



Season 15

EURO League

DRAFT GUIDE

Juraj
SLAFKOVSKY



Carl LINDBOM



Artur CHOLACH



Tentative Draft Order

The draft lottery and any trades could change the order listed below

Round 1

- 1 Hanover
- 2 Edinburgh
- 3 Gothenburg
- 4 Stockholm
- 5 Zurich
- 6 Milan
- 7 Munich
- 8 Prague
- 9 Amsterdam
- 10 Bratislava
- 11 Lisbon
- 12 Athens
- 13 Geneva
- 14 Madrid
- 15 Bern
- 16 London
- 17 Belfast
- 18 Minsk
- 19 Helsinki
- 20 Dublin
- 21 Oslo
- 22 Paris
- 23 Copenhagen
- 24 Berlin

Round 2

- 25 Hanover
- 26 Edinburgh
- 27 Gothenburg
- 28 Stockholm
- 29 Zurich
- 30 Milan
- 31 Munich
- 32 Prague
- 33 Amsterdam
- 34 Bratislava
- 35 Lisbon
- 36 Athens
- 37 Geneva
- 38 Madrid
- 39 Bern
- 40 London
- 41 Hanover (from Belfast)
- 42 Minsk
- 43 Lisbon (from Helsinki)
- 44 Dublin
- 45 Oslo
- 46 Paris
- 47 Copenhagen
- 48 Berlin

Round 3

- 49 Hanover
- 50 Edinburgh
- 51 Gothenburg
- 52 Stockholm
- 53 Dublin (from Zurich)
- 54 Milan
- 55 Munich
- 56 Prague
- 57 Amsterdam
- 58 Bratislava
- 59 Helsinki (from Lisbon)
- 60 Athens
- 61 Geneva
- 62 Madrid
- 63 Bern
- 64 London
- 65 Belfast
- 66 Minsk
- 67 Helsinki
- 68 Dublin
- 69 Oslo
- 70 Paris
- 71 Copenhagen
- 72 Berlin



Season 15 Draft Prospects



LW

Juraj Slafkovsky

Nation: Slovakia **Age:** 18
Size: 6'3", 235 lbs.

CSS Rank - #1

The big Slovakian was made the top pick in the last NHL draft and he was put to work right away in Montreal, where he was on pace for a 22-point, 70-PIM season. He should get a high Websim PO rating and become an impact player in the league eventually. He has spent the last several seasons learning the game in Finland. Scouts say he has a unique way of turning extended periods of possession into legitimate scoring chances for himself and teammates. A can't miss pick.



D

Artur Cholach

Nation: Ukraine **Age:** 19
Size: 6'4", 196 lbs.

CSS Rank - #2

There is some size and toughness at the very top of the draft this year in Juraj Slafkovsky and Artur Cholach. The Ukrainian defenseman offers a very well-rounded game and could start this season for the team that takes him. He is better defensively than when his team has the puck, but he will in no way be a liability and we expect him to see a lot of powerplay time in his career. Cholach has played for 2 seasons with the Barrie Colts in the OHL after seasons in Moscow and New Jersey.



F

Albert Sjoberg

Nation: Sweden **Age:** 24
Size: 6', 186 lbs.

CSS Rank - #3

The Swedish forward is the most ready player in the draft and the safest bet to win next season's Rookie of the Year honors. He will rack up points for whoever selects him and his salary won't hurt the cap at all. This guy really needs to fire his agent because he could be making a ton more money. The only problems with him are his timidity and his age. At 24, you will probably get 6 fewer seasons out of him than you would if you picked an 18-year-old who is close to playing. In addition, although he's older, he doesn't have a lot of experience yet.



G

Carl Lindbom

Nation: Sweden **Age:** 20
Size: 6'1", 185 lbs.

CSS Rank - #4

The Swedish goalie made a great impression on scouts in the World Juniors tournament, where he posted a 94.2 save percentage through 4 games, although consistency has been an issue in his young career. He is quick, athletic and very competitive. On a good team, he will challenge for trophies some seasons. He will definitely be a long-term solution in goal for someone, but don't expect him to be the next Dominik Hasek or Martin Brodeur.



