2022-23 Season Review – St. Louis Blues

Standings

		St Louis Blues					League	
Season	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	Rank	PlyOff
2021-22	49	22	11	109	309	239	9	Yes
2022-23	37	38	7	81	260	298	23	No
Change	-12	+16	-4	-28	-49	-59	-14	

Team Record by Game Type

Game Type	GP	Record	Point %
Defensive Battles (fewer than 4 goals in a game)	6	5 - 1 - 0	0.833
Best 10-Game Streak	10	8 - 2 - 0	0.800
OT/SO	17	10 - 0 - 7	0.794
Conceding Exactly 3 Goals	15	9 - 2 - 4	0.733
Vs. Non-Playoff Team	39	23 - 13 - 3	0.628
Scoring Exactly 3 Goals	13	7 - 5 - 1	0.577
1-Goal Margin (Excluding overtime games)	7	4 - 3 - 0	0.571
Fire-wagon Hockey (More than 8 goals in a game)	17	8 - 7 - 2	0.529
Home Games	41	18 - 17 - 6	0.512
All Games	**82**	**37 - 38 - 7**	**0.494**
Away Games	41	19 - 21 - 1	0.476
2-Goal Margin	22	9 - 13 - 0	0.409
Vs. Playoff Team	43	14 - 25 - 4	0.372
Worst 10-Game Streak	10	2 - 8 - 0	0.200
Blowouts (More than 4-goal margin)	3	0 - 3 - 0	0.000

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%	16%	Drafted by Current Team	48%	37%
PR-Star	0	1	24 to 28	45%	31%	Drafted by Other Team	41%	50%
PR-First5	4	2	29 to 33	29%	53%	Undrafted	10%	13%
PR-Regular	2	1	34+	8%	0%			
PR-Fringe	6	3						
PR-CallUp	10	5						

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Return From Play

Team Placement - Return From Play Dollars

Lines and Pairs

Lines and Pairs - NHL vs. WSH (35.36)
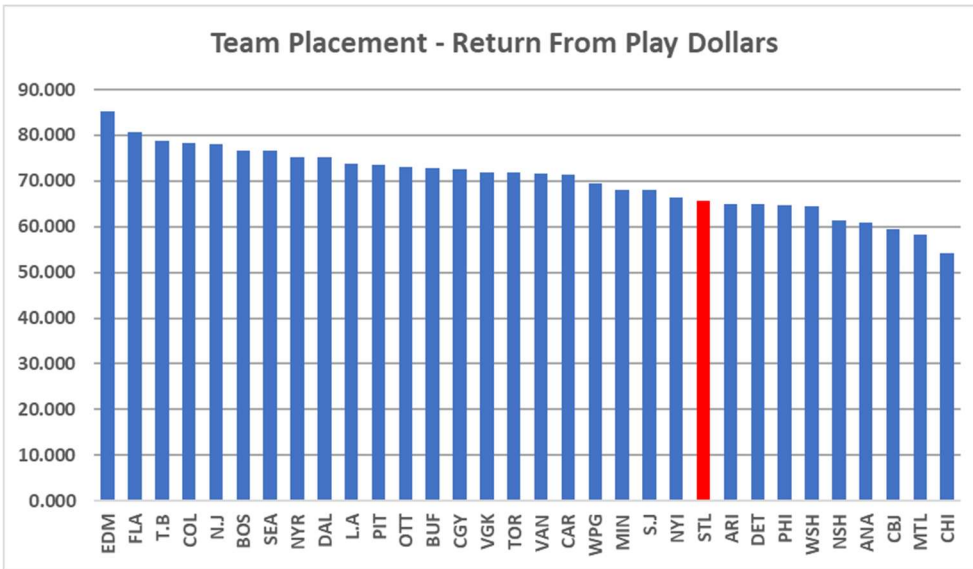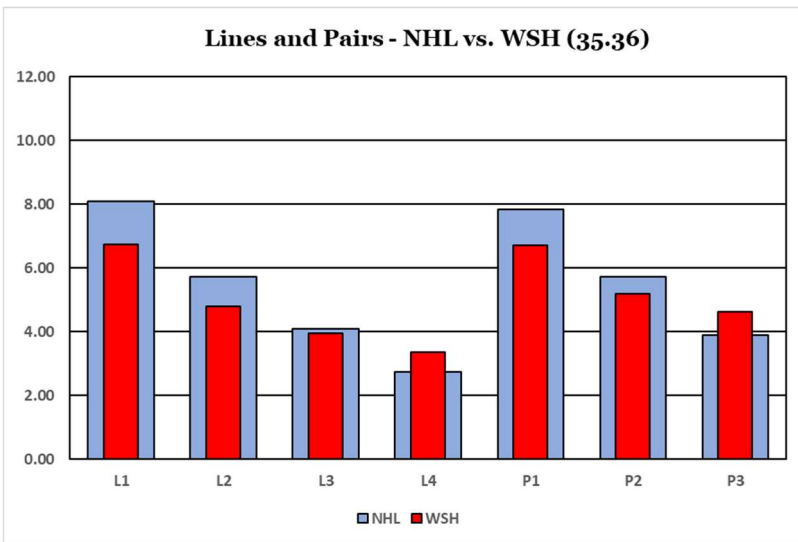
L1	Robert Thomas		Jordan Kyrou		Brayden Schenn	
L2	Pavel Buchnevich		Brandon Saad		Ivan Barbashev	
L3	Ryan O'Reilly		Noel Acciari		Alexey Toropchenko	
L4	Josh Leivo		Vladimir Tarasenko		Tyler Pitlick	
P1		Justin Faulk		Colton Parayko		
P2		Nick Leddy		Torey Krug		
P3		Calle Rosen		Niko Mikkola		

