

GAME REPORT

Home: CV Firebirds vs. Away: SD Gulls

Date: Feb 15, 2025 6:00PM PST

Pre-Game

The Gulls are finishing up a 4-game road trip tonight. They have won 4 of a possible 6 points so far. They are last place in the Pacific and near the bottom of AHL. They have a lot of ground to make up with 27 games left to play and 12 points out of a playoff spot. Sasha Pastujov and rookie Sam Colangelo lead the team in scoring. Calle Clang is the number one goalie, but he is not getting much help from his defense. All the defensive players combined for -46 in the +/- category. With the NHL trade deadline coming up, it is anyone's guess to see what the Anaheim Ducks will do at this point. The Gulls might have to focus on player development and be spoilers to the rest of the division.

No.	PLAYER	POS	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PPG	PMPPG
16	Sasha Pastujov	RW	31	14	19	33	-4	1.065	0.935
25	* Sam Colangelo	RW	32	18	11	29	3	0.906	1.000
11	Jan Myšák	C	41	12	15	27	-5	0.659	0.537
6	* Tristan Luneau	D	32	5	22	27	-8	0.844	0.594
22	Ryan Carpenter	C	45	11	15	26	-11	0.578	0.333
19	* Yegor Sidorov	RW	36	10	12	22	-6	0.611	0.444
37	Roland McKeown	D	42	8	13	21	-2	0.500	0.452
12	Justin Bailey (total)	F	41	9	11	20	-3	0.488	0.415
18	Carson Meyer	RW	28	8	12	20	-7	0.714	0.464
13	Nikita Nesterenko	LW	37	6	11	17	-9	0.459	0.216
26	x Jansen Harkins	C	11	5	12	17	2	1.545	1.727
12	x Pavol Regenda	LW	36	4	12	16	-15	0.444	0.028
28	Judd Caulfield	RW	43	4	11	15	-5	0.349	0.233
5	Tyson Hinds	D	44	3	7	10	-10	0.227	0.000
29	*x Rodwin Dionicio	D	24	5	4	9	-6	0.375	0.125
17	Nathan Gaucher	C	45	4	5	9	-3	0.200	0.133
10	Josh Lopina	C	39	3	6	9	-9	0.231	0.000
14	* Coulson Pitre	RW	39	1	8	9	-6	0.231	0.077
21	* Nico Myatovic	LW	37	5	3	8	-8	0.216	0.000
40	*x Andrew Lucas	D	20	0	3	3	0	0.150	0.150
3	Dillon Heatherington	D	32	0	3	3	-4	0.094	-0.031
2	* Noah Warren	D	40	0	3	3	-9	0.075	-0.150
41	Roman Kinal	D	23	1	1	2	-1	0.087	0.043
31	Calle Clang	G	28	0	2	2	0	0.071	0.071

23	* Jaxsen Wiebe	RW	12	1	0	1	-2	0.083	-0.083
44	* Jeremie Biakabutuka (total)	D	4	0	1	1	-1	0.250	0.000
24	Travis Howe	RW	15	0	1	1	-1	0.067	0.000
32	Vyacheslav Buteyets	G	2	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
15	x Michal Stinil	LW	3	0	0	0	-1	0.000	-0.333
4	x Drew Helleson	D	12	0	0	0	-5	0.000	-0.417
35	Oscar Dansk	G	22	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000

*Note: The scoring data comes from The AHL Daily and team websites. PPG = Points / games played. PMPPG = (Points + (+/-))/games played. PMPPG is intended to include the defensive number to a player's full contribution per game. * Rookie. X – Player Not on roster, injured, or called up.*

The Firebirds are coming off a 4-game road trip that straddled the AHL All-Star weekend. Jani Nyman was the Firebirds All-Star representative and got a goal and 2 assists in the 3-on-3 tournament. The Firebirds won two games in Texas and won in overtime against the Gulls last Friday. A loss to the Silver Nights on Wednesday came about on a little bit of bad luck, turn overs in the neutral zone, and poor faceoff results. They are currently 4th place in the Pacific. They come home to play a critical 5-game home stand against 5 different Pacific Division opponents. The 4 Nations Tournament is going on in the NHL, and the tournament's timing couldn't be more perfect as the Firebirds are going to have more resources to draw from. Cale Fleury is back from a long stint with the Kraken. Mitchell Stephens was placed on waivers. If no one claims him, he will be coming back to the lineup. Philipp Grubauer has played in goal for two games and has won both games. The Kraken also have some decisions to make before the trade deadline, but the Firebirds are in a good place to get a playoff spot. The younger players have flourished with the all the game time, and the veterans have had time with the Kraken.

No.	PLAYER	POS	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PPG	PMPPG
39	Ben Meyers	C	39	15	19	34	-5	0.872	0.744
33	* Jani Nyman	F	46	19	12	31	0	0.674	0.674
96	Logan Morrison	F	47	10	18	28	10	0.596	0.809
27	Ryan Winterton	F	38	12	15	27	8	0.711	0.921
58	Max Lajoie	D	46	3	22	25	1	0.543	0.565
29	* Lleyton Roed	F	46	11	13	24	10	0.522	0.739
57	* Jagger Firkus	F	46	9	14	23	5	0.500	0.609
11	Brandon Biro	C	33	5	18	23	-3	0.697	0.606
15	John Hayden	F	34	7	15	22	2	0.647	0.706
16	Nikolas Brouillard	D	44	5	17	22	-1	0.500	0.477
24	* Ty Nelson	D	47	4	15	19	9	0.404	0.596
8	Cale Fleury	D	29	6	11	17	12	0.586	1.000
12	* Eduard Sale	F	32	5	11	16	6	0.500	0.688
91	Daniel Sprong	F	13	7	8	15	-1	1.154	1.077
10	Luke Henman	F	39	5	9	14	1	0.359	0.385
17	Max McCormick	F	19	7	6	13	-4	0.684	0.474
23	Gustav Olofsson	D	36	2	10	12	-6	0.333	0.167