C

Shane Wright

Nation: Canada **Age:** 18
Size: 6', 198 lbs.

CSS Rank - #5

The highly-touted Ontario kid is feeling his way around the men's leagues as a member of the Seattle Kraken organization and he even has 8 NHL games under his belt already. Offense appears to be his main concern on the ice and he has shown good creativity and patience, along with urgency when needed. If he can put it all together, you will get an occasional all-star.



Season 15 Draft Prospects



F

Kieran Brown

Nation: England **Age:** 19
Size: 5'10", 171 lbs.

CSS Rank - #6

What stands out most about Brown is his desire. He rarely takes shifts off and is a real goal hound. He is not good in the defensive zone, but if you are looking for a guy to forecheck and then whirl around the offensive zone making mayhem and drawing defenders' attention, you can't do much better than the kid from England. He is on his way to his second straight 2-points-per-game season in England .. but that's England. We'll see how he does in a real league.



D

Simon Nemec

Nation: Slovakia **Age:** 18
Size: 6'1", 190 lbs.

CSS Rank - #7

It's going to really help the Slovakian defender that the New Jersey Devils are getting good and they aren't rushing him into the lineup. When he does get called up, he could be in line for a big rookie season and in Websim, a very high PO rating. But you never know, as we find out every so often ... (Leon Draisaitl). If you gamble on him and he pans out the way you were thinking, then you were thinking Ken Kuusk or Shayne Gostisbehere. That is, a capable defender who will be among the best point-producing blueliners in the league.



D

Danilo Tomasevic

Nation: Serbia **Age:** 21
Size: 6'1", 185 lbs.

CSS Rank - #8

There isn't much difference between Tomasevic and Simon Nemec other than with Tomasevic, you know what you're getting. Nemec, or David Jiricek for that matter, could turn out to be better EURO defensemen. Or worse. If you aren't in a gambling mood, grab the Serbian, stick him in your lineup and watch him develop into an excellent offensive defenseman and powerplay quarterback. Where is he weak? Well, he's weak. He's not going to be great at clearing the front of the net, and he will lose a lot of board battles.



LW

Samuel Bucek

Nation: Slovakia **Age:** 21
Size: 6'3", 200 lbs.

CSS Rank - #9

Bucek has played everywhere: his native Slovakia, Czech league, KHL, Quebec league with Shawinigan, the USHL, Liiga in Finland ... the boy has some frequent flyer miles for sure. He hopes to settle in a EURO League city and his size and scoring touch should translate into regular work on a second line, perhaps even on a top line. He's a hard worker and a good teammate and with a little more foot speed, he would be among the top 5 picks in the draft.



D

David Jiricek

Nation: Czechia **Age:** 19
Size: 6'3", 211 lbs.

CSS Rank - #10

A leader on the Czech junior team, Jiricek has good size and a huge wingspan that helps him shut down plays entering his defensive zone. He also has a dangerous shot from the point. And he's confident. But his best attribute is that pass out of the defensive zone to spring forwards and start rushes. Jiricek is in the Columbus Blue Jackets organization, where everyone thinks very highly of him.



Season 15 Draft Prospects



C

Dominic Canic

Nation: Croatia **Age:** 22
Size: 5'9", 178 lbs.

CSS Rank - #11

Thought to be too small for the NHL, Canic will be just the right size for a EURO team in the first round of the draft. Aside from his stature, there isn't much missing in his game and he's going to be very valuable as a faceoff winner. But there is also the lack of experience against quality opponents that makes him a question mark. Canic, who also has New Zealand citizenship, loves to collect assists, which he proved in a couple seasons in North America when he was about 14-15 years old. This player could make a EURO League team's top line.



C

Logan Cooley

Nation: USA **Age:** 18
Size: 5'10", 182 lbs.

CSS Rank - #12

The Arizona Coyotes draft pick could be a real steal in this draft. He has elite level stick skills and a great feel for the game. At the University of Minnesota, he has 48 points in 33 games and how well he does in the EURO League all depends on whether or not Arizona can put him in a position to succeed when he plays the Websim minimum number of games. Given his NHL team, Cooley is a little more of a gamble than most other prospect picks. But he is talented, for sure.