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Team Leaders – Stapled To The Bench Categories

Category	Name	Rating
Most Productive	Justin Faulk	PR-Star
Most Valuable	Justin Faulk	VR-Star
Best Center	Robert Thomas	#1-Center
Most Disruptive	Colton Parayko	DX-A
Best Power Player	Jordan Kyrou	PX-C
Best Penalty Killer	Justin Faulk	KX-C

Team Leaders – On-Ice Situations

st1 - Team Leaders in Various On-Ice Situations		
Most Time 5v5	**Most Time Power Play**	**Most Time Penalty Kill**
Colton Parayko	Jordan Kyrou	Justin Faulk
Justin Faulk	Robert Thomas	Colton Parayko
Nick Leddy	Brayden Schenn	Nick Leddy
Brayden Schenn	Justin Faulk	Pavel Buchnevich
Jordan Kyrou	Pavel Buchnevich	Niko Mikkola
Most Time 3v3	**Most Used Off. Zone FO**	**Most Used Def. Zone FO**
Justin Faulk	Torey Krug	Colton Parayko
Jordan Kyrou	Justin Faulk	Nick Leddy
Robert Thomas	Jordan Kyrou	Brandon Saad
Brayden Schenn	Robert Thomas	Brayden Schenn
Pavel Buchnevich	Pavel Buchnevich	Pavel Buchnevich

Team Essay – Random Thoughts on Special Teams

While St. Louis didn't have the worst special teams in the league, they are in the bottom six and they are the lowest of the teams who's review I am yet to write.

I ranked the teams based on their net goals from special teams play. Special Teams Net Goals (STNet) is calculated by taking a powerplay goals scored, subtracting the shorthanded goals they have conceded, subtracting the goals they allowed while killing penalties and adding the goals they scored while killing penalties. St. Louis scored 46 powerplay goals, allowed 14 shorties, gave up 60 goals while killing penalties and scored 7 shorties: for them, STNet = 46 − 14 − 60 + 7 = -21.

The following table shows the six best and six worst STNet teams. Anaheim stands out for all the wrong reasons.

Team	ST Rank	PP Net	PK Net	ST Net
Edmonton Oilers	1	82	46	36
Dallas Stars	2	59	30	29
Boston Bruins	3	53	28	25
Toronto Maple Leafs	4	56	36	20
New York Rangers	4	54	34	20
Minnesota Wild	6	51	32	19
St Louis Blues	27	32	53	-21
Philadelphia Flyers	28	26	48	-22
Columbus Blue Jackets	28	32	54	-22
Montreal Canadiens	30	35	68	-33
Arizona Coyotes	31	40	76	-36
Anaheim Ducks	32	29	78	-49
ST RANK: SPECIAL TEAM RANK				
PP NET: NET GOALS FOR FROM POWERPLAY				
PK NET: NET GOALS AGAINST FROM PENALTY KILL				
ST NET: PPNET - PKNET				

Another way to measure penalty killing prowess is PKGA60: penalty-kill goals allowed per 60 minutes. The league average for PKGA60 is 7.7; St. Louis was 30th in the league at 10.2. For every hour they were shorthanded, they gave up 2.5 more goals than average and 5.7 more than league-best Boston (PKGA60=4.5).

While I don't want to lay blame at the foot of any set of players, it looks like part of Blues' blues with killing penalties belongs to their goalies. St. Louis gave up 60 goals while killing penalties, but their expected goals against was 49.5. I see no other way of interpreting these data than to infer that their goalies gave up 10 goals "too many."

St. Louis did what they could to minimize goals allowed while shorthanded: they were shorthanded the second-least in the league. Of course, another reason they had a low amount of shorthanded time is that a shorthanded situation usually ends when a power-play goal is conceded.

St. Louis didn't miss the playoffs because of their special teams. Had they broken even on special team scoring they would have gotten six more points (using Pythagorean point estimator), and 87 points was well out of the playoff race.

Just For Fun

The worst ten-game streak for the Blues came in games 2 through 11. Their next ten games, games 12 through 21, was their best ten-game streak.