

Lockout Update: Day 23 - There is still a lockout.

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[Fantasy Guide](#) - I'm going to update this by Wednesday, perhaps as early as tomorrow. The update will be a big one, as it will include a breakdown and analysis of our 16-team Expert's Tier roto league. These are hard-core poolies I'm up against in the draft. Also will have some CBA chatter and some KHL injury notes.

Thank you everyone for buying a guide this year, despite the uncertainty. As you can imagine, sales have been brutal. So I'm extremely grateful for the ones that I did get. Lockout or not, it's a very good read.

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Patrick Thoresen has [215 points in 214 KHL games](#) . He also has more eyes than usual on him from around the hockey world this year. If he's ever going to play in the NHL again, it will be in 2013-14. Or not at all. Mark it!

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Here's an interesting piece in the [Toronto Star](#) about how not all players are millionaires who are set up to handle a lengthy dispute. In fact, Jeff O'Neill lost \$3.5 million last lockout. Did he get that back? Had the players caved prior to that season, O'Neill would have made at least \$2.5 million of that. Worth it? Yes - swallow your pride and take the money. Previously, I had heard Mike Modano lamenting over how he lost \$7 million from the last lockout. More stories like this please, media. If you want to have any influence at all over the key personalities in this negotiation, this is the angle you need to tackle it from.

October 08, 2012

Written by Dobber

Sunday, 07 October 2012 23:17 - Last Updated Sunday, 07 October 2012 23:29

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If you missed Nichols' ramblings yesterday, you can find it [here](#) . Just tons of gold he digs up every week - almost the equivalent of my three ramblings (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday) combined. One of the things he notes - Mikael Granlund nabbed five points on Saturday, with four of them goals. Your Calder Trophy winner, folks. Assuming there's a season.

Which I think there will be. Hearing that Bettman and Fehr met in secret on Friday was music to my ears. That's right fellas, keep the media out of this and just hammer it out. If the public isn't following you, then there will be nothing to get embarrassed about - therefore, no pride is lost if you "make the next move" when you're not "supposed to". Therefore things move along quicker.

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For those who were wondering, whenever the NHL does decide to play, the schedule for each team will be balanced. That is to say, if 20 games are canceled for the Wild, and 14 of them are at home, they're not going to have 35 road and 27 home games left. The entire schedule will be revamped and they would have 31 home and 31 road.

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Wow, the Bleacher Report is actually cheesier than I thought. This is a site that appears tops on pretty much everything you search for with regards to sports. They always have interesting headlines, but I have yet to click and read an article that either told me something new, or interested me in any way. And the lame effort to grab page views by 10 pictures on a 10-page slide show sickens me. But then I [read this at deadspin](#) and all the pieces fall into place. BR is considered one of the top sports sites in the world and it certainly has the traffic to back it up. But it's fake traffic, 100% SEO driven.

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KHL's foothold gets a little sturdier as [ESPN2 will now air a game](#) . This all got started with ESPN3 agreeing to air seven games. Baby steps, but if the NHL cancels this season, then these baby steps are going in the right direction.

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Darren Helm (fore-arm, tendons) was [cleared](#) to play a couple of weeks ago. He's considering going overseas now.

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The [NHL Lockout Tracker](#) is updated, including the recent Ericsson, Turris, Gilroy and S. Kostitsyn adds. Thanks to Dan Turner for his help with that. You can always access the LT via the menu along the top.

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Jakub Voracek suffered a [knee injury](#) in the KHL over the weekend. He could be out for a month.

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I get handed hockey books all the time, usually around this time of year. But this one I was truly looking forward to getting - [The Best of Down Goes Brown](#) . You know that Sean McIndoe's site is gold. Nothing funnier in the hockey world. Well, I plowed through about a third of the book over the weekend and it was as advertised. Buy this, or tell your wife or girlfriend (or non-hockey fan husband, if that's the case) to grab this for you for Christmas. This thing will have an honored place in my bathroom when I'm done.

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And let's keep going with DGB, partnering up with blogesalming with this NHLPA outtake video. Reeveeally picks up steam about halfway through and is just hilarious at that point:

{youtube}gjllvuV1ab8{/youtube}

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GOLD. Love this. "I Care":

{youtube}GhnvKzA-6WY{/youtube}