

Sat. | **Oct. 11, 2025** | 4:00 PM | Coca-Cola Coliseum | AHL Game 19 | AHLTV on FloHockey, The Fan Rochester

ROCHESTER AMERICANS GAME NOTES

Blue Cross Arena at the Rochester War Memorial | 1 War Memorial Square | Rochester, NY, 14614 | [Amerks.com/Media](https://amerks.com/media) | @AmerksPR



TODAY'S GAME OVERVIEW

The Rochester Americans (1-0-0-0) hit the road for the first time in the young season as the home-and-home with the Toronto Marlies (0-1-0-0) shifts north of the border today for a 4:00 p.m. rematch at Coca-Cola Coliseum. The afternoon matinee will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM The Fan Rochester as well as AHLTV on FloHockey.

The Amerks and Marlies, who enter their third full season under the direction of head coach John Gruden, will meet a total of six times during the 2025-26 regular season.

Following this weekend's home-and-home set, the North Division rivals will remain idle until after the new year when Rochester returns north of the border on Jan. 3.

HEAD-TO-HEAD RESULTS AGAINST TORONTO

After earning a point in five of the six meetings (4-1-0-1) during the 2023-24 season, Rochester went 1-3-2-0 in 2024-25.

The Amerks boast a 6-7-0-2 record against Toronto over the last six seasons in Rochester, which included earning five out of a possible six points on home ice in 2023-24. Overall, Rochester owns a 12-11-2-2 mark in the head-to-head series since the 2020-21 campaign.

Since the start of the 2023-24 campaign, there have been five games decided beyond regulation, including two of the three most recent get-togethers between the two teams dating back to April 19, 2025.

Six of the last nine games between the two clubs dating back to 2023-24 have been one-goal game affairs while the other two have been a two-goal difference.

In 32 of the last 49 meetings between the two teams dating back to the 2016-17 season, the team that scored first has come away with the victory.

OPENING THE SEASON

This marks the second time in the last five seasons in which Rochester began its campaign with a home-and-home versus the Marlies. Additionally, it will be the third time the Amerks have had a home-and-home with the Marlies in the first month of the slate.

Rochester's first 11 games of the season will come against North Division opponents, with seven coming outside the Flower City.

After last night's win, the Amerks hold an 35-28-7 all-time record in season-opening games and have outscored the opposition 257-240 dating back to when the puck first dropped on Rochester's inaugural season in 1956.

Rochester is also 42-22-6 all-time in home openers over the 70 years and have outscored their opponents 283-221 over that span

Dating back to a 3-2 overtime win over Syracuse to begin the 2019-20 campaign, the Amerks are 3-4-1-0 in their last eight home openers.

Last night marked the fourth straight year and 13th time in the last 14 years in which the Amerks opened the regular season on home ice.

Rochester has scored five or more goals in six of its last 10 home-opening victories dating back to a 6-5 shootout win over Syracuse to open the 2012-13 season.

2025-26 AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Isak Rosén	1	2	0	2	0	0
Zac Jones	1	0	2	2	-1	0
Noah Östlund	1	0	2	2	0	0

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Devon Levi	2	1-0-0	24	.889	3.00

2025-26 MARLIES OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Borya Valis	1	2	0	2	2	0
Jacob Quillan	1	0	2	2	2	0
Logan Shaw	1	1	0	1	1	7

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Artur Akhtyamov	1	0-1-0	22	.846	4.12

2025-26 HEAD-TO-HEAD BREAKDOWN

Toronto Marlies Rochester Americans

0-1-0-0 **Record** 1-0-0-0

0-0-0-0 **Home Record** 1-0-0-0

0-1-0-0 **Away Record** 0-0-0-0

0-1-0-0 **Last 10 Games** 1-0-0-0

0-0 **Overtime Record** 0-0

0-0 **Shootout Record** 0-0

0-0-0-0 **Record When Scoring First** 1-0-0-0

0.0% (11th) **Power-Play** 40.0% (3rd)

60.0% (12th) **Penalty Kill** 100% (T-1st)

2025-26 SERIES BREAKDOWN VS. TORONTO

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Oct. 18	W	4-3	26-27	2-5	2-2



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METSA HEADLINES LEADERSHIP GROUP

The Amerks announced the team's leadership group Thursday morning, consisting of team captain **Zach Metsa** while forwards **Brendan Warren** and **Josh Dunne** along with defenseman **Jack Rathbone** will serve as alternates. Newcomer **Carson Meyer** will also sport an "A".