36	Ville Ottavainen	D	43	2	8	10	11	0.233	0.488
67	x Mitchell Stephens	F	18	4	4	8	-1	0.444	0.389
21	Ian McKinnon	F	39	4	4	8	-1	0.205	0.179
63	Jacob Melanson	F	19	5	2	7	3	0.368	0.526
88	* David Goyette	F	31	1	4	5	-6	0.161	-0.032
20	Ryan Jones	D	27	0	5	5	0	0.185	0.185
62	Tucker Robertson	F	24	2	2	4	-7	0.167	-0.125
28	x Cade Borchardt	F	1	0	0	0	-2	0.000	-2.000
2	x Jake McLaughlin	D	1	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
31	Philipp Grubauer	G	2	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
45	x Jack LaFontaine	G	2	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
50	x Charlie Wright	D	9	0	0	0	-3	0.000	-0.333
35	* Nikke Kokko	G	20	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
30	Ales Stezka	G	24	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000

*Note: The scoring data comes from The AHL Daily and team websites. PPG = Points / games played. PMPPG = (Points + (+/-))/games played. PPMPG is intended to include the defensive number to a player's full contribution per game. * Rookie. X – Player Not on roster, injured, or called up.*

Head-to-Head: The Firebirds have won all 4 games against the Gulls this season. All 4 games have been 1 goal wins. The last 3 games have been decided in overtime. Even though the Gulls are stuck in last place, they have given the Firebirds a run for their money. The last game saw the Firebirds give up a two-goal lead, but won the game in overtime on a Daniel Sprong snipe from the slot. The Gulls are playing spoiler so the Firebirds need to play a full 60 and not get caught in a trap game. On a side note, tonight's game will feature the two top goal scoring rookies in the AHL: Gulls' Sam Colangelo and Firebirds' Jani Nyman.

1st Period

The game started off spirited. Gulls got on the board first with a break down in the defense near the Firebirds goal. Firebirds tied the game on a power play. Ben Meyers slapshot from the point. Both teams exchanged opportunities, but the Gulls got an easy power play goal. 45 seconds later, the Gulls got their third goal on a sloppy play by the Firebirds leaving a backdoor open for a goal. The Firebirds Coach called timeout to deliver a message. Firebirds responded on a power play goal 4 minutes later. Jagger Firkus tip in a shot from Max Lajoie.

2nd Period

Firebirds cleanup the sloppy play, but the Gulls kept coming. The Gulls had a good portion of the O-zone time, but the Firebirds found a way to tie the game. On a good forecheck, the Firebirds stole the puck on the blue line. Jagger Firkus skated out and made a pass to Tucker Robertson who sized up the shot and put it past the Gulls' Oscar Dansk.

3rd Period

Within the first 38 seconds, the Gulls scored what would be the winning goal. Another breakdown by the Firebirds defense in front of the net. The Firebirds couldn't get anything going. The Gulls got an empty net goal to seal the game.

Post-Game

In the pre-game, I mentioned that the Gulls working on being spoilers, and they lived up to it. The Gulls outplayed the Firebirds tonight. The Gulls outskated and won more of the puck battles. From the stats, the Gulls won the faceoff circle in the first period, which set the tone for 3 goals. Although the Firebirds dominated the faceoff circle in the 3rd period, they could keep the puck to establish any pressure. The Gulls finally got the first win against the Firebirds this season. The Firebirds didn't match the intensity and played sloppy. The Firebirds only consolation was going 2 for 2 on the power play. The Gulls head home for 2-games started tomorrow against San Jose. The Firebirds will play again tomorrow against the Condors.

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd		Total
Gulls	3	0	2		5
Firebirds	2	1	0		3

Full game statistic can be found on the AHL site: <https://theahl.com/stats/game-center/1027209>

Video highlights can be seen on the Firebirds' YouTube channel: [Firebirds - YouTube](#)

Team Game Stats:

	Gulls	Firebirds
Shots	24	25
PP	1 / 2	2 / 2
PIM	4 min	4 min
SH	0	0

Unofficial stats:

The following are unofficial statistics. The AHL doesn't show faceoff wins, icing, or offsides on the score sheet. I am tracking this on my own so there is a margin of error.

Icing	1 st	2 nd	3 rd		Total
Gulls	4	1	1		6
Firebirds	1	1	0		2

Offsides	1 st	2 nd	3 rd		Total
Gulls	1	1	1		3
Firebirds	1	0	3		4

Faceoff Wins	1 st	2 nd	3 rd		Total
Gulls	15	6	3		24
Firebirds	10	7	13		30

The following is a breakdown of faceoff wins based on zone and player count.

Zone	Gulls			Firebirds		
	ES	PP	PK	ES	PP	PK
Attack	5	1	0	8	2	0
Neutral	7	1	1	14	0	0
Defense	1	0	2	5	0	1

ES – Even Strength

PP – Power Play

PK – Penalty Kill