G

Noah Paixao

Nation: Portugal **Age:** 20
Size: 5'10", 180 lbs.

CSS Rank - #13

The small Portuguese/Swiss goalie is super quick, but he will have a lot of learning to do before he is ready to challenge for a starting job in the EURO League. But he will earn a living in the league. Paixao's entire junior career thus far has been spent in Switzerland. In six seasons of 10 or more games, he has always had a winning record and a goals against average between 2.31 and 3.33. Scouts say the way he reduces shooting angles is special.



C/LW

Phillip Schultz

Nation: Denmark **Age:** 22
Size: 6', 200 lbs.

CSS Rank - #14

The Danish forward can't play defensive hockey too well, but he can score points. He has all the pre-requisite skills to be a top 6 forward and he should excel on a line that cycles the puck because he is in great physical condition. He is pretty well-built and while he chooses not to dish it out too often, he is very hard to push off the puck. With Victoria in the WHL, he was named team captain in 2019-20, as he was three times for the national junior team.



RW

Nico Huuhtanen

Nation: Finland **Age:** 19
Size: 6'2", 184 lbs.

CSS Rank - #15

The Finn loves to shoot and he works hard to get into spots on the ice with clear shot lanes. He could probably use a little more muscle on his body to make his shot faster and improve his overall game. Huuhtanen has scouts split on how good he is. None have any issues with his feistiness, though. He loves the open-ice hit and he has no problem dropping his gloves. We're not sure where he will fit in on your team, but if you need a grinder/disrupter who can cash in on "garbage goal" opportunities, pick him.



Season 15 Draft Prospects



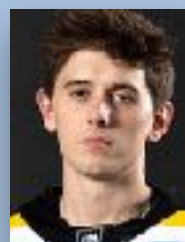
RW/LW

Petteri Puhakka

Nation: Finland **Age:** 21
Size: 5'10", 180 lbs.

CSS Rank - #16

The Finn Puhakka and Phillip Schultz of Denmark are very similar players. Puhakka is smaller and quicker, and should be a little better defensively, but they are virtually the same. Puhakka should be a top 6 forward because he has the skating and puckhandling skills, as well as the hockey sense, to add a good amount of offense. He has always played in Finland and is currently in his 3rd season with Tappara and he has more goals than assists in his time there.



LW

Bartek Bison

Nation: Netherlands **Age:** 19
Size: 6'4", 195 lbs.

CSS Rank - #17

Bison can pass the puck and thanks to his height and soft hands, he's able to keep possession of pucks better than others. He still has a lot of developing to do, but Bison will land a full-time job. He may not lead the team in scoring, but he will be a major contributor. He has played in Germany, the USHL and the Western Hockey League with Prince George and Vancouver, and in all those places, he was a boring but helpful player. And that's the kind of player you can expect if you draft him.



G

Rudy Rigoni

Nation: Italy **Age:** 21 **Size:** 6'2", 190 lbs.

CSS Rank - #18

A number of scouts are high on the Italian goalie who seems to be a real gamer - a guy who won't quit on any play. In Italy, shooters have had a really tough time getting pucks past him. But the EURO League features guys like Ryan Nugent-Hopkins and Auston Matthews, so Rudy will see his outstanding save percentage numbers go down. Still, Rigoni should be able to back up a veteran starter for 3 or 4 years before taking over the main job and keeping it for several seasons.



D

Joel Nystrom

Nation: Sweden **Age:** 22
Size: 5'11", 182 lbs.

CSS Rank - #19

Nystrom is one of your best options if you are looking for a good defensive defenseman. He is tough, diligent and tenacious and the only thing he lacks is size and strength. And he will be able to move the puck out of the zone and down the ice. But don't expect him to score goals. His shot isn't too good and he knows it. He has never played outside of Sweden, but the Carolina Hurricanes drafted him in the 7th round of the 2021 draft, so he might need a suitcase at some point.



D

David Maier

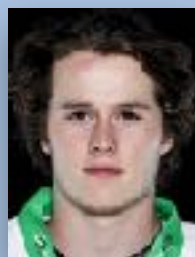
Nation: Austria **Age:** 19
Size: 6'1", 193 lbs.

