

## NAVY VETS 2022 PLAYOFFS PREVIEW

When it was finally determined that the PJHL season would get to restart the task ahead for the Vets wasn't easy. They had 13 games remaining in the regular season and just 30 days to play them.

Taking the top spot was always going to require a nearly perfect record coming home which is exactly what was accomplished.

The Vets went 11 and 2 picking up 22 of a possible 26 points to secure the top seed by just 1 point over the Tavistock Braves.

There have been some impressive individual performances this season but perhaps the most impressive quality about the 2021/22 lineup is that regardless of who is sent over the boards... they're going to make a difference.

In the cage, both Keaghan Brett and Graeme Noye have had very solid seasons. Brett managing a division leading 17 wins while posting a .920 save percentage and a 2.60 goals against average. Noye picked up 10 wins via a .906 save percentage and a 2.70 GAA.

On the back end, there is a great mix of established vets and young talent. While there are some noteworthy offensive numbers, the key is that the entire D-core is capable of not just logging minutes but also managing the game and striking offensively.

Up front, the Vets have 6 of the top 20 Doherty division scorers which doesn't include Wes Dobbin whom joined the team late in the season. What's equally as impressive is that the production doesn't fall off there as multiple forwards finishing just outside the top 20. Additionally, the 'production' doesn't just include points as the entire group plays a key role within varying situations.

As we enter the playoffs, this depth becomes even more paramount!

This year, the PJHL has adopted a new playoff format which will see the final 4 PJHL teams play off within a tournament format. So, we wanted to detail the road to the Schmalz Cup Finals!

The PJHL has 4 conferences: North, East, South and West. Within each of the 4 conferences there are two Divisions. We are in the Doherty Division which alongside the Bloomfield Division makes up the South Conference. You must win your conference to earn your place in the Final 4 Tournament.

Across the province the first divisional rounds (All 4-of-7 Series') within the PJHL have begun and are scheduled to be completed by next Sunday. The Vets, having earned a bye in the first round, will play the lowest divisional seed remaining in the Division Semi-Finals. From there, it's a fairly straight forward bracket where the two winners of the Division Semi-Finals will play in the Division Final. Once the Division Championship is decided, the winner will then face off against the Bloomfield Champions in a final 4-of-7 series to be named the South Conference Champions and earn their place in the Schmalz Cup Finals Tournament.

The Tournament is made up of a round robin followed by single game elimination semi-finals and finals. The Final 4 will be played over two weekends with the first of the two played in home buildings and the finale in Guelph.

## **SUPPORT FROM FORMER VETS !!**

### **Scott Brooks**

With apologies for stealing a phrase

“ to you from failing hands we throw the torch, be yours to hold it high”

It's your time.

Good luck guys!

On behalf of the 2001- 2002 Vets

Congrats to the entire organization. We know how tough the accomplishment is. Enjoy every moment.

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Matt Roberts

Drew Campbell

Steve Wilkins

Mike Matika

Daniel Morris

Jeremy Demarest

Aaron Seguin

Tristan Dassy