

2023 NHL DRAFT FINAL RANKINGS

By Draftin Europe

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THE 2023 DRAFT CLASS

In its final season leading up to the draft, this European class confirmed to be a rich one, at least when it comes to prospects that we consider worthy of a top-two rounds selection. We think its depth for that matter is stronger than usual, and teams will probably be able to select quality prospects out of Europe through the end of the 2nd round at least (we have the first seven prospects with 2nd round value in one same tier and we think they all belong in its first half. By the way, the 7th is Felix Nilsson. We were looking forward to the opportunity of watching him live at the U18s in Switzerland to decide whether he deserved or not to get bumped further up on our final list, but unfortunately that opportunity never materialized because of a wrist injury he suffered during the Swedish junior playoffs).

However, we feel that changes swiftly after the first couple of rounds, and in terms of depth there are less players than usual that we would feel comfortable drafting in the 3rd and 4th round.

Looking for the reasons behind that, the Swedish class of blueliners is top heavy. After the obvious names (Sandin-Pellikka, Wallinder, Lindstein, Wikman), in our book there is not much else in terms of legitimate prospects at this stage. Other prospects will put it together and step up over the years (we like Axel Landen less than most do, so for us he only belongs among these candidates), but that doesn't help the look on draft day.

The Finnish 2023 class overall is pretty weak compared to some recent years. The first player ranked on our list comes in at #14, with projected overall value of a 2nd round pick in a draft that offers plenty of options in the 1st round. Hämeenaho has been pretty much the only Finn to exceed our expectations for this season, even if more in terms of success at the men's level than in terms of skill development. This group of defensemen looks particularly weak for Finland, with all options not named Piininiemi in need of relevant development in order to become legit candidates for NHL duty.

Additionally, Russia and Belarus missing from International tournaments obviously don't help when it comes to identifying comfortable options for the middle rounds and further down.

As a result, we ended up having less players to draft in the list after the first two rounds.

For Czechia this is a year with several interesting prospects that at this stage, however, don't offer many guarantees. From their top-tier players, like Sale, Hrabal (who we had as #1 goalie in Europe before he left ahead of this season) and Dvorak, to their lower rounds candidates like Felcman and Petr, the common theme is that these prospect are all still far from the finished product.

There is the potential for this Czech class to generate some relevant NHLers, but it could go either way. Hopefully next season these players will have a better campaign and trend in the right direction.

GOALIES

We didn't include goalies in our final rankings this year, that makes our list and the one of Central Scouting for skaters identical in terms of eligible players, and as a result the rankings (first and last column) can be compared without the need of any goalie-related adjustment.

Looking at Central Scouting ranking for International goalies, of the eight first-time eligibles on their list we have six as reasonable draft selections, with Clara and Khazheyev leading the way as the two with the best potential.

With his 6-foot-6 frame, [Damian Clara](#) will probably be the first goalie selected out of Europe. Set to make history as the first ever Italian-born goaltender to be drafted, he has already played for the senior national team and after developing with Red Bull in Austria he spent his draft year in Sweden, founding some success.

Clara moves pretty well on his skates and has some athleticism in his big frame, he can easily cover the lower part of the net with his long pads, but we have seen him getting stuck on his butterfly after challenging the first shooter, sometimes getting cut out of the play coming off his rebound.

In our limited viewings he did well on first threats, showing a sharp glove on multiple occasions.

[Ruslan Khazheyev](#) is an aggressive goalie that impressed us more than once this season. He is way less poised than Clara and he will need to learn to play a more controlled game, as too often by challenging the first shooting threat he ends up too far out and moving around too much. But he has a competitive attitude to go along with his tools, making for an intriguing prospect.

[Lukas Matecha](#) has size and solid positioning that he seems able to maintain when the play shifts to secondary threats. He looks like a reasonable option even if he doesn't seem to be dynamic or particularly quick.

We have followed [Yegor Zavraġin](#) for a while as a talented goalie who in past years used to be the starter for the Russian national teams in his age group. He had a disappointing first half of his draft season and lost the starting job to another first-time eligible in Yevgeni Volokhin, but he bounced back in the second half and his campaign ended up once again with decent numbers.

He is an athletic goalie who seems to like playing the position deeper than most, but he will probably need to make some adjustments moving forward. At 6-foot-2 he used to be a big goalie among his peers at younger levels, but he barely grew any further over the last two seasons and the quality of shooters he will face moving forward will only get better.

Finns [Noa Vali](#) and [Visa Vedenpaa](#) are two other first-time eligibles on Central Scouting list that looked worth drafting.

Obviously we also expect to see some other goalies that aren't on Central Scouting list to be selected.

MICHKOV (OVER CARLSSON)

This is purely about the two players' abilities. We aren't factoring in other things that NHL teams will consider instead, like the uncertain timeline to bring Michkov over to North America, or his persona, that we don't have the chance to investigate through interviews.

We recognize in all likelihood Michkov will be selected later than Carlsson, but our rankings are only based on players' evaluations, they don't go after what NHL teams may or may not do on draft day.