CSS Rank - #20

Maier likes hockey's rough side. He wants to lead his team in hits and he will fight guys when he thinks it's necessary. The teen will develop his skating and skills enough to make a EURO roster, but most likely on a second or third D pairing. He has a knack for breaking up plays in the defensive and neutral zones and his plus/minus rating has never been bad. While Maier may not have the tools to make you *want* to play him every day, you will find yourself realizing he's a good overall option.



Season 15 Draft Prospects



F

Mauro Neurauter

Nation: Liechtenstein **Age:** 20
Size: 6', 190 lbs.

CSS Rank - #21

We've got a guy from Liechtenstein in the league finally! We've all been waiting for this day. Neurauter's best attributes are his hustle and intensity. Think Ryan Lomberg of the Florida Panthers, but with a little better offensive upside. He has played in Switzerland his whole life and scouts there like the way he shakes things up and disrupts opponents many shifts each game. By the end of his EURO career, Neurater will be thought of as a pest who can dig pucks out of corners and find teammates in scoring positions.



C

Louis Boudon

Nation: France **Age:** 20
Size: 5'11", 180 lbs.

CSS Rank - #22

Louis Boudon has played on the French national team and he is captain of Lake Superior State in the NCAA for the second straight season. There, he is having a down season after scoring 44 points in 36 games last season. Boudon needs to get into the weight room more, but as deficiencies go, that might be it. Still, he doesn't seem to excel anywhere either. He is smart and seems willing to get his nose dirty, but he might not light up the scoreboard for you. His leadership ability will get him drafted sooner than comparable players.



D

Rami Maatta

Nation: Finland **Age:** 19
Size: 5'11", 183 lbs.

CSS Rank - #23

Maatta is a rock-solid defender. Despite his size, he is very difficult to beat one-on-one in open ice and he is great at getting into passing and shooting lanes. But the Finn does not like having the puck on his stick, it seems. He looks to pass quickly and shooting? ... well you better have other guys on the ice who can put the puck on net. In two seasons (107 games) with Assat in the Finnish league, he is still looking for his first goal. In a few years, Maatta will be a fixture on your penalty killing units.



D

Tomas Machu

Nation: Czechia **Age:** 20
Size: 6'4", 197 lbs.

CSS Rank - #24

We can already hear the arena people playing the Village People song "Macho, Macho Man" and the fans changing the O to a U when this kid gets into a scrap. Or when he scores a goal, but he might have more fights than goals in his career. Machu is a big kid with a good wingspan. A 7th-round pick of the NY Islanders in the NHL, Machu will attend Colorado College. He is a bit of a project, but should settle into a bottom 4 role nicely.



RW

Axel Orongan

Nation: Iceland **Age:** 20
Size: 5'10", 178 lbs.

CSS Rank - #25

Orongan has shown rapid improvement recently in Iceland and has becoming a legit scorer there. Perhaps the seasoning he got playing in Sweden and one season in the USA helped. He is a good skater who likes the rough stuff and he should be competent in in the neutral and defensive zones. He needs to somehow develop his vision, creativity and passing ability, however. Checking line winger seems like the most appropriate label to stick on him.



Season 15 Draft Prospects



Nicolas Perrenoud

Nation: Switzerland **Age:** 20
Size: 6', 180 lbs.

CSS Rank - #26

The left winger has shown an ability to chip in with goals in the past but has slowed in that regard recently in the Swiss league. He goes hard to the net and has pretty good wheels, scouts say, and some say he was made to play in the middle on your powerplay unit to screen goalies and shovel in the garbage. He might end up as a defensive liability, though. Perrenoud shows little interest in being in the defensive zone. He also needs to work on his passing.



Kendall Coyne

Nation: USA **Age:** 22
Size: 5'5"; 160 lbs.

CSS Rank - #27

Looking for lightning speed on the left wing? Kendall Coyne is your woman. To get into the Websim system properly, we had to give her about 10 extra pounds and remove her married named of Schofield. The Team USA star who surprised the world by beating most of the fastest skaters in the NHL at All-Star time in 2019, should be a regular player on some EURO League team in a few years. She will add some offense and her speed will be a huge boost all over the ice.



David Moravec

Nation: Czechia **Age:** 21
Size: 6', 190 lbs.

