

September 22, 2011

Written by Jeff Angus

Wednesday, 21 September 2011 22:37 - Last Updated Thursday, 22 September 2011 14:55

[Fantasy Guide](#) is updated as of today. I apologize - my last update did NOT go through (I'm pretty sure) as I found a 'different' (slightly) title in the one I uploaded vs. the one that was assigned to the shop. But that is fixed and this update IS in now. Easy way to tell - Zac Dalpe is my Top Calder Pick now. If that's not the case, let me know. **To grab your**

update, please go to your "Downloads" section

after logging in. Then download the same guide again - it will be the updated one.

To see the full changes on Yahoo!, go into your league, click on "players," and in the top bar click on NHL roster changes and then "position eligibility."

The dual eligibilty additions are HUGE. Fantasy ramifications galore. Malkin as a RW/C gives him immensely more value, especially in FOW leagues. Having a few wingers who play primarily center essentially gives you the FOW category each week. Having a gimme category goes a long way in helping your team ride out the ups and downs of a full season.

Not sure why Byfuglien gets RW status - didn't play there at all last year, doesn't sound like he'll play there this year, either.

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Yahoo! went crazy adding in dual eligibility for players this week. On one of my teams alone: Franzen (LW/RW), Eriksson (LW/RW), Sharp (LW/C), Little (RW/C), and Bouchard (LW/RW).

I watched most of the Ottawa/Boston game last night. My thoughts:

Tuukka Rask looked great. With comments from the Bruins that he is going to play more this season, I'd start sliding him up my one-year list. Look for 30-35 starts with the potential for more.

Regin and Zibanejad both looked decent at times. Zibanejad scored the OT winner on a bit of a soft goal. He competes really hard, which impressed me.

Ehrhoff had a goal and an assist for the Sabres – pre-season but we saw what kind of impact he had last season (50 points on the league's best power play unit).

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Villie Leino won five of the eight faceoffs he took. If he wants to stick at center, he'll have to continue to do well on the draw, as that was a concern from many heading into this season.

Brendan Gallagher had an assist for the Habs. The undersized winger has a ton of skill – I saw it firsthand during his career in Vancouver with the Giants. A long shot to make the NHL, but he competes hard and isn't afraid of bigger defensemen (which is a good thing, considering almost every defensemen he will ever face at the NHL level will be bigger than him).

Geno Malkin was absolutely flying last night, dangling by Detroit's top defensemen, like Garnet Exelby. Kidding aside, Malkin looked great. Considering he is coming off of serious knee surgery, it was a welcomed site for Pens fans and poolies who own the talented Russian. With our without Sid, expect him to challenge for the Art Ross.

Fabian Brunnstrom – pointless in 13 minutes of ice time for the Wings.

Tough break for Mark Dekanich – out four weeks with a high ankle sprain. He was all set to steal the starter's job from Steve Mason this season...

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Columbus has some open roster spots – Cam Atkinson is a contender for one of the forward positions, especially with Kubalik's concussion. He scored last night.

One of my clients told me about his son a few months ago who signed with the Sharks. Turns out he's having quite the camp so far. Brodie Reid, an undrafted forward from Northeastern, has been consistently scoring goals for the Sharks during camp. He's an offensive winger with a bomb of a shot.

You know it's the preseason when Mathieu Perreault plays close to 20 minutes for the Caps (one helper and over four minutes of PP time as well).

Prospect Joe Morrow played over 21 minutes for the Pens, second behind Letang among defensemen for the team. He's probably a year away from full-time duty, though. Morrow had 49 points in 60 games last season for Portland of the WHL (a stacked team featuring Ryan Johansen, Sven Bartschi, Ty Rattie, and Nino Niederreiter, among others).

Who will center the second line in Minnesota – Cullen or Brodziak? [A good read here.](#)

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Jared Spurgeon is only a Zidlicky injury away from seeing unlimited PP time with Koivu, Setoguchi, Heatley, and Bouchard. Hell, he may leapfrog Zidlicky if he can get off to a hot start. One of the better under-the-radar defensemen for both one-year and keeper leagues. Good skater, very smart, great offensive instincts.

I missed this a few days ago – don't make the same mistake. Fear the Fin sits down with Sharks GM Doug Wilson for a massive two part interview – Wilson is very candid and gives great insights. [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#).

I'm taking part in a Social Media Night coming up on October 1st at the Canucks/Oilers preseason game. There is a little contest going on to join a few of us in the suite:

There are two sets of tickets (in the form of a sticker) on two posters within Vancouver and the Lower Mainland. Fans need to find one of these posters with the tickets and take their photo with the poster. From there, once they tweet the photo to @VanCanucks with the hashtag #ifoundthetix, they are entered to win. There will be 8 contest winners.

[A good read on Jonas Hiller](#) as he tries to put his weird injuries behind him. When healthy a gamebreaker and a top 10 goalie in the league.

Kevin Bieksa, one of the more candid players in the league, [has joined the twitter universe.](#)

Eddie Lack is a special prospect – at the same age, he’s been more impressive than Cory Schneider. Lack grew a few inches over the past few months and now stands in at 6’5”. He’s NHL ready now, but he won’t see action unless there is an injury to Luongo or Schneider. Lack has had to earn his reputation the hard way, as he doesn’t have the pedigree like Jacob Markstrom (but he has arguably more upside).

RJ Umberger signed a massive five-year extension to stay in Columbus. The cap hit of \$4.6 million isn’t awful for a versatile second line forward, but five years to a non-star player is a little long (to me, at least). Umberger does a lot off the ice as well, and the Jackets obviously wanted to reward and compensate him for that as well.

New York named Mark Streit captain yesterday. His return to the lineup is a big reason why I see John Tavares eclipsing the point-per-game mark in 2011-12.

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[A DobberHockey member has entered the ownership ranks with the ECHL's newest team – the San Francisco Bulls.](#) Very cool and best of luck to VV and the rest of the team down in San Francisco.

'Got a burning fantasy hockey question? Who to trade, draft, release, or pick up? Let Dobber answer it for you, live on this Sunday's episode of Dobber Nation.

This is your chance to get one-on-one advice from Dobber about *your* fantasy team! Just dial ([647\) 247-8010](tel:6472478010) and leave your name, hometown, and question after the beep.. simple as that. (And get your questions in before 11:59pm EST on Thursday for the best chance of having them answered)'

A ridiculous save from Varlamov the other night:

{youtube}gl1uJQjhblo{/youtube}

Jordan Schroeder had a great game for the Canucks on Tuesday, including this beauty. He's a longshot for this season but could play his way into a top six spot with a great camp:

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{youtube}s-O0_NAI5CI{/youtube}