

ICEHOGS GAMEDAY

WELLS FARGO ARENA • ICEHOGS VS WILD • REGULAR SEASON GAME 1 (AWAY GAME 1)
OCTOBER 4, 2019 • TV: WIFR 23.2 • RADIO: FACEBOOK, SPORTSFAN1330.COM

GAME NOTES

- **SERIES NOTES:** Rockford dropped the season series to the Wild by a record of 4-5-0-1 but capped 2018-19 with wins in two of their final three meetings. Rockford averaged 3.0 goals/game at home in the series, but were limited to just 1.0 goals/game on the road. The Hogs have tallied three hat tricks against the Wild since 2017-18 (Highmore - 2 in 2017-18, Nilsson - 1 in 2018-19).
- **OH CAPTAIN MY CAPTAIN:** The IceHogs named their first captain in three years when head coach Derek King announced Kris Versteeg as captain for 2019-20. This marks the first time in Versteeg's 14-year pro career in North America in which he has worn a letter. Versteeg is Rockford's 11th captain during the team's AHL affiliation. The Hogs also named Matthew Highmore, Tyler Sikura and Jacob Nilsson as alternate captains.
- **SEE YOU AT THE FINISH LINE:** The IceHogs enter Friday's opener with a record of 8-10-1-1 in their 20 previous season-opening games, including 4-6-1-1 during AHL affiliation. Rockford has reached the postseason in seven of eight seasons in which the team has won the first game of the season.
- **DRAFT KINGS:** The IceHogs' Opening Day roster features 17 former NHL draft picks. That total includes the following picks: 1st round (2 players), 2nd round (1 player), 3rd round (3 players), 4th round (4 players), 5th round (2 players), 6th round (3 players), 7th round (2nd round). In addition, of the 17 draft picks, 12 were originally selected by the Chicago Blackhawks.

MATCHUP SNAPSHOT



vs.



RECORD	35-31-4-6	37-26-8-5
GOALS/GAME	2.42	3.18
SHOTS/GAME	28.39	29.55
GOALS AGAINST/GAME	2.82	3.03
POWER PLAY PCT.	14.5%	23.8%
PENALTY KILL PCT.	82.3%	81.4%
STREAK	N/A	N/A
LEADING SCORER	Schroeder (45)	O'Reilly (67)

The Iowa Wild made their first appearance in the Calder Cup Playoffs in franchise history in 2018-19 before being eliminated 4-2 in the second round by the Chicago Wolves. The club also recorded the most regular-season wins (37) in its six-year history. Three-year IceHogs veteran Luke Johnson is expected to suit up against his former team after signing with the Wild as a free agent.

WHO'S HOT?



**KRIS
VERSTEEG
#10**

AGE	POS	GP	G	A	PIM	+/-
33	F	0	0	0	0	0

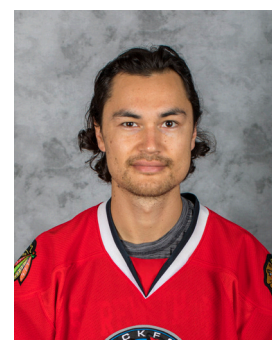
Recently named captain, Kris Versteeg, returns to the IceHogs for the first time since the 2007-08 season. The forward won Stanley Cups with the Blackhawks in 2010 and 2015 and amassed 358 points in 643 NHL games.



**MATTHEW
HIGHMORE
#9**

AGE	POS	GP	G	A	PIM	+/-
23	F	0	0	0	0	0

Alternate captain, Matthew Highmore, takes the ice after injury held him to 12 games in 2018-19. He scored three goals and six assists in those games after being named IceHogs Rookie of the Year in 2017-18.



**TYLER
SIKURA
#16**

AGE	POS	GP	G	A	PIM	+/-
27	F	0	0	0	0	0

Alternate captain, Tyler Sikura, contributed 19 points (7g, 12a) in 50 games and earned the honor of IceHogs Unsung Hero Award in 2018-19. Sikura also won the award for Team MVP in 2017-18.

NEXT HOME GAME



vs.



**BMO Harris Bank Center
Sat. Oct 12 | 6:00 PM**