Last week I wrote about how the NHL realignment will affect the Eastern Conferences goalies and it is important to note that the realignment will affect some teams much more than others. For example, the existing Atlantic Division teams currently play the other four members 24 times throughout the year, which will not change. Washington and Carolina however, will now face three of the Southeastern Division teams (WPG, FLA, TB) only six times a year instead of the 18 they are accustomed to. In contrast, they previously faced the five teams that make up the Atlantic Division a total of 20 times, but will now face them 30 times. This translates to a more mild transition for someone like Claude Giroux than Eric Staal.

Eric Staal has been one of the more frustrating players of 2011-12, but fantasy owners have been patient. Most still believe he can come on strong for the second half of the season, which he may, but should you be concerned as a keeper owner? Let's look at some statistics together.

	GP	G	A	Pts	Pt/Gm	+/-	PIM	Hits	BkS	PPG	PPA	SHG	SHA	GW	SOG	Pct
vs Winnipeg	51	20	31	51	1.00	2	26	10	6	6	13	2	0	1	189	0.106
vs Florida	48	13	22	35	0.73	-14	28	17	6	5	6	0	0	3	161	0.081
vs Tampa Bay	49	29	24	53	1.08	3	36	5	4	8	8	3	0	5	191	0.152
vs Washington	50	22	28	50	1.00	3	41	11	10	7	10	0	0	2	211	0.104
vs. SE Division	198	84	105	[illegible]	0.95	-6	131	43	26	26	37	5	0	11	752	0.112

[illegible]

	GP	G	A	Pts	Pt/Gm	+/-	PIM	Hits	BkS	PPG	PPA	SHG	SHA	GW	SOG	Pct
vs New Jersey	30	4	9	13	0.43	-17	18	6	3	2	4	1	0	0	76	0.053
vs NY Islanders	27	19	10	29	1.07	17	10	3	2	2	2	1	0	4	95	0.2
vs NY Rangers	30	8	11	19	0.63	-3	28	21	2	5	3	0	0	1	100	0.08
vs Philadelphia	31	10	10	20	0.65	-11	14	12	4	6	0	0	1	0	119	0.084
vs Pittsburgh	29	13	17	30	1.03	16	28	17	2	3	7	0	0	3	111	0.117
vs. Atl. Division	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	111	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	159	[illegible]	18	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible]

	GP	G	A	Pts	Pt/Gm	+/-	PIM	Hits	BkS	PPG	PPA	SHG	SHA	GW	SOG	Pct
In wins	289	164	191	355	1.23	157	211	80	29	57	72	6	0	37	1073	0.153
In losses	290	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	0.57	[illegible]	128	[illegible]	31	32	[illegible]	4	2	[illegible]	998	0.067

[illegible]

Averages				Actuals				
Wins	G	A	Pts	Year	Wins	G	A	Pts
50	36	44	80	2011	40	33	43	76
45	34	42	76	2010	35	29	41	70
40	32	41	73	2009	45	40	35	75
35	31	39	70	2008	43	38	44	82
30	29	37	66	2007	40	30	40	70
25	27	36	63	2006	52	45	55	100
[illegible]	26	34	[illegible]	2004	[illegible]	11	20	31

[illegible]