23-24 when blocking a Steven Stamkos slapshot in Winnipeg's 4-1 loss at Nashville and wound up missing 21 games before returning to the lineup on Jan. 10 of this year.

The time frame for this most recent injury is about the same — except the Jets will also be without captain Adam Lowry during most of, if not all of Samberg's recovery period. So Arniel says this is where the Jets' depth will be put to the test.

"Guys battling for jobs, whether that's in practice or the exhibition games, every day you're doing something — you're being evaluated and here we go, now we have opportunities and guys are going to have to step up for that spot."

Haydn Fleury was promoted to fill Samberg's position as the left side partner of Neal Pionk on Winnipeg's second defence pair last winter. And it's expected the former Carolina Hurricane and #7 overall pick in the 2014 NHL Entry Draft will draw that assignment again this time around.

But there are a trio of others who will be pushing for that job. That group includes Logan Stanley, Ville Heinola, and organizational newcomer Kale Clague. Stanley told reporters following Monday's practice "it sucks when anyone goes down," but Samberg's injury also opens the door to potential playing time at the NHL level for a number of players battling to stay at the big league level.

"As a professional you have to come in and work hard everyday and try to bring the best you can and see what happens from there," said the six foot seven inch, 228-pound blueliner. "Obviously we've got a deep team, we showed that last year, and again we're going to have a deep team this year and that's a positive for our group."

There was also some concern about star goalie Connor Hellebuyck coming out of Monday's session. Hellebuyck left the ice early "because something wasn't quite right" according to Arniel, who had not spoken to the medical staff prior to his media availability.

Arniel didn't want to comment any further regarding Hellebuyck's status for the final two games of the preseason. He is scheduled to start Tuesday Night in St. Paul against the Minnesota Wild and then Friday in Calgary.

Winnipeg opens regular season play Thursday, Oct. 9 at Canada Life Centre when they host the Dallas Stars in what will be Jonathan Toews' official debut in a Jets jersey.