CSS Rank - #28

Moravec is a determined defensive defenseman. He may not have the standout physical tools of some players in this draft, but he will do well in his own zone, pokecheck beautifully, and he will be good at moving the puck up ice once he gets a hold of it. Scouts are not 100 percent sold on him though. With Halifax, in the Quebec Major Junior league, he has 22 assists in 48 games. *Note: Chuck messed up and in order to eventually have a photo, this kid will have to go by Moravek, instead of Moravec, which is his actual name.*



Denis Bakala

Nation: Slovakia **Age:** 20
Size: 5'11", 185 lbs.

CSS Rank - #29

Slovakia is producing some good defensemen all of a sudden. Bakala will have to wait until late in the second round - or in the 3rd round - to hear his name called, but there is a good chance he will be the third blueliner from Slovakia to be drafted. He projects to be a solid stay-at-home defenseman who will battle to keep the puck away from prime scoring areas. He has a long way to go to be ready for full-time action, but he should play a few years in the league.



Lennart Markun

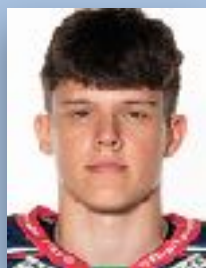
Nation: Slovenia **Age:** 19
Size: 5'9", 178 lbs.

CSS Rank - #30

The Slovenian forward has represented his nation in 3 world junior qualifiers and has spent the rest of his days playing in Switzerland. His most recent season has him with 24 points in 42 games, and twice before he has scored 30 or more. Markun won't make your top two forward lines, but could be a good third-liner for you at center or left wing.



Season 15 Draft Prospects



Bennet Rossmly

Nation: Germany **Age:** 18
Size: 6'4", 221 lbs.

CSS Rank - #31

One of the youngest players in the draft is already one of the biggest. German Bennet Rossmly is a power forward if there ever was one. The 6-4, 221-pounder got into some World Junior games and showed some promise to perform better than his lackluster stats so far show. He scored 7 goals in 29 games one season, but his goal totals have generally been under 5, which tells you he must bring something more to the table. Sure, he can be a deterrent to opponents who try to get tough with his teammates, but he also shows a very good defensive awareness, scouts say.



Thomas Galimberti

Nation: Italy **Age:** 19
Size: 6'1", 195 lbs.

CSS Rank - #32

In the last year, Galimberti has doubled his production from 12 to 25 points, playing for Pelicans in the Finnish U20 league. Scouts like to see that sort of trajectory. And, the Italian has that perfect size. On top of that, he seems to learn quickly and he's accomplished at all 3 forward positions. His failure to play decent defense is what is holding him back. And he tends to disappear from time to time in games. He's the kind of player some coaches are quick to yank from the lineup when things aren't going well.



Harijs Brants

Nation: Latvia **Age:** 18
Size: 6', 190 lbs.

CSS Rank - #33

Brants plays like he was born to think transition from defense to offense. He keeps his head up when he's got the puck, which translates into better passes and fewer giveaways. The Latvian played a couple seasons in Quebec before returning to Latvia to play there. He projects to be a bottom 4 blueliner who might add 10 goals and 25 assists to his team's totals once he matures. But that is a long way off because he's just 18.



Yu Sato

Nation: Japan **Age:** 20
Size: 5'10", 180 lbs.

CSS Rank - #34

Sato is quick and clever. And he's mobile. By that, we mean he has gone all over the planet to play hockey. In the last 6 years, he has played in Japan, Finland, Canada, the USA and Russia. In the KHL this season he has put up 10 points in 40 games. Scouts say he has good hands and quick feet. Sato looks like he will develop into a solid two-way forward.



Andre Lee

Nation: Sweden **Age:** 19
Size: 6'4", 210 lbs.

CSS Rank - #35

"Big winger plays a disruptive checking game with enough speed to keep defenders on their heels," McKeen's Hockey wrote about the Swedish winger who also plays center. Lee can score goals as well as anyone in the last two rounds of the draft. He notched 16 in 34 games with U-Mass Lowell last season, which got him drafted by the L.A. Kings in the 7th round. His checking ability helps him in the defensive zone and makes him a strong forechecker. His hockey sense is lacking, however, as is his puck handling.