That said, it's safe to add Michkov didn't have an easy path through his draft season, it unfolded in a very different way from what he probably imagined when he was younger and looking forward to it.

He suffered a knee injury early on from a knee-on-knee hit by former NHL defenseman Alexey Emelin, which sidelined him for months. After recovering and spending some time in the VHL, he was loaned to the weakest KHL team to get quality icetime in the top league. A couple of months ago, he lost his father in unclear circumstances.

Still, his season was productive and featured stretches of impressive play.

There are two main distinctive traits that separate Michkov from other players.

Number one, Michkov is quicker than others to put the puck on net. It's not only a skill related thing, it's also about his mindset and great offensive instincts.

Yes, he has a quick shot that barely needs any time and space to release, but his recognition of opportunities and how 'ready' he consistently is to get the puck to the net are the main factors that help him to surprise goalies as often as he does. It helps that he can use his edges and balance to face the play no matter the direction he might be moving and to be almost always ready to play the puck right away. Usually, Matvei barely needs to adjust to the play and is ready to shoot. With how quickly things happen in the NHL, that promptness he has is a quality that could even get magnified in the NHL.

Number two, which further enhances the effects of the quality described above, is his ability to create for himself routes to the inside. And Michkov is one of those rare players that when he can sense a lane to the net, not only he takes it (the fastest route), he turns it on as soon as he is on a path to the net and the closer he gets the quicker he becomes, like when he drives it from below the goal line.

Even if he can't drop D-men in the corners left and right to easily drive the net like he used to do against his peers at younger levels, that quality and instinct is there.

Both Michkov and Carlsson played as wingers in their leagues.

Running some numbers and pro-rating to 15 minutes of icetime per game their SHL & KHL regular season career stats, Michkov recorded about 3.23 SOG/game, Leo Carlsson averaged 1.21 SOG/game. That means Michkov shot almost three times more per game, and we like his shooting mentality when thinking about how his game could translate to North America.

Michkov has that rare hunger for scoring goals like the great goal scorers do and has been relied upon to lead his teams offensively his entire career, consistently fulfilling expectations.

Carlsson is more of a question mark when it comes to dealing with the pressure that comes with that task.

The advantages that Carlsson offers, besides the fact he projects as a center, for us are not such to offset the aspects where Michkov has a clear edge (Michkov is a very good passer and playmaker as

well. As for their different size, as explained at length in the past, we care about what the player can do with his size, more than about his size per se).

All this doesn't mean Carlsson can't become the better NHL player eventually, he is a terrific player that has kept getting better and he has that potential. It's just right now in our book there is still less than 50% that that happens.

THE SIMASHEV CASE

Since we have seen Simashev ranked in the top 10 by several sources, it feels needed to take some time to explain why we gave him 2nd round value instead.

First of all, we do expect him to go in the 1st round, but predicting what will happen at the NHL draft is not the purpose of our work (the "Value" column in our rankings table at the end of this document indicates where we project the player belongs in the entire pool of draft eligible players. Our rankings only pertain to prospects playing with European clubs. It's basically a way to tell the readers where we would be comfortable drafting the player in this draft).

We noticed Simashev a couple of seasons ago as a good skater (especially for his size) with a good handle on the puck, but clearly he has been able to nicely develop those skills further along.

We've seen him take more advantage of his range with his stickhandling and pulling off moves that can surprise the opponent, and his skating has become a real strength, adding more agility (not that his footwork was ever not good for a big defenseman, but now is more dynamic).

This is to say, it's not like we don't recognize the great tools Simashev has, with his size, skating and puckhandling. He sure looks good when he has time and space and on some of his best plays he looks just outstanding.

However, watching him play we don't see a player with the instincts to take advantage of his abilities on a regular basis.

And when a player is not naturally good at taking advantage of his tools, in our experience that's not a good sign, and the chances of him maximizing his potential at the NHL level are not great.

Looking at his decision making, at the timing of some of his plays, we don't see a player that plays it smart. For that matter, he is like the opposite of Adam Fox, who before the draft was heavily underrated because he lacked in size, skating and shooting ability. Still, Fox was able to control the game despite lacking in those departments, Simashev doesn't really control (manipulate) the game despite his terrific tools.

You can see on the powerplay how his plays are usually telegraphed. Even when he is trying to be deceiving it doesn't seem to come natural to him. He is kind of slow figuring out his options and the right timing to execute, it usually takes a little too long for his executions to actually be deceiving and he doesn't free up time and space for the other PP-unit members. It doesn't seem likely that Simashev will be successful at running a powerplay in the NHL.

By the signs we saw, it also seems unlikely that he will be able to exploit his potential and become a top pairing defenseman. There is a better chance Simashev becomes a 2nd pair defenseman, but he could also just end up being a 3rd pairing D if he doesn't figure it out through more experience.

Mike Matheson was a healthy scratch in Florida before getting traded. He was great this season in Montreal, but do you still want Simashev in the 1st round in this draft if it takes him 10 years to be as good as he could be.

