



# NHL Hockey IQ: The Ultimate Test of True Fandom

By Jim Prime

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Every time a National Hockey League player laces up his skates and glides onto the ice, another record is in danger of being smashed. Every time the puck is dropped for a face-off, another chapter in the ongoing thriller that is NHL hockey trivia is about to be written.

NHL hockey is the fastest, most exciting, and most colorful sport in the world - and that makes it a veritable gold mine for trivia buffs. With a history dating back to World War I, the NHL has been blessed with a veritable galaxy of stars, from Howie Morenz to Gordie Howe to Bobby Orr, to Wayne Gretzky to Sid Crosby.

Streaking forwards, bruising defensemen, and goalies with laser-quick reflexes have created a history so deep in tradition and so rich in lore that fans have to be at their very best to keep up. NHL Hockey IQ is the supreme test of your endurance and your hockey knowledge.

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## **Editorial Review**

### Review

"Think you know hockey? I did until I got into NHL Hockey IQ by Jim Prime. Jim and my buddy Paul Henderson collaborated on a great book called *How Hockey Explains Canada*. He is well qualified to test your knowledge of Canada's game."

- Ron Ellis, former Toronto Maple Leaf star, Director of Public Affairs at the Hockey Hall of Fame

### From the Author

**Hockey illiterates may** scoff at the notion of a book on NHL hockey IQ. I can hear them now. "Must be the world's shortest book!" and "What's next, *The Complex Genius of the Three Stooges*?" For these misinformed highbrows the game is purely one of physical skills mixed with brute force and instinct. They are dead wrong of course.

In addition to being the most exciting and colorful of games, hockey is the fastest team sport in the world. This breakneck pace requires quick thinking and lightning-quick reflexes from the players. The truth is that hockey is a game of skill *and* strategy and the best players are *the most intelligent players*. Guys like Bobby Orr, Wayne Gretzky, Mario Lemieux, and Sidney Crosby all have superior physical skills but they also possess the ability to see the whole ice surface. They move strategically, like pieces on a frozen chessboard where the wrong move can leave you both checkmated and checked. These skating savants must think several moves ahead of the other guy. They must know his strengths and weaknesses and how to gain an advantage from this knowledge.

It's hardly surprising then that true hockey fans are also a savvy lot with a wealth of knowledge about the game. To get maximum enjoyment from the game, devotees need to know its players, rules, strategies, and history.

While exact origins are hotly disputed, hockey's history as an organized sport extends well back into the 19th century. The game is now played all over the world, in northern nations as well as southern climes.

The National Hockey League represents the pinnacle of hockey's evolution. To make it to this lofty level you must have discipline, mental and physical toughness, superb reflexes, and an ability to compete against the best players in the world--all this under the pressures of time and physical intimidation. Since the first NHL puck was dropped on December 19, 1917, thousands of players have filled countless record books with feats that amaze and astound. And from the beginning, fans of the sport have pored over these statistics, compared these players, and absorbed facts about extraordinary events in arenas across Canada and the U.S.

Statistics are just part of the story for hockey aficionados. Puckstruck fans love to discuss their game in minute detail and for them nothing is too trivial. Whether it's remembering players' jersey numbers from the Original Six NHL teams or comparing the feats of current stars Steven Stamkos and Sidney Crosby with Bobby Hull and Gordie Howe, the minutiae of the game are a big part of its appeal. Trivia provides fuel for the fire in hot stove leagues and Sunday morning coffee shop face-offs from coast to coast.

The time is right for a book of trivia to test your hockey IQ. The sport is rich with lore that cries out to be explored and mined. This is your chance to challenge yourself on your knowledge of the game we all love. Whether you score big or are sent down to the minors for more seasoning is up to you.

## About the Author

JIM PRIME IS the author of more than fifteen sports-related books, including *How Hockey Explains Canada* (with Canadian hockey icon Paul Henderson), and *The Goal That United Canada* (with Sean Mitton). He was also coauthor, with baseball immortal Ted Williams, of *Ted Williams' Hit List*. Jim lives with his wife Glenna in the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia, near the town of Windsor, the reputed birthplace of hockey. He confesses to being a fan of the Montreal Canadiens.

## Users Review

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#### **Sylvia Silva:**

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