Metsa is no stranger to being in a leadership role, having captained Quinnipiac University to its first-ever National Championship in 2023.

The 65th captain in franchise history, Metsa returns for his second full season and third overall in Rochester after signing a two-way contract with the Buffalo Sabres. The 26-year-old blueliner is coming off a season where he topped all Amerks in assists (39) and finished third in points (46) in 69 games.

A native of Delafield, Wisconsin, Metsa has totaled 70 points (14+56) in 124 regular season games with Rochester since joining the club in 2023. He originally signed with the Amerks prior to the 2023 Calder Cup Playoffs.

Off the ice, the Amerks' newest captain has been the team's winner of the AHL Man of the Year Award back-to-back seasons. The award is given annually by the AHL to players with outstanding contributions to the local community and charitable organizations.

Wearing an "A" for a second season is center Dunne, who was recalled by the Sabres Friday morning. Dunne posted 29 points (10+19) during the regular season, then added three goals and seven points over eight playoff contests. The sixth-year pro saw his efforts rewarded towards the end of the season with a two-game call-up to the Buffalo Sabres.

Rathbone is wearing an "A" for the first time in his pro career after accruing 51 penalty minutes over 64 games with the Amerks the year prior.

New to the team is forward **Carson Meyer**, a former teammate of Dunne's in Cleveland. Meyer is beginning the year still rehabbing from a lower body injury, but is expected to bring a scoring touch to the Amerks lineup, posting 65 goals over 201 AHL games. The Powell, Ohio, native has also appeared in 41 games with the Columbus Blue Jackets over parts of three seasons.

Warren, the longest tenured active Amerk, will close out the quartet of players named alternate captains. Warren, who has spent his entire 196-game AHL career in Rochester, also is wearing a letter for the first time.



RADIM READY TO ROLL IN THE ROC

Rochester's 26-man opening night roster featured four different first-round selections, including highly touted defenseman **Radim Mrtka**, who the Buffalo Sabres took with their ninth overall pick this past summer.

Mrtka, who signed a three-year, entry-level with the Sabres in July, made his professional debut Friday night after playing the 2024-25 campaign with Seattle Thunderbirds of the WHL. He recorded his first pro point with the lone assist on **Brendan Warren's** eventual game-winning goal.

Mrtka had 35 points (3+32) in 43 games last season and a plus-10 rating with Seattle. The Havlickuv, Czechia, product tied for fifth amongst all WHL rookie defensemen in points.

The 6-foot-6, 218-pound blueliner logged four points (1+3) in five games to lead all Czechia defensemen at the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship. Additionally, he earned a silver medal with his native country at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, collecting a pair of helpers in five appearances.

Mrtka makes up one-fourth of the former first round selections from the Sabres joining **Isak Rosén** (14th overall, 2021), **Noah Östlund** (16th overall, 2022), and **Konsta Helenius** (14th overall, 2024).

Anton Walhberg (2nd round, 2023), **Topias Leinonen** (2nd round, 2022), **Viktor Neuchev** (3rd round, 2022), **Olivier Nadeau** (4th round, 2021), **Matteo Costantini** (5th round, 2020), **Vsevolod Komarov** (5th round, 2022), **Scott Ratzlaff** (5th round, 2023), and **Nikita Novikov** (6th round, 2021) round out the Sabres NHL Draft picks.

MOVIN' ON UP

Of the 26 players on the Sabres opening-night roster, including those on injured reserved, **Ryan Johnson**, **Jack Quinn**, **Jiri Kulich**, **Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen**, **Tyson Kozak**, **Jacob Bryson**, **Peyton Krebs**, **Tage Thompson** and **Justin Danforth** all previously spent time with the Amerks.

In addition to the nine players, current Sabres assistant coach and former Amerks head coach **Seth Appert** spent four seasons behind Rochester's bench from 2020-2024. Appert posted a 123-94-22-10 record in his four seasons, leading the team to three straight 30-plus win seasons as well as three consecutive playoff appearances, including an historic run to the Eastern Conference Final in 2023 as part of the team's deepest postseason run in nearly 20 years. He was 15-14 in 29 career playoff games.



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