



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

2019 IIHF Men's World Championship | USA (H) vs. Slovakia (V) | Friday, May 10, 2019

Steel Arena • Kosice, Slovakia • Preliminary Round, Game 1

TONIGHT'S GAME

The U.S. Men's National Team faces host Slovakia tonight in the first game of the 2019 IIHF Men's World Championship in Kosice, Slovakia. Team USA is the home team in tonight's contest, will wear its white jerseys and occupy the left bench (from the perspective of standing on the bench and facing the ice). 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.

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 Sunday (May 5) morning and after gathering its luggage, took a charter bus to Mannheim. The U.S. practiced both Sunday and Monday (May 6) and had one pre-tournament game, a 5-2 win over Germany, in Mannheim on Tuesday (May 7). The U.S. flew with Team Germany to Kosice from airport Baden Baden Wednesday morning (May 8) and had its first practice at Steel Arena in Kosice yesterday (May 9).

THE SERIES VS. SLOVAKIA

The U.S. and Slovakia have met 10 previous times and the U.S. has a 4-2-0-3-1 advantage. The teams last met in the 2017 world championship with the U.S. earning a 6-1 victory. A game-by-game look at the series is below.

U.S. vs. Slovakia

DATE	OPPONENT	ROUND	W	OTW	OTL	L	T	GF	GA
1996-04-27	Slovakia	Preliminary-Round	W					4	3
2000-05-11	Slovakia	Quarterfinals				L		1	4
2001-05-08	Slovakia	Qualification-Round	W					3	1
2004-04-26	Slovakia	Preliminary-Round					T	3	3
2004-05-09	Slovakia	Bronze-Medal		OTW*				1	0
2007-05-03	Slovakia	Qualification-Round	W					4	2
2012-05-07	Slovakia	Preliminary Round				L		2	4
2013-05-14	Slovakia	Preliminary Round				L		1	4
2015-05-12	Slovakia	Preliminary Round		OTW				5	4
2016-05-17	Slovakia	Preliminary Round			OTL			2	3
2017-05-14	Slovakia	Preliminary Round	W					6	1
TOTALS			4	2	1	3	1	32	29

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.

JACK HUGHES -- 4TH EVER; YOUNGEST EVER

Jack Hughes will become just the fourth player in IIHF history to play in the Under-18 Men's World Championship, World Junior Championship and Men's World Championship in the same season, joining Switzerland's Kevin Fiala and Vadim Karaga and Andrei Kostitsy from Belarus. Hughes, who will celebrate his 18th birthday here in Kosice on Tuesday (May 14), is the youngest American to ever play for a U.S. team in the top-level men's world championship.

Youngest U.S. Players to Compete A Pool IIHF Men's World Championship

Name/Year	Birthday	Age
Jack Hughes, 2019	May 14, 2001	17, 11.5 months
Phil Housley, 1982	March 9, 1964	18, 1.5 months
Dick Maley, 1934	Dec. 10, 1915	18, 4.5 months
Jack Eichel, 2015	Oct. 28, 1996	18, 6 months
Quinn Hughes, 2018	Oct. 14, 1999	18, 6.5 months
Phil Kessel, 2006	Oct. 2, 1987	18, 7 months
Auston Matthews, 2016	Sept. 17, 1997	18, 7.5 months
Oscar Mahle, 1958	Aug. 22, 1939	18, 8.5 months
Dylan Larkin, 2015	July 30, 1996	18, 9 months
Clayton Keller, 2017	July 29, 1998	18, 9 months

*age as of May 1 year of tournament year

TEAM USA SCHEDULE

Date	Game	Time (Local/ET)/Result
Tues., May 7	Germany vs. USA (exh.) Mannheim • SAP Arena	W, 5-2
Fri., May 10	USA vs. Slovakia Kosice • Steel Arena	8:15 p.m./2:15 p.m.
Sun., May 12	USA vs. France Kosice • Steel Arena	12:15 p.m./6:15 a.m.
Mon., May 13	USA vs. Finland Kosice • Steel Arena	4:15 p.m./10:15 a.m.
Wed., May 15	USA vs. Great Britain Kosice • Steel Arena	4:15 p.m./10:15 a.m.
Sat., May 18	Denmark vs. USA Kosice • Steel Arena	12:15 p.m./6:15 a.m.
Sun., May 19	Germany vs. USA 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	Quarterfinals Kosice & Bratislava	TBD
Sat., May 25	Semifinals 3:15/7:15 p.m./9:15 a.m./1:15 p.m. Bratislava • Ondrej Nepela Arena	
Sun., May 26	Bronze Medal Game 3:45 p.m./9:45 a.m. Bratislava • Ondrej Nepela Arena	
	Gold Medal Game 8:15 p.m./2:15 p.m. Bratislava • Ondrej Nepela Arena	

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

MEDIA INFORMATION

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