We could end up being completely wrong on his projection, because we are just playing the percentages here. It's just it seems more likely than not that he will be one of those players whose toolbox is not up to the tools it contains. The most likely outcome for Simashev if becoming an NHL regular seems that of a #4 defenseman who flashes impressive plays, but could struggle with consistency and decision making before putting it all together.

TOP 20 EURO-BASED PROSPECTS

01. MATVEI MICHKOV - W, 5'10", 172, 09-Dec-2004, Left

Top line scoring winger who uses his tremendous instincts, smarts and skills to generate offense and finish chances at a high rate.

Strengths & pros

- Hard to think of a goal scorer with better instincts
- Competitive and hungry for goals, can score in many different ways
- Can play and react at great pace
- Gets the puck to the net quicker than other forwards
- Manufactures / identifies lanes to the inside and takes them without hesitation
- Accurate shot that takes little time and space to release
- Dangerous from below the goal line as well, can turn on defensemen using his edge work and drive the net
- Can flawlessly time his passes to hit teammates in transition or to set them up from the boards
- He is dangerous on the powerplay, but his KHL production came for the most at even strength

Weaknesses & cons

- Uncertainties on his time of arrival to the NHL
- Not the best skating stride
- Inconsistent defensive effort

02. LEO CARLSSON - C/W, 6'03", 194, 26-Dec-2004, Left

Playmaking top-six forward who can take advantage of his stickhandling, vision and puck protection to manufacture scoring chances off the rush or after getting full possession in the offensive zone.

Strengths & pros

- Coming off two strong seasons in a row and trending very well
- Rare hands quickness for a player with his reach allows him to complete impressive stickhandling plays
- A menace on the rush, with the ability to cut to the inside while attacking with speed
- A one-on-one threat that remains aware of his surroundings while he is beating the opponent, with the ability to seamlessly set up supporting linemates as he comes off his one-on-one challenge
- Hard to defend once he gets full possession, he is able to shield the puck in the offensive zone

Weaknesses & cons

- To play center he will need to become more effective in the defensive zone (that might take some time)
- Compete level has been getting more consistent, but it's still not necessarily there throughout the entirety of his shifts
- Inconsistent effort on the forecheck, has a tendency to pull off at the end boards rather than going in hard and getting physical on his opponent.
- Getting going from a stationary position and arriving late to loose pucks have been his main weaknesses in the past, but it's something that has been improving and late in the season he looked better at that

03. DALIBOR DVORSKY - C, 6'01", 200, 15-June-2005, Left

Top-six skilled two-way center who can carry the load and still make a difference offensively.

Strengths & pros

- Notable hockey sense, it shows with the puck to set up linemates and without it to get in the scoring areas at the right time
- Deceptive puck carrier, uses rangy stickhandling, quality puck skills, edge work and puck protection to keep it on his stick, dictate the play and open up options
- Remarkable release on his wrist shot, which he usually manages to get off from good angles.
- Dangerous around the net
- Good effort on both sides of the puck

Weaknesses & cons

- When he is trying to lead the way for his team sometimes keeps the puck on his stick for too long and in the NHL he may not be able to rely on his puck protection as much as he does in juniors
- Rarely shows the acceleration or top speed to separate himself from the opponent
- Hasn't been able yet to produce a lot of offense at the senior level

04. DANIIL BUT - W, 6'05", 203, 15-Febr-2005, Right

Big top-six winger that shows tremendous potential as an offensive player that can both finish and set up chances.

Strengths & pros

- A goal scorer that can beat goalies with his shot or outwaiting them if they come out to challenge
- Can circle around opponents on his right side as he waits for an option to open up, becoming hard to defend on this play because of his reach and vision
- Quick recognizing opportunities, moves the puck right after getting it on his stick when it's the best option
- Not a peripheral player as he has the skills, strength and will to find his way to the inside
- Top-tier puckhandler, with range and quality touch
- Long legs but decent reaction time and no slow feet
- Willing to engage and use his big frame to battle for possession along the boards

Weaknesses & cons

- Still a work in progress
- Skating has improved but is still inconsistent, in some games his first few steps fail him when he is chasing the puck
- Will he be able to play consistently with the intensity he showed in his KHL games this season?

05. EDUARD SALE - W, 6'01.75", 175, 10-March-2005, Left

Sharp, talented top-six winger that can sense offensive opportunities and has the skills to take full advantage.

Strengths & pros

- Natural, deceptive speed he can reach in little time
- Can shoot and pass with notable accuracy
- Consistently makes the most simple and effective play, displaying top-tier offensive instincts
- Legit threat with the man advantage as he can recognize openings and immediately set up teammate for a scoring chance
- Quality hands, decent reach and stickhandling range
- Decent frame yet to fill out, seems to have lots of room for physical development especially in his upper body

Weaknesses & cons

- Not a great draft season, didn't show a lot of progress from the previous one
- At this stage, not looking like someone who can drive the play at the next level
- Better at exploiting opportunities than at creating them
- We think it's something for the most related with his style and disadvantage in strength, but his competitiveness can look questionable

06. DAVID REINBACHER - D, 6'