Season 15 Draft Prospects



D

Maximilian Glotzl

Nation: Germany **Age:** 20
Size: 6'2", 197 lbs.

CSS Rank - #36

The German is a good fighter. Make no mistake, toughness is what he brings to a team. He checks hard and he has no problem pushing around the other team's slick Lady Byng forwards. He can get the puck up to wingers and start rushes, too, and his powerful slapshot will yield some goals. But he doesn't offer much help elsewhere in the game. If you want a defenseman who can play some decent defense - even just every third or fourth shift - then Glotzl might not be your best choice.



G

Carter Gylander

Nation: Canada **Age:** 18
Size: 6'5", 185 lbs.

CSS Rank - #37

Picking improving Canadian goalie Carter Gylander will be a team that really values goaltending and is willing to collect young netminders hoping one of them will blossom into a starting role. Playing currently at Colgate University in the NCAA, Gylander has seen his save percentage improve from 90.1 as a freshman, to 90.8 as a sophomore, to 91.6 as a junior. That is probably what the Detroit Red Wings like about him. They drafted him in the 7th round of the 2019 draft.



RW

Bryce Brodzinski

Nation: USA **Age:** 18
Size: 6', 180 lbs.

CSS Rank - #38

The Brodzinski clan of Minnesota has produced a lot of hockey players. Bryce's father, uncle and 3 brothers have all played at a pretty high level and Bryce is trying to get his foot in the EURO League door. He is already part of the Philadelphia Flyers organization, for what that's worth. He will end up being a hard-charging, two-way winger. At the University of Minnesota, he has scored 15 goals and just 9 assists in 34 games this season.



RW

Eric Ciccolini

Nation: Canada **Age:** 20
Size: 5'11", 180 lbs.

CSS Rank - #39

From Vaughan, Ontario, comes this guy who people hate playing against. A speedy guy who is always in your face and he won't back down. Ciccolini is NY Rangers property in the NHL and he's a part of the really awesome University of Michigan team right now, scoring 10 points in 24 games this season. But will he ever play in the EURO League? The fact that he will have a low salary cap hit might get him into a lineup ahead of some other players.



D

Cole Moberg

Nation: Canada **Age:** 19
Size: 6'1", 194 lbs.

CSS Rank - #40

Moberg has bounced around the AHL and ECHL after a good Junior career with Prince George in the WHL, where in back-to-back seasons he scored 13 goals from his point position. Since then, Moberg seems to be re-inventing himself as a defensive blueliner, so we're really not sure what his future looks like. He has good size and toughness, but his skating could use some work. Moberg was a 7th-round pick of the Chicago Black Hawks in 2019.



Season 15 Draft Prospects



Andrei Buyalsky

Nation: Kazakhstan **Age:** 20
Size: 6'3", 197 lbs.

CSS Rank - #41

Buyalski is playing for the University of Vermont and is second on the team in scoring. He doesn't have much grit to his game but he collects points. The centerman could explode into a good player in the real world but in the EURO League, the best he is likely to be is a third-liner. Colorado drafted him in Round 3 of the 2021 draft, but he remains unsigned.



Aidan McDonough

Nation: USA **Age:** 19
Size: 6'2", 190 lbs.

CSS Rank - #42

The Massachusetts kid has become captain of the Northeastern University team and he has scored 36 points in 31 games this season. He projects to be a hard worker and it looks like he stands a chance to play on the third line some day as a sniper. The Vancouver Canucks selected him in the 7th round of the 2019 draft.



Sander Engebraten

Nation: Norway **Age:** 18
Size: 6'3", 190 lbs.

CSS Rank - #43

Engebraten doesn't get much ink, playing in Norway, but some scouts see a big defenseman with surprisingly nimble hands. They say he will be good at working pucks out of danger and could be a contributor on a powerplay unit someday. He has always been a fixture on age group national teams and his plus/minus ratings stand out in his games in the Norwegian league. Oslo fans will be hoping Carl Choiniere calls his name on draft day.



Axel Bergkvist

Nation: Sweden **Age:** 19
Size: 5'10", 180 lbs.

