2022-23 Season Review – Carolina Hurricanes

Standings

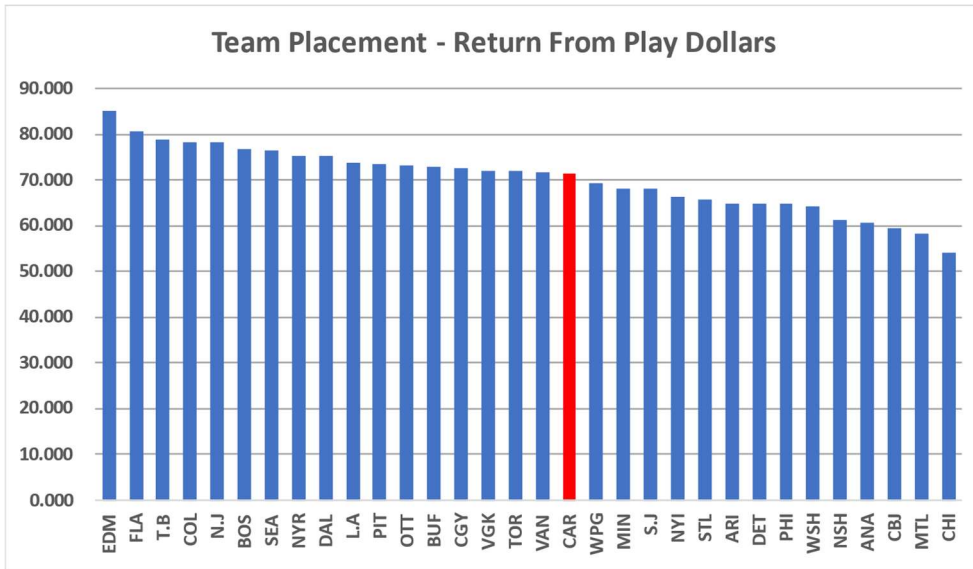| Carolina Hurricanes							League	
Season	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	Rank	PlyOff
2021-22	54	20	8	116	277	200	3	Yes
2022-23	52	21	9	113	262	210	2	Yes
Change	-2	+1	+1	-3	-15	-10	+1	

Team Record by Game Type

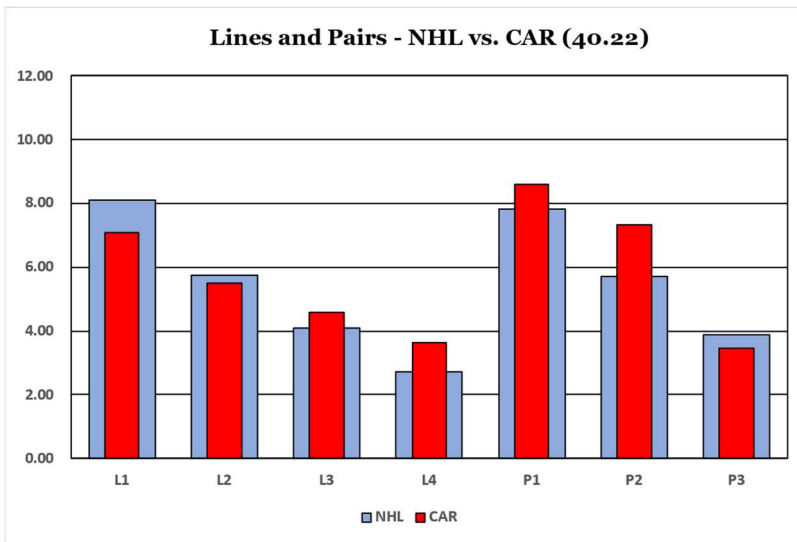| Game Type	GP	Record	Point %
Best 10-Game Streak	10	10 - 0 - 0	1.000
Blowouts (More than 4-goal margin)	3	3 - 0 - 0	1.000
Fire-wagon Hockey (More than 8 goals in a game)	10	9 - 1 - 0	0.900
OT/SO	22	13 - 0 - 9	0.795
Vs. Non-Playoff Team	42	31 - 7 - 4	0.786
Home Games	41	28 - 10 - 3	0.720
Scoring Exactly 3 Goals	23	14 - 4 - 5	0.717
All Games	**82**	**52 - 21 - 9**	**0.689**
Defensive Battles (fewer than 4 goals in a game)	14	9 - 4 - 1	0.679
1-Goal Margin (Excluding overtime games)	18	12 - 6 - 0	0.667
Away Games	41	24 - 11 - 6	0.659
Vs. Playoff Team	40	21 - 14 - 5	0.588
2-Goal Margin	11	6 - 5 - 0	0.545
Conceding Exactly 3 Goals	18	7 - 8 - 3	0.472
Worst 10-Game Streak	10	2 - 4 - 4	0.400

Talent Distribution

Count by Category			PR% by Age Group			PR% by Draft Status		
PR Category	Fwd	Def	Age Group	NHL PR%	Team PR%	Draft Status	NHL PR%	Team PR%
PR-Elite	0	0	18 to 23	18%	23%	Drafted by Current Team	48%	39%
PR-Star	0	1	24 to 28	45%	38%	Drafted by Other Team	41%	56%
PR-First5	3	3	29 to 33	29%	21%	Undrafted	10%	5%
PR-Regular	7	1	34+	8%	19%			
PR-Fringe	2	2						
PR-CallUp	4	2						

