

Flyers Soar Past Jets

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Abstract

The Philadelphia Flyers played the Winnipeg Jets on February 22, 2020. The Flyers were at home in the Wells Fargo Center looking to gain ground in a tight Metropolitan Division playoff race. Philadelphia would be in control of the game, leading to the entirety of the contest. Winnipeg made the game interesting late in the second period and early in the third. But strong defensive play would ultimately hold off the Jets. Standouts from the Flyers included strong play from Justin Braun, Scott Laughton, and Carter Hart.

Philadelphia Flyers vs. Winnipeg Jets Feb 22, 2020

The Philadelphia Flyers took on the Winnipeg Jets on Saturday afternoon riding a two-game winning streak. The Flyers enter the game in a tight Metropolitan Division playoff race in the final third of the NHL season. They sit in third playoff spot in the division with 75 points behind the Washington Capitals and the Pittsburgh Penguins. The Metro division has been a tight race all year with just 12 points separating first and seventh place. With about a month and a half left in the regular season, March hockey is right around the corner, and the Metro is still very much up for grabs.

Winnipeg is nine points out of the third playoff spot in the Central Division but have been playing well of late going 7-3-0 in their last 10 games. While their record may not stand out, they have been posing as a real

threat over the last few weeks. The Jets looked to give the Flyers a challenge on a cold Saturday afternoon.

The action kicked off with puck drop at 1:05pm at the Wells Fargo Center. The Flyers got off to a hot start early in the first period with a Scott Laughton goal off an impressive shift and primary assist from Ivan Provorov. Justin Braun also was awarded an assist on the play.

The Flyer's hot first period start would only get hotter as Laughton scored again in the ninth minute as his shot would trickle in past goaltender, Connor Hellebuyck. Justin Braun also assisted on Laughton's goal and Philadelphia jumped out to an early 2-0 lead. There would be no more scoring in the first period. A few minutes past the halfway point of the second however, the Flyers would strike again and add another goal. This time Jakub Voracek and Matt Niskanen would help set up a Sean Couturier wrist shot that

found its way into the top corner of the net to make it 3-0.

But the Jets would not go away silently. With under two minutes left in the second period Winnipeg would strike. Josh Morrissey would score on assists from Mark Scheifele and Nikolaj Ehlers; Morrissey was able to take the pass from Scheifele and immediately put the puck in the top right corner over Flyer's goaltender, Carter Hart.

Three minutes into the third period, the Jets would strike again. Patrick Liane blasted a slap shot past Hart on a Winnipeg power play to cut the Flyers lead to 3-2. The play was made possible by some crisp passing from the Jets, in particular Blake Wheeler and Neal Pionk, who picked up assists on the play.

With just a one goal lead, the Flyers needed a response. Justin Braun, Robert Hagg, and Tyler Pitlick would answer. Halfway through the third period Scott Laughton won a faceoff in the Jets

zone. His faceoff win went to Braun who passed to Hagg for a long slap shot. Hagg's shot deflected off Pitlick and then off Jets Defenseman, Tucker Poolman and into the back of the net.

Carter Hart played well in net. The goals he did allow were mainly from defensive lapses and precision shots from the Jets. He would give up no further goals in the game and would finish saving 27 of 29 shots.

The final score of the game was 4-2 Flyers. Some notable performances on the ice came from Scott Laughton who tallied two goals in the game. Justin Braun totaled three assists and was everywhere on the ice during the game. Carter Hart ended the game with a .931 save percentage and continues to be great at home. The Flyers continue to play well and knock on the door near the top of the Metro.

The Philadelphia Flyers take on the San Jose Sharks on Tuesday night at the Wells Fargo Center.



Figure 1. Carter Hart congratulates Scott Laughton after his two-goal performance in a 4-2 win against the Winnipeg Jets. (Photo Credits/Matt Slocum)

References

Slocum, Matt. (2020). *Philadelphia Flyers' Scott Laughton celebrates with teammates after scoring a goal during the first period of an NHL hockey game against the Winnipeg Jets, Saturday, Feb. 22, 2020, in Philadelphia. (AP Photo/Matt Slocum)* [Photograph].
[Laughton scores twice, leads streaking Flyers over Jets 4-2 \(apnews.com\)](https://apnews.com/...)..

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