CSS Rank - #44

Bergkvist projects to be a quiet, two-way defenseman who should play several seasons in the league as a bottom 4 guy. He is adept at stopping players one-on-one and closing them down along the boards. He is also good at making that first pass out of the defensive zone. He doesn't have the size or point shot you would want on your top pairing, but he will be a good role player. Bergkvist played one season in the OHL and was excellent, and the rest of his hockey has been played in Sweden.



Florian Bugl

Nation: Germany **Age:** 18
Size: 6', 170 lbs.

CSS Rank - #45

If you are willing to take a chance on a young goalie developing into a player, Bugl is a good choice. He seems well-rounded as goalies go and he has a nice set of save percentages on his resume. All of his hockey has been played in leagues in Germany and Austria. The scouts who have seen him said he seems able to retain his focus and stance for longer periods of time than his contemporaries are able to.



Season 15 Draft Prospects



D

Kalle Loponen

Nation: Finland **Age:** 21
Size: 6', 186 lbs.

CSS Rank - #46

Loponen's skating ability may be just good enough to get him into a EURO League lineup in a few years. His passing certainly is. The Finn likes to hit teammates in stride up ice and he will start his share of odd-man rushes. In the D zone, Loponen gravitates to the front of the net and tends to get a lot of shot blocks, but his work in the corners and along the boards leaves a lot to be desired. He could be classified as a two-way or offensive defenseman in Websim.



F

Jun Cheng Yan

Nation: China **Age:** 20
Size: 5'11", 180 lbs.

CSS Rank - #47

"Eddie" Yan was born in Toronto and has spent half his young career in Canada and the rest of it in China, a nation he represented in the Olympics in 2022. He has good wheels and an excellent wrist shot that is hard and accurate. Yan will struggle to make a EURO roster, but the fact he can play all 3 forward positions is bound to make him a little more valuable.



D

Declan Bronte

Nation: Australia **Age:** 18
Size: 5'10", 180 lbs.

CSS Rank - #48

There are two Bronte brothers from Australia hoping to be drafted this season. Eighteen-year-old Declan is very tough and brings a little more to the table than his 19-year-old brother. Declan is confident and that leads him to take more shots and go for big hits; but when he misses either of those opportunities, he's then struggling to get back into position.



D

Nikita Zapolsky

Nation: Belarus **Age:** 18
Size: 6'4", 210 lbs.

CSS Rank - #49

The biggest thing Zapolsky has going for him is his size. He knows he's strong and he's willing to prove it by stepping into people along the boards and by squaring off for a bout of fisticuffs. Aside from those attributes, the big Belarusian doesn't offer a team much. But if you are looking for someone to convince the other teams' goons to lay off your smaller players, Zapolsky would be a good selection.



F

Paul Huber

Nation: Austria **Age:** 19
Size: 6'4", 198 lbs.

CSS Rank - #50

As you get down near the end of the draft, you sometimes look for someone who offers something the rest of the field doesn't. Huber plays a lot like many of the other available forwards, but he has excellent size at 6-4, 198. That will help him win board battles and barrel toward the front of the opposing net. He's never played outside of Austria, but has shown marked improvement this season with 18 points in 36 games for Salzburg. Last season, he scored 11 points in 45 games.



Season 15 Draft Prospects



RW

Nikola Pasic

Nation: Sweden **Age:** 19

Size: 5'10", 175 lbs.

CSS Rank - #51

This guy has shown a quick release on his shots and could develop into a good offensive asset someday. He is also skilled with the puck even when he's pushing it at full speed. He has played in Sweden his whole career and the New Jersey Devils draftee has really done well this season in Sodertalje. If his skating was better, he would surely be picked in this year's draft, but that deficiency might mean he starts Season 15 as a free agent.



C

Tyrone Bronte

Nation: Australia **Age:** 19

Size: 5'10", 185 lbs.

CSS Rank - #52

His brother is a defenseman, but Tyrone Bronte is a forward who worked his way onto the team at Michigan Tech in the NCAA. He only scored 4 goals and 7 points in 56 games for that team, but he is an OK skater and showed some offensive potential while playing in other leagues in North America before college. He has a lot to learn and will have to be in the right place at the right time to see EURO action on a regular basis.

