

NEW YORK RANGERS: TEAM LOOK-AHEAD

After landing **Artemi Panarin** in free agency, **Jacob Trouba** via trade and **Kaapo Kakko** at No. 2 in the 2019 NHL Draft, the Rangers enter 2019-20 with a retooled offense aiming to improve their 2018-19 average of 2.70 goals per game. New York looks to earn a playoff berth for the first time since 2016-17, having missed the playoffs in three straight seasons only once in the NHL's expansion era (since 1967-68) – a seven-year drought from 1997-98 to 2003-04.

SEASON-OPENING STATS

- * **Henrik Lundqvist** has started each of the Rangers' last 13 season-opening contests (7-5-1). Only one goaltender in NHL history has started at least 14 consecutive season openers for the same team: **Martin Brodeur** (18 w/ NJD, 1994-95—2012-13).
- * Additionally, Lundqvist's seven wins in season-opening contests are the second-most among active netminders behind **Ryan Miller** and **Marc-Andre Fleury** (both w/ 9). Brodeur and **Curtis Joseph** share the NHL benchmark with 10 such wins.

OFFENSIVE OUTLOOK

- * The Rangers landed unrestricted free agent **Artemi Panarin** this offseason, a two-time 80-point scorer who has eclipsed 70 points in each of his four NHL seasons. After posting a career-high 87 points in 2018-19 (28-59—87 in 79 GP), Panarin can record the first 85-point campaign by a Rangers player since **Marian Gaborik** (42-44—86 in 2009-10).
- * **Mika Zibanejad** led the Rangers in scoring in 2018-19, posting a career-high in goals and points (30-44—74 in 82 GP). He can become the first Rangers player with consecutive 30-goal seasons since **Jaromir Jagr** (2005-06: 54 & 2006-07: 30).



New York Rangers 2019-20 Season Preview

* After posting a career-high 50 points with the Jets in 2018-19 (8-42—50 in 82 GP), **Jacob Trouba** (42-137—179 in 408 GP) now sits 21 points shy of joining **Morgan Rielly** (51-192—243 in 470 GP) as the second defensemen from the 2012 NHL Draft to hit the 200-point milestone.

THE FUTURE IS NOW

* Kaapo Kakko needs only eight goals and 16 points before his 19th birthday on Feb. 13, 2020 to match Manny Malhotra (8-8—16 in 1998-99, 73 GP) for the most in a season by a Rangers player at age 18. Mike Allison (24-36—60 in 1980-81, 71 GP) has the most goals, assists and points in a season by a Rangers teenager.

BETWEEN THE PIPES

* With at least 20 wins in 13 of his 14 NHL seasons, **Henrik Lundqvist** (449-298-93, 2,41 GAA, .918 SV% and 63 shutouts) sits six victories shy of passing **Curtis Joseph** (454) for sole possession of fifth place on the <u>NHL's all-time wins list</u>. Lundqvist (63) also sits three shutouts shy of tying **Patrick Roy** (66) for 11th place on the <u>League's all-time shutouts list</u>. The longest-serving current Rangers player, Lundqvist (857 GP) also can move from 12th place to eighth place on the <u>all-time games played list among goaltenders</u> with only 30 more appearances.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

A look at how players have fared historically in their debut game/season with the franchise:

First game with the Rangers. . .

SKATERS

Most goals: 3 (Derek Stepan on Oct. 9, 2010)

Most assists: 3 (5x; last: Derick Brassard on April 3, 2013)

Most points: 4 (Doug Bentley on Jan. 20, 1954 and Derick Brassard on April 3, 2013)

DEFENSEMEN

Most goals: 1 (15x; last: John Moore on April 3, 2013) Most assists: 2 (3x; last: Boris Mironov on Jan. 8, 2003) Most points: 2 (5x; last: Boris Mironov on Jan. 8, 2003)

GOALTENDERS

Most saves: 46 (Al Rollins on Feb. 20, 1960)

Shutout: Yes (4x; last: Antti Raanta on Oct. 19, 2015)

First season with the Rangers. . .

SKATERS

Most goals: 48 (Pierre Larouche in 1983-84)

Most assists: 72 (Mark Messier in 1991-92 and Wayne Gretzky in 1996-97)

Most points: 107 (Mark Messier in 1991-92)

DEFENSEMEN

Most goals: 20 (Carol Vadnais in 1975-76) Most assists: 45 (Barry Beck in 1979-80) Most points: 59 (Barry Beck in 1979-80)



New York Rangers 2019-20 Season Preview

GOALTENDERS

Most wins: 30 (Henrik Lundqvist in 2005-06) Most Shutouts: 13 (John Ross Roach in 1928-29)

