



CAROLINA HURRICANES 5, MONTREAL CANADIENS 7

Post Game Notes – January 1, 2026

Attendance: 18,299



CAROLINA HURRICANES SCORING NOTES

Per	Time	Goal Scorer	Assists	STR	Score
1	10:47	Nikolaj Ehlers (9)	Alexander Nikishin (11), Sebastian Aho (22)	PP	2-1 MTL
1	12:19	Sebastian Aho (15)	Joel Nystrom (8), Andrei Svechnikov (18)	EV	2-2
1	14:51	Andrei Svechnikov (11)	Sebastian Aho (23), Nikolaj Ehlers (19)	EV	3-2 CAR
2	00:54	Alexander Nikishin (5)	Sebastian Aho (24), Andrei Svechnikov (19)	PP	4-2 CAR
3	16:58	Sebastian Aho (16)	Nikolaj Ehlers (20), K'Andre Miller (13)	EV	6-5 MTL

MONTREAL CANADIENS SCORING NOTES

Per	Time	Goal Scorer	Assists	STR	Score
1	3:10	Nick Suzuki (14)	Alexander Texier (5), Sammy Blais (4)	EV	1-0 MTL
1	4:06	Oliver Kapanen (12)	Ivan Demidov (24), Juraj Slafkovsky (16)	EV	2-0 MTL
2	5:01	Sammy Blais (3)	Lane Huston (34), Brendan Gallagher (11)	EV	4-3 CAR
2	16:23	Cole Caufield (20)	Alexander Texier (6)	EV	4-4
2	16:46	Josh Anderson (9)	<i>unassisted</i>	EV	5-4 MTL
3	11:20	Juraj Slafkovsky (14)	Jayden Struble (6), Ivan Demidov (25)	EV	6-4 MTL
3	18:00	Lane Hutson (6)	<i>unassisted</i>	EV-EN	7-5 MTL

THREE'S COMPANY

Three Hurricanes players recorded three or more points tonight: **Sebastian Aho** (5), **Andrei Svechnikov** (3) and **Nikolaj Ehlers** (3), marking the first time three players have recorded three-plus points in the same game for the Hurricanes since March 10, 2024 vs. Calgary (Aho: 3, Svechnikov: 3, Teravainen: 3).

AHO-CORN DROP

Sebastian Aho recorded five points (2g, 3a) tonight, equaling his career high for most points in a single game, previously logging five points vs. Minnesota on Dec. 7, 2019 (3g, 2a). Tonight marked his 11th career game with four or more points, surpassing **Blaine Stoughton** for sole possession of the third most in Hurricanes/Whalers history. The list is topped by **Ron Francis** (30) and **Eric Staal** (12). Aho became the first Hurricanes skater to record four or more points in a game this season and marked the third instance of a five-point game by a Carolina skater in the past decade (also **Jesper Kotkaniemi** on March 5, 2023 & Aho on Dec. 7, 2019). The 28-year-old forward became the fourth player in Hurricanes/Whalers history to factor on all team goals in a single game (min. 5 goals), joining **Eric Staal** (5 on April 8, 2010), **Ray Whitney** (5 on Feb. 8, 2007) and **Nelson Emerson** (5 on Jan. 25, 1997). He recorded three points (1g, 2a) in the first period, marking his second three-point period of the season and tenth of his career, becoming the third player in Hurricanes/Whalers history with a double-digit total, joining **Ron Francis** (17) and **Eric Staal** (12). The Finn has now tallied seven points in his last three games (12/29-1/1: 3g, 4a). Aho leads the Hurricanes in points this year with 40 points (16g, 24a) through 40 games.

NEW YEAR, SAME SVECH

Andrei Svechnikov recorded three points (1g, 2a) tonight, marking his 100th career multi-point game and becoming the seventh player in Hurricanes/Whalers franchise history to reach the milestone. The performance marks his third three-point outing of the season and the 23rd career game with three or more points. Svechnikov has now posted two three-point games in his last four contests (12/27-1/1: 2g, 4a). He now has 30 points (11g, 19a) in 40 games this season, ranking second on the squad in points.

ALEXANDER THE GREAT

Alexander Nikishin recorded his first career multi-point game (1g, 1a) and first career power-play goal tonight, providing the primary assist on **Nikolaj Ehlers'** first-period power-play tally before scoring a man-advantage goal of his own in the second period. Entering tonight, Nikishin leads all NHL rookies in plus/minus (+12) this season. He is now tied for fourth among rookie defensemen in assists (11) and ranks fourth in points (15).

FLY HIGH NIKOLAJ

Nikolaj Ehlers recorded three points (1g, 2a) tonight, marking his second three-point performance as a Hurricane and his fifth multi-point game of the season, including his second multi-point effort in the last three games (12/29-1/1: 1g, 4a). The 29-year-old forward now has 29 points (9g, 20a) in 40 games this season.

HAPPY NYSTROM YEAR

Joel Nystrom recorded an assist on **Sebastian Aho**’s goal in the first period and now has assists in back-to-back games (12/30-1/1: 2a). The rookie has notched eight points (8a) in 29 games played so far in 2025/26.

MILESTONE MEN

K’Andre Miller recorded an assist tonight skating in his 400th career regular season NHL game. Miller has registered 15 points (2g, 13a) in 32 games in his first season with Carolina, arriving to the Hurricanes via trade on July 1, 2025. **Jesper Kotkaniemi** skated in his 500th career regular season NHL game tonight. Kotkaniemi has recorded 138 points (56g, 82a) in 329 games for the Hurricanes, arriving in Raleigh ahead of the 2021-22 season. He has logged six points (2g, 4a) in 24 contests in 2025-26, including scoring his 200th career NHL point (assist) at Tampa Bay on Dec. 20.

NO PLACE LIKE HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The Carolina Hurricanes stretched their sellout streak to 138 consecutive regular-season and playoff games tonight. With the Lenovo Center undergoing renovations, the arena’s capacity has changed to start this season and the seated capacity is now 18,299. That number will change again when the new View Bar seating opens on the 300 level during this season.

SPECIAL TEAMS

- Carolina is 2-for-3 on the power play tonight and are 23-for-121 (19.0%) on the man advantage this season. The Hurricanes are 1-for-1 on the penalty kill and are 86-108 (79.6%) on the kill this season.
- Montreal is 0-for-1 on the power play tonight and are 28-113 (24.7%) on the power play this season. The Canadiens are 1-for-3 on the penalty kill and are 99-129 (76.7%) on the penalty kill this season.

SHOTS BY PERIOD

TEAMS	1st	2nd	3rd	OT	Total
Montreal	5	11	7	-	23
Carolina	10	8	7	-	25