



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

2019 IIHF Men's World Championship | USA (H) vs. France (V) | Sunday, May 12, 2019

Steel Arena • Kosice, Slovakia • Preliminary Round, Game 2

TODAY'S GAME

The U.S. Men's National Team faces France today in its second preliminary round game of the 2019 IIHF Men's World Championship in Kosice, Slovakia. Team USA is the home team in today's contest, will wear its blue jerseys and occupy the right bench (from the perspective of standing on the bench and facing the ice). Both the U.S. and France are coming off losses in their opening game, with Slovakia besting the U.S., 4-1, on Friday (May 10) and Denmark earning a 5-4 shootout win over France yesterday (May 11).

IN GOAL

Thatcher Demko is the likely starter in goal today and is making his debut in the IIHF Men's World Championship. Demko, who played collegiately at Boston College and prior to that was part of USA Hockey's National Team Development Program, plays professionally for the Vancouver Canucks. He has donned the U.S. jersey in three previous IIHF events, including the IIHF World Junior Championship in both 2014 and 2015 (both 5th-place finishes) and the IIHF Under-18 Men's World Championship in 2013 (silver medal). He has a 4-2-0-5 record internationally with a 2.06 goals against average and .916 save percentage. Demko did not play in the 2014 World Juniors, played in four games in the 2015 World Juniors and in all seven games of the 2013 U18 Men's Worlds.

WHAT'S NEW

The U.S. had a mid-afternoon 50-minute practice yesterday in the secondary rink of Steel Arena in preparation for today's game. The ice surface in the secondary sheet is 85 feet by 184 feet, making for a small neutral zone ... **Quinn** and **Jack Hughes** took time out to drop by "Dreger's Cafe" late yesterday afternoon and visit with host Darren Dreger of TSN for 10 minutes. The Cafe set-up was in Old Town near the team's hotel ... U.S. general manager **Chris Drury** arrived yesterday (May 11) in Kosice and is with the team through the end of the championship. Two members of the U.S. Men's National Team Advisory Group -- **Dale Tallon** and **Ray Shero** -- are currently with the team as well ... Defenseman **Ryan Suter** played 21:47 against Slovakia on Friday (May 10), the most of any Team USA player. Suter is playing in his 13th event on the international stage, the most of any rostered player ... **Jack Hughes** will turn 18 on Tuesday (May 14). **James van Riemsdyk** is the only other player with a May birthday and he turned 30 on May 4 ... Defenseman **Christian Wolanin**, who did not play in Team USA's opening game, is in the lineup today. His father Craig played 13 years in the NHL for five different teams ... **Frank Vatrano** played baseball from grades 2-10. He was a catcher as a kid and moved to the outfield in high school.

THE SERIES VS. FRANCE

The U.S. and France have met 10 previous times in the world championship and the U.S. has won nine times (9-0-0-1). The teams last met in the 2016 world championship with the U.S. earning a 4-0 victory. A game-by-game look at the series is below.

U.S. vs. France

DATE	OPPONENT	ROUND	W	OTW	OTL	L	T	GF	GA
1993-04-22	France	Preliminary-Round	W					6	1
1994-04-25	France	Preliminary-Round	W					5	1
1998-05-04	France	Preliminary-Round				L		1	3
2000-05-03	France	Preliminary-Round	W					3	2
2009-05-01	France	Qualification-Round	W					6	2
2010-05-16	France	Relegation-Round	W					4	0
2011-05-07	France	Qualification Round	W					3	2
2012-05-04	France	Preliminary Round	W					7	2
2013-05-11	France	Preliminary Round	W					4	2
2016-05-12	France	Preliminary Round	W					4	0
TOTALS			9	0	0	1	0	43	15

SUCCESS ON INTERNATIONAL STAGE

The U.S. has medaled in every major world championship to date this season, including a gold medal in both the IIHF Women's World Championship (for the fifth straight year) and the IPC Sled Hockey World Championship; silver medals at the IIHF World Junior Championship and the IIHF U18 Women's World Championship; and a bronze medal in the IIHF U18 Men's World Championship.

U.S. ROSTER

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.

STAN WONG

Stan Wong, one of Team USA's two athletic trainers and a beloved figure of players and staff alike, is working his 46th international event for a U.S. hockey team. This year marks his 13th straight men's world championship. He has also served as a trainer for four Olympic teams, 17 national junior squads, 10 Deutschland Cup teams and for Team USA at one Youth Olympic Games and one Winter World University Games. Wong was inducted into the Professional Hockey Athletic Trainers Hall of Fame in June 2015.

TEAM USA SCHEDULE

Date	Game	Time (Local/ET)/Result
Tues., May 7	Germany vs. USA (exh.) <i>Mannheim • SAP Arena</i>	W, 5-2
Fri., May 10	USA vs. Slovakia <i>Kosice • Steel Arena</i>	L, 1-4
Sun., May 12	USA vs. France <i>Kosice • Steel Arena</i>	12:15 p.m./6:15 a.m.
Mon., May 13	USA vs. Finland <i>Kosice • Steel Arena</i>	4:15 p.m./10:15 a.m.
Wed., May 15	USA vs. Great Britain <i>Kosice • Steel Arena</i>	4:15 p.m./10:15 a.m.
Sat., May 18	Denmark vs. USA <i>Kosice • Steel Arena</i>	12:15 p.m./6:15 a.m.
Sun., May 19	Germany vs. USA <i>Kosice • Steel Arena</i>	4:15 p.m./10:15 a.m.
Tues., May 21	Canada vs. USA <i>Kosice • Steel Arena</i>	8:15 p.m./2:15 p.m.
Thurs., May 23	Quarterfinals <i>Kosice & Bratislava</i>	TBD
Sat., May 25	Semifinals 3:15/7:15 p.m./9:15 a.m./1:15 p.m. <i>Bratislava • Ondrej Nepela Arena</i>	
Sun., May 26	Bronze Medal Game 3:45 p.m./9:45 a.m. <i>Bratislava • Ondrej Nepela Arena</i> Gold Medal Game 8:15 p.m./2:15 p.m. <i>Bratislava • Ondrej Nepela Arena</i>	

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

Team USA Media Officer:

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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