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Return From Play

Lines and Pairs

L1	Sebastian Aho	Martin Necas	Jordan Staal
L2	Andrei Svechnikov	Jordan Martinook	Jesperi Kotkaniemi
L3	Seth Jarvis	Jesper Fast	Stefan Noesen
L4	Teuvo Teravainen	Paul Stastny	Derek Stepan
P1		Brent Burns	Jaccob Slavin
P2		Brady Skjei	Brett Pesce
P3		Jalen Chatfield	Calvin de Haan

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Team Leaders – Stapled To The Bench Categories

Category	Name	Rating
Most Productive	Brent Burns	PR-Star
Most Valuable	Brent Burns	VR-Star
Best Center	Sebastian Aho	#2-Center
Most Disruptive	Jaccob Slavin	DX-B
Best Power Player	Martin Necas	PX-B
Best Penalty Killer	Jaccob Slavin	KX-A+

Team Leaders – On-Ice Situations

CAR - Team Leaders in Various On-Ice Situations		
Most Time 5v5	**Most Time Power Play**	**Most Time Penalty Kill**
Brett Pesce	Martin Necas	Jaccob Slavin
Brady Skjei	Brent Burns	Brett Pesce
Brent Burns	Sebastian Aho	Jordan Staal
Jaccob Slavin	Stefan Noesen	Brady Skjei
Martin Necas	Andrei Svechnikov	Brent Burns
Most Time 3v3	**Most Used Off. Zone FO**	**Most Used Def. Zone FO**
Sebastian Aho	Jesperi Kotkaniemi	Jesper Fast
Brent Burns	Martin Necas	Jordan Martinook
Martin Necas	Brent Burns	Jordan Staal
Jaccob Slavin	Sebastian Aho	Brady Skjei
Andrei Svechnikov	Teuvo Teravainen	Brett Pesce

Team Essay – Skaters

Carolina's skaters, their forwards and defensemen, have a total Return From Play (see chart above) that is just below Vancouver's skaters. Carolina finished the season with 113 points, while Vancouver came in at 83 points: 30 points behind.

When I see a difference like that, I figure the probable cause is that it's the goalies. Vancouver's goalies under-performed and Carolina's over-performed.

Carolina had a goaltending committee, a 1A-1B-1C combination. Their three goalies played between 1,400 and 2,000 minutes this season. Their combined save percentage was 90.7%, a little better than the league average of 90.4%. Per 60 minutes of play, the Carolina goalies gave up about 0.10 goals fewer than expected. Over the course of the season the goalie committee reduced Carolina's goals against by about 10: nice, but not spectacular.

Vancouver's goalies gave up about 36 more goals than expected, which is not nice and is spectacular in the same sense that a NASCAR multi-car accident is spectacular.

My resident hockey expert (my son) tells me that Carolina is a shot-suppression team. Really? I can check that.

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I don't have a fancy definition for a shot-suppression team, but Carolina is absolutely a shot-suppression team. Carolina's CA60 (Corsi-Against per 60 minutes, or shot attempts against per 60 minutes) is the lowest in the league at 45.2, more than 5.0 CA60 lower than the next best team.

In the following table I show the top eight teams in CA60 and show their results in shots against, expected goals against and finally goals against.

Team	CA60	CA60 Rank	SA60	SA60 Rank	xGA60	xGA60 Rank	GA60	GA60 Rank
Carolina Hurricanes	45.2	1	**25.6**	**1**	2.64	1	2.52	2
Calgary Flames	50.3	2	26.9	3	2.78	4	**2.96**	**13**
Seattle Kraken	52.6	3	26.8	2	2.77	3	**3.04**	**15**
Colorado Avalanche	54.3	4	**30.5**	**14**	2.87	9	2.68	9
Edmonton Oilers	54.5	5	**31.1**	**19**	**3.00**	**14**	**3.09**	**17**
New York Rangers	54.7	6	28.9	6	**2.94**	**12**	2.60	4
New Jersey Devils	54.8	7	27.8	5	2.81	7	2.67	8
Boston Bruins	55.0	8	29.5	8	2.77	2	2.10	1
CA60 = CORSI AGAINST PER 60 MINS; SA60 = SHOTS AGAINST PER 60 MINS								
xGA60 = EXPECTED GOALS AGAINST PER 60 MINS; GA60 = GOALS AGAINST PER 60 MINS								

The bold figures in the columns to the right of the CA60 columns indicate a team that breaks with the pattern of the other teams. Carolina, Colorado and Edmonton do not block a lot of shots, so a higher proportion of Corsi against become shots against for them. Edmonton and the New York Rangers don't do a good job of eliminating dangerous shots, so they rank lower in expected goals against. Finally, the goalies in Calgary, Seattle and Edmonton let in more goals than they should have, considering the number (SA60) and quality (xGA60) of shots they faced. All three teams were around league average in GA60.

To recap this table from Carolina's perspective: the Hurricanes prevented their opponents from attempting shots (CA60), which reduced their shots against (SA60) and expected goals against (xGA60), and then slightly above average play from their goalies gave them the second-best goals against average (GA60) in the league.

Let's circle back to the RFP chart. Carolina's middling RFP does not agree with their great season record; this is normally a sign of great goalkeeping, but Carolina only had slightly above average goaltending; Carolina plays a shot-suppression style and does a great job of it; it's their shot-suppression style which results in a lower-than-expected RFP, as shot-suppression is not rewarded in the PR formula.

It is quite likely that the PR formula will be changed for next season. This new formula will be announced in a separate article before the start of the 2023-24 season. There are more things to consider than simply adding a couple of data items and making a small modification to a formula.

Stapled To The Bench