

1972-73 Standings

Eastern Division

Team	gp	w	l	t	pts	pct	gf	ga
New England Whalers	78	46	30	2	94	.603	318	263
Cleveland Crusaders	78	43	32	3	89	.571	287	239
Philadelphia Blazers	78	38	40	0	76	.487	288	305
Ottawa Nationals	78	35	39	4	74	.474	279	301
Quebec Nordiques	78	33	40	5	71	.455	276	313
New York Raiders	78	33	43	2	68	.436	303	334

Western Division

Team	gp	w	l	t	pts	pct	gf	ga
Winnipeg Jets	78	43	31	4	90	.577	285	249
Houston Aeros	78	39	35	4	82	.526	284	269
Los Angeles Sharks	78	37	35	6	80	.513	259	250
Minnesota Fighting Saints	78	38	37	3	79	.506	250	269
Alberta Oilers	78	38	37	3	79	.506	269	256
Chicago Cougars	78	26	50	2	54	.346	245	295

1973 Playoffs Results

Tiebreaker Playoff:

Apr 4 Minnesota 4, Alberta 2
(at Calgary, Alberta)

Minnesota wins the fourth playoff position in the Western Division.

Eastern Division Semifinals

Cleveland def. Philadelphia, 4-0
Apr 4 Philadelphia 2 at Cleveland 3 (ot)
Apr 7 Philadelphia 1 at Cleveland 7
Apr 8 Cleveland 3 at Philadelphia 1
Apr 11 Cleveland 6 at Philadelphia 2

New England def. Ottawa, 4-1

Apr 7 Ottawa 3 at New England 6
Apr 8 Ottawa 3 at New England 4 (ot)
Apr 9 New England 2 vs Ottawa 4
Apr 12 New England 7 vs Ottawa 3
Apr 14 Ottawa 4 at New England 5 (ot)

Eastern Division Finals

New England def. Cleveland, 4-1
Apr 18 Cleveland 2 at New England 3
Apr 19 Cleveland 2 at New England 3
Apr 21 New England 5 at Cleveland 4
Apr 22 New England 2 at Cleveland 5
Apr 26 Cleveland 1 at New England 3

Western Division Semifinals

Winnipeg def. Minnesota, 4-1
Apr 6 Minnesota 1 at Winnipeg 3
Apr 8 Minnesota 2 at Winnipeg 5
Apr 10 Winnipeg 4 at Minnesota 6
Apr 11 Winnipeg 3 at Minnesota 2 (ot)
Apr 15 Minnesota 5 at Winnipeg 8

Houston def. Los Angeles, 4-2

Apr 5 Los Angeles 2 at Houston 7
Apr 7 Los Angeles 4 at Houston 2
Apr 11 Houston 2 at Los Angeles 3
Apr 13 Houston 3 at Los Angeles 2 (ot)
Apr 15 Los Angeles 3 at Houston 6
Apr 17 Houston 3 at Los Angeles 2

Western Division Finals

Winnipeg def. Houston, 4-0
Apr 20 Houston 1 at Winnipeg 5
Apr 22 Houston 0 at Winnipeg 2
Apr 24 Winnipeg 4 at Houston 2
Apr 26 Winnipeg 3 at Houston 0

AVCO World Trophy Championship

New England def. Winnipeg, 4-1
Apr 29 Winnipeg 2 at New England 7
May 2 New England 7 at Winnipeg 4
May 3 New England 3 at Winnipeg 4
May 5 Winnipeg 2 at New England 4
May 6 Winnipeg 6 at New England 9

1973 Championship Series Summaries

The first World Hockey Association Championship was claimed by the New England Whalers, who had compiled the league's best record during the season. The Winnipeg Jets, led by Bobby Hull, made a game effort but were easily cast aside in five games. New England's balanced attack included four goals from both Larry Pleau and Tom Webster. Larry Pleau's hat trick in the deciding game helped seal the championship for the Whalers.

Game 1 • April 29, 1973 New England 7, Winnipeg 2

Winnipeg	1	0	1	-	2
New England	4	2	1	-	7

1st period 1. Wpg: Beaudin (Bordeleau, Hull) 10:02; 2. NE: Ley (Dorey, Webster) 12:10; 3. NE: Webster (Williams, Hurley) 14:07; 4. NE: Earl (Sheehy, Green) 16:13; 5. NE: French 19:37.

2nd period 6. NE: Webster (Williams, Hurley) 10:55; 7. NE: Williams (French) 16:01

3rd period 8. NE: Dorey (Sheehy, Earl) 3:45; 9. Wpg: Hull 11:07

Shots on goal

Wpg on Smith	14	6	7	-	27
NE on Daley	7	13	5	-	25

2nd period 3. Wpg: Johnson (Hull, Hornung) 5:21; 4. NE: Ley (Byers) 14:44

3rd period 5. NE: Green (Ley, Webster) 4:23; 6. NE: Sheehy (French, Dorey) 18:56; 7. Wpg: Hull (Beaudin, Ash) 19:33

Shots on goal

NE on Daley	12	4	11	-	27
Wpg on Smith	8	14	6	-	28

Game 4 • May 5, 1973 New England 4, Winnipeg 2

Winnipeg	1	0	1	-	2
New England	0	3	1	-	4

1st period 1. Wpg: Hull (Bordeleau) 15:50

2nd period 2. NE: Pleau (Sheehy, Ley) 0:47; 3. NE: Byers (Earl, Dorey) 14:11; 4. NE: Sheehy (Dorey, Selwood) 16:17

3rd period 5. NE: Byers (Earl) 7:17; 6. Wpg: Rousseau (Ash) 19:54

Shots on goal

Wpg on Smith	9	11	10	-	30
NE on Wakely	13	8	11	-	32

Game 5 • May 6, 1973 New England 9, Winnipeg 6

Winnipeg	2	2	2	-	6
New England	5	1	3	-	9

1st period 1. NE: Webster (Williams, Ley) 0:21; 2. NE: Pleau 4:43; 3. Wpg: Johnson (Sutherland) 7:07; 4. NE: G. Smith (Williams, Webster) 11:47; 5. NE: Ley 15:43; 6. Wpg: Beaudin (Hull) 17:53; 7. NE: Sheehy (Webster, Pleau) 18:41

2nd period 8. NE: Webster (Williams, Green) 0:15; 9. Wpg: Beaudin (Bordeleau, McDonald) 3:15; 10. Wpg: Black (Shmyr) 4:02

3rd period 11. Wpg: Woytowich (Swenson, Asmund-son) 4:59; 12. NE: Pleau (Sheehy, French) 5:24; 13. NE: Pleau (Sheehy, French) 7:31; 14. NE: Byers (Green, Williams) 17:20; 15. Wpg: Asmundson (Swenson, Cuddie) 18:10

Shots on goal

Wpg on Smith	17	12	13	-	42
NE on Daley	11	6	10	-	27

Game 3 • May 3, 1973 Winnipeg 4, New England 3

New England	0	1	2	-	3
Winnipeg	2	1	1	-	4

1st period 1. Wpg: Hull (Bordeleau, Beaudin) 15:23; 2. Wpg: McDonald (Beaudin, Hornung) 19:34