

GAME REPORT

Home: CV Firebirds vs. Away: SJ Barracuda

Date: April 9, 2025 7:00PM PST

Pre-Game

The Barracuda are currently sitting in 6th place in the Pacific tied in points with the Wranglers. Their magic number for a playoff spot looks to be 3 at the moment. They are 9 points ahead of the Condors who are in 8th and out of the last spot. With 5-game remaining in the season, the Barracuda are going to make the playoffs. The key to their success this season is Andrew Poturalski. The former Firebird leads the league in points. Ethan Cardwell, Collin Graf, and Luca Cagnoni are big contributors. Over all team +/- tells a different story. Both forwards and defense are negative in this category. The goaltending has less than stellar. The San Jose Sharks are in a rebuild so there is a lot of development to bring players up to the NHL to get ice time. The Barracuda will be looking to improve their place in the standings, but are 4 points behind the Firebirds who are in 4th.

No.	PLAYER	POS	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PPG	PMPPG
22	Andrew Poturalski	F	59	30	43	73	6	1.237	1.339
42	* Luca Cagnoni	D	59	14	35	49	-6	0.831	0.729
56	Ethan Cardwell	F	59	11	36	47	13	0.797	1.017
75	Danil Gushchin	F	51	26	19	45	-12	0.882	0.647
17	Thomas Bordeleau	F	57	14	24	38	-3	0.667	0.614
77	Pavol Regenda	LW	67	11	26	37	-18	0.552	0.284
51	*Collin Graf	F	35	8	24	32	8	0.914	1.143
55	Walker Duehr	RW	31	16	12	28	2	0.903	0.968
18	* Filip Bystedt	F	45	10	18	28	4	0.622	0.711
16	Colin White	C	44	12	13	25	-3	0.568	0.500
83	* Donovan Houle	F	64	10	14	24	-5	0.375	0.297
36	x Lucas Carlsson	D	44	10	13	23	-1	0.523	0.500
49	Scott Sabourin	F	63	8	13	21	-14	0.333	0.111
59	Jimmy Schudt	D	59	6	14	20	21	0.339	0.695
76	Anthony Vincent	F	63	9	9	18	9	0.286	0.429
52	x Tristen Robins	C	41	7	11	18	-12	0.439	0.146
67	* Lucas Vanroboys	F	64	11	5	16	6	0.250	0.344
90	x Justin Bailey	F	33	7	7	14	-6	0.424	0.242
26	x Jack Thompson	D	27	3	11	14	-2	0.519	0.444
90	x Rem Pitlick	F	18	2	11	13	-7	0.722	0.333
41	Carl Berglund	C	47	2	10	12	0	0.255	0.255
79	Ethan Frisch	D	61	3	8	11	-1	0.180	0.164

63	x Zack Ostapchuk	C	15	2	9	11	8	0.733	1.267
94	Joey Keane	D	37	2	9	11	-9	0.297	0.054
54	Patrick Giles	F	42	8	2	10	5	0.238	0.357
70	Brandon Coe	F	30	3	6	9	0	0.300	0.300
85	Shakir Mukhamadullin	D	21	0	9	9	-6	0.429	0.143
86	* Braden Haché	D	27	2	6	8	9	0.296	0.630
61	* Jake Furlong	D	61	1	7	8	-15	0.131	-0.115
14	*x Kasper Halttunen	F	6	2	2	4	0	0.667	0.667
35	Gabriel Carriere	G	19	0	3	3	0	0.158	0.158
57	*x Luke Grainger	F	7	1	0	1	-1	0.143	0.000
58	*x Mitchell Russell	F	10	1	0	1	0	0.100	0.100
77	x Valtteri Pulli	D	2	0	1	1	3	0.500	2.000
30	Yaroslav Askarov	G	20	0	1	1	0	0.050	0.050
93	* Noah Beck	D	1	0	0	0	-3	0.000	-3.000
41	x Vitek Vanecek	G	1	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
47	* Axel Landén	D	2	0	0	0	1	0.000	0.500
92	* John Gormley	D	4	0	0	0	-1	0.000	-0.250
60	Jeremie Bucheler	D	5	0	0	0	-2	0.000	-0.400
32	Aaron Dell	G	10	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000

Totals by forwards and defense:

	G	A	PTS	+/-
Forwards	211	314	525	-20
Defense	41	113	154	-12

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 made the playoffs this weekend. They split the two games with the Silver Knights. The first game was an excellent win because of perseverance. The second game the Firebirds didn't play physical enough and the Silver Knights capitalized. It was scheduling and some hockey math that the Sunday game between Roadrunners and the Condors just had to finish for the Firebirds to clinch a playoff spot. With 5 games remaining the goal is to improve in the standings, but they sit 5 points behind the Reign and 6 points behind the Canucks. The Eagles are in First and well out of reach. The only have one game left against the Canucks. The remaining 4 games are with teams that are behind them in the standings. Jani Nyman has returned from the Kraken so he will be a force on the power play. The Firebirds will be without Cale Fleury, John Hayden, and Ryan Winterton. All three are up with the Kraken to finish off the season. The Kraken season will end before the Firebirds so they should get these players back for the last two games of the season.

No.	PLAYER	POS	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PPG	PMPPG
39	Ben Meyers	F	53	22	24	46	-3	0.868	0.811
33	* Jani Nyman	F	55	26	15	41	3	0.745	0.800
96	Logan Morrison	F	67	13	27	40	9	0.597	0.731
27	Ryan Winterton	F	55	18	19	37	11	0.673	0.873
58	Max Lajoie	D	66	4	33	37	15	0.561	0.788
11	Brandon Biro	F	53	6	28	34	-2	0.642	0.604
57	* Jagger Firkus	F	64	13	20	33	9	0.516	0.656
16	Nikolas Brouillard	D	64	7	26	33	1	0.516	0.531
24	* Ty Nelson	D	67	6	23	29	17	0.433	0.687
15	x John Hayden	F	43	11	16	27	-1	0.628	0.605
29	* Lleyton Roed	F	55	13	13	26	8	0.473	0.618
91	x Daniel Sprong	F	19	11	14	25	0	1.316	1.316
8	x Cale Fleury	D	36	6	18	24	9	0.667	0.917
12	* Eduard Šalé	F	49	6	15	21	6	0.429	0.551
88	* David Goyette	F	49	6	12	18	6	0.367	0.490
10	Luke Henman	F	55	6	10	16	-2	0.291	0.255
23	Gustav Olofsson	D	49	3	13	16	-6	0.327	0.204
36	Ville Ottavainen	D	63	3	11	14	7	0.222	0.333
17	Max McCormick	F	19	7	6	13	-4	0.684	0.474
67	Mitchell Stephens	F	31	6	7	13	-2	0.419	0.355
63	Jacob Melanson	F	38	7	4	11	-3	0.289	0.211
21	Ian McKinnon	F	51	6	5	11	2	0.216	0.255
62	Tucker Robertson	F	37	4	5	9	-2	0.243	0.189
20	Ryan Jones	D	38	0	7	7	-1	0.184	0.158
52	x Tye Kartye	F	3	2	2	4	1	1.333	1.667
50	Charlie Wright	D	19	0	3	3	-4	0.158	-0.053
2	Jake McLaughlin	D	1	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
78	* Oscar Fisker Mølgaard	F	2	0	0	0	-1	0.000	-0.500
45	x Jack LaFontaine	G	2	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
40	Victor Östman	G	4	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
28	x Cade Borchardt	F	5	0	0	0	-3	0.000	-0.600
31	x Philipp Grubauer	G	7	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
30	Aleš Stezka	G	25	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
35	* Nikke Kokko	G	30	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000

Totals by forwards and defense:

	G	A	PTS	+/-
Forwards	183	242	425	32
Defense	29	134	163	38

*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.*

Head-to-Head: The Firebirds have had a winning record against the Barracuda in the last two seasons, but the Barracuda have flipped the script this season and dominated the Firebirds. Former Firebirds, Andrew Poturalski and Jimmy Schuldt, have had something to do with this flip. Tonight's game will be another playoff like game as both teams look to secure better playoff positioning. Firebirds won the last meeting back in February, but that was with the full roster. Both teams have not played in 4 days so the team that comes out with some jump will be the team to take the game.

1st Period

A fast pace and physical period. Barracuda got a 5 on 3 power play, but couldn't convert. Firebirds had a couple play, but they could get on past the Barracuda goalie. It was a track meet for long stretches in the period.

Note: Andrew Poturalski for the Barracuda and Jani Nyman for the Firebirds were scratches tonight.

2nd Period

What do multiple fights, 31 penalty minutes, a shot off the post, 3 breakaways have in common --- that was the second period between the Barracuda and the Firebirds. The physicality ramped up to 11+ in the period. The big highlight came at the 7:05 mark. The Firebirds' Nathan Villeneuve, an 18-year-old just called up from the OHL in his first AHL game, dropped the gloves against the tough game for the Barracuda, Scott Sabourin. After words, Nathan pumped up the bench as he headed to the penalty box. There is still no score in the game.

3rd Period

More of the same, but with fewer penalties. No one want to make the critical mistake that gave the other team an edge. Both teams earned a point.

Overtime

Barracuda won the face off, but couldn't get anything going. Firebirds got he next possession, but fumbled the puck in the offensive zone. Filip Bystedt got the puck on a 2 on 1 and shot the puck past Nikke Kokko to win the game. Nikke would probably want that one back as he mishandled the shot.

Post-Game

This was an entertaining game from start to finish, which made the 9,062 fans go wild. The Barracuda got the much needed 2 points to move closer to the playoff berth. The Firebirds played a fast physical game, which was way better than they played last Saturday against the Silver Knights. It wasn't their night, but after several months of development, they are looking ready for the playoffs to begin.

Next up: The Barracuda go up the road to play the Reign. The Firebirds welcome the Canucks who are on a 13-game winning streak.

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	OT	Total
Barracuda	0	0	0	1	1
Firebirds	0	0	0	0	0

Full game statistic can be found on the AHL site: <https://theahl.com/stats/game-center/1027548>
Video highlights can be seen on the Firebirds' YouTube channel: [Firebirds - YouTube](#)

Team Game Stats:

	Barracuda	Firebirds
Shots	28	24
PP	0 / 6	0 / 6
PIM	23	23
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	OT	Total
Barracuda	1	1	0	0	2
Firebirds	2	0	5	0	7

Offsides	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	OT	Total
Barracuda	0	4	1	0	1
Firebirds	0	0	0	0	0

Faceoff Wins	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	OT	Total
Barracuda	3	9	4	1	17
Firebirds	7	13	10	0	30

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

	Barracuda			Firebirds		
Zone	ES	PP	PK	ES	PP	PK
Attack	3	2	0	1	5	0
Neutral	2	4	0	7	1	1
Defense	3	0	3	8	2	5

ES – Even Strength

PP – Power Play

PK – Penalty Kill