Forwards who can play multiple positions

Primary position listed first

All 3 Positions

Kieran Brown - LW/C/RW

Albert Sjoberg - LW/C/RW

Mauro Neurauter - LW/C/RW

Thomas Galimberti - LW/C/RW

Paul Huber - LW/C/RW

Jun Cheng Yan - LW/C/RW

2 Positions

Phillip Schultz - C/LW

Petteri Puhakka - RW/LW

Axel Orongan - RW/LW

Lennart Markun - LW/C

Yu Sato - LW/C

Andre Lee - LW/C



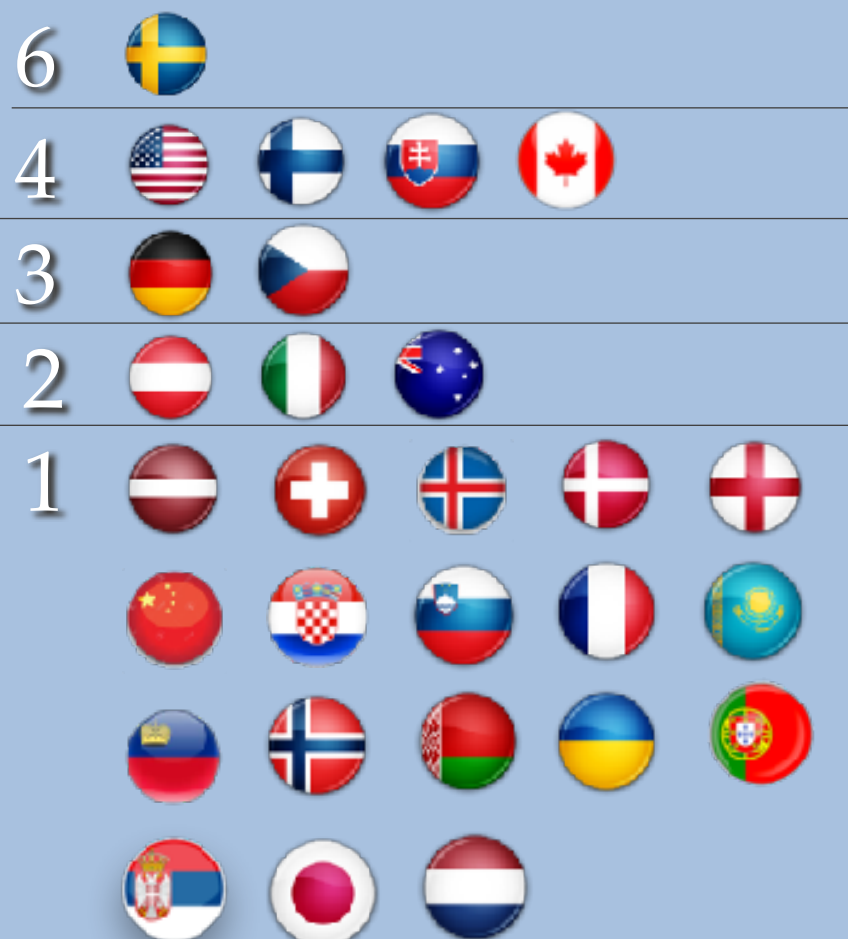
Season 15 Draft Prospects

Draft Prospects by the Numbers

By Nation

Alphabetical

Australia - 2
Austria - 2
Belarus - 1
Canada - 4
China - 1
Croatia - 1
Czechia - 3
Denmark - 1
England - 1
Finland - 4
France - 1
Germany - 3
Iceland - 1
Italy - 2
Japan - 1
Kazakhstan - 1
Latvia - 1
Liechtenstein - 1
Netherlands - 1
Norway - 1
Portugal - 1
Serbia - 1
Slovakia - 4
Slovenia - 1
Sweden - 6
Switzerland - 1
Ukraine - 1
USA - 4



By Age

24 - 1 player
23 - 0 players
22 - 4 players
21 - 6 players
20 - 13 players
19 - 15 players
18 - 8 players

By Position

G - 8 players
D - 13 players
LW - 8 players
C - 7 players
RW - 8 players
F/D - 1 player