

# **2019 U.S. MEN'S NATIONAL TEAM GAME NOTES**

2019 IIHF Men's World Championship | Pre-Tournament Game vs. Germany | May 7, 2019

SAP Arena • Mannheim, Germany

## - TONIGHT'S GAME –

The U.S. Men's National Team faces Germany tonight in its lone exhibition game prior to the 2019 IIHF Men's World Championship in Mannheim, Germany. The U.S. and Germany will also meet in the preliminary round of the upcoming world championship on Sunday, May 19, in Kosice, Slovakia.

Team USA has a 23-player roster, which includes 13 forwards, seven defenseman and three goaltenders.

The U.S. roster features 12 first-round NHL draft picks, nine players from last year's U.S. Men's National Team that captured a bronze medal, and 16 total players that have competed in the men's world championship previously.

## TALKING POINTS -

#### **GETTING HERE**

The U.S. Men's National Team players and staff gathered in Newark, New Jersey, on Saturday (May 4) and flew to Germany that evening. Team USA arrived at the Frankfurt airport at 9:40 a.m. on Sunday (May 5) and after gathering its luggage, took a charter bus to Mannheim. The U.S. practiced for 90 minutes on both Sunday and Monday (May 6) and had a brief pre-game skate prior to tonight's contest.

### THE SERIES VS. GERMANY

The U.S. and Germany have met 17 previous times in the IIHF Men's World Championship. The two clubs last met in the preliminary round of last year's world championship with the U.S. earning a 3-0 win.

## **BLASHILL BACK AS U.S. HEAD COACH FOR THIRD YEAR**

**Jeff Blashill** (Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.), head coach of the NHL's Detroit Red Wings, is serving as head coach of the U.S. Men's National Team for the third consecutive year. A year ago, Blashill guided the U.S. Men's National Team to a bronze medal in the IIHF Men's World Championship in Denmark. In two appearances as head coach, Blashill has led the U.S. to 14 wins in 18 games (12-2-0-4/w-otw-otl-l).

#### **LEADERSHIP GROUP**

Patrick Kane (Buffalo, N.Y.) is the captain of the 2019 U.S. Men's National Team. A three-time Stanley Cup champion with the Chicago Blackhawks, Kane is skating in his third IIHF Men's World Championship (2008, 2018) and eighth international event. Last year he helped the U.S. to a bronze medal in the world championship after leading the tournament with 20 points (8-12--20) and becoming the first-ever U.S. player to earn tournament MVP honors. Ryan Suter (Madison, Wis.) and Dylan Larkin (Waterford, Mich.) are the team's alternate captains. Suter is competing his his fifth world championship and 13th international event, while Larkin, who is playing in his fifth straight men's world championships, has donned the Team USA jersey in six previous events on the international stage.

## **VANBIESBROUCK MAKING DEBUT**

John Vanbiesbrouck (Detroit, Mich.), assistant executive director of hockey operations for USA Hockey, is making his IIHF Men's World Championship debut in a management role. Vanbiesbrouck replaced the late Jim Johannson late last May. Vanbiesbrouck, who had a Hall of Fame career as a goaltender in the NHL that spanned parts of 20 seasons, played in the world championship for Team USA on four occasions (1985, 1987, 1989, 1991).

## THINGS WORTH MENTIONING -

A total of nine players from the bronze medal-winning 2018 U.S. Men's National Team return this year, including Quinn Hughes, Alec Martinez, Alex DeBrincat, Johnny Gaudreau, Patrick Kane, Chris Kreider, Dylan Larkin, Derek Ryan, and Colin White ... Team USA will depart for Kosice, Slovakia, tomorrow morning on a flight with the German National Team. The U.S. will not practice in Kosice tomorrow ... U.S. head coach Jeff Blashill is joined behind the bench by assistant coaches John Hynes (Warwick, R.I.), Dan Bylsma (Grand Haven, Mich.), and Kevin Reiter (Pittsburgh, Pa.). Hynes is the head coach of the NHL's New Jersey Devils, while Bylsma is an assistant coach for the Detroit Red Wings with Blashill, and Reiter is the director of player personnel for USA Hockey's National Team Development Program.

## TEAM USA 11HF MWC HISTORY AT A GLANCE

Entering the 2019 IIHF Men's World Championship, the United States holds a 203-15-8-210-35 (W-OTW-OTL-L-T) all-time record in world championship play. The U.S. has won a total of 12 medals in the event, winning gold once (1933); silver four times (1950, 1939, 1934, 1931) and bronze seven times (2018, 2015, 2013, 2004, 1996, 1952, 1949).

## TEAM USA SCHEDULE

Date Tues., May 7	Game Germany vs. USA (exh.) Mannheim · SAP Arena	Time (Local/ET) 7:00 p.m./1:00 p.m.
Fri., May 10	<b>USA vs. Slovakia</b> Kosice • Steel Arena	8:15 p.m./2:15 p.m.
Sun., May 12	<b>USA vs. France</b> <i>Kosice • Steel Arena</i>	12:15 p.m./6:15 a.m.
Mon., May 13	<b>USA vs. Finland</b> <i>Kosice • Steel Arena</i>	4:15 p.m./10:15 a.m.
Wed., May 15	<b>USA vs. Great Britain</b> <i>Kosice • Steel Arena</i>	4:15 p.m./10:15 a.m.
Sat., May 18	<b>Denmark vs. USA</b> Kosice • Steel Arena	12:15 p.m./6:15 a.m.
Sun., May 19	<b>Germany vs. USA</b> Kosice • Steel Arena	4:15 p.m./10:15 a.m.
Tues., May 21	Canada vs. USA Kosice • Steel Arena	8:15 p.m./2:15 p.m.
Thurs., May 23	<b>Quarterfinals</b> <i>Kosice &amp; Bratislava</i>	TBD
Sat., May 25	<b>Semifinals 3:15/7:15 p.m./9:15 a.m./1:15 p.m.</b> <i>Bratislava</i> • <i>Ondrej Nepela Arena</i>	
Sun., May 26	Bronze Medal Game Bratislava • Ondrej Nepela A	-
	Gold Medal Game Bratislava • Ondrej Nepela A	8:15 p.m./2:15 p.m. rena

## **MEDIA INFORMATION -**

Home Team Listed First • All U.S. games televised live on NHL Network

Team USA Media Officer:

Dave Fischer • 719.684.5940 • davef@usahockey.org

Team USA players and head coach **Jeff Blashill** will be available for interviews in designated mixed-zone areas following games and non-game day practices. Media availability on day-of-game skates will be limited. The lockerroom is closed to media.

Online Media Information: TeamUSA.USAHockey.com/2019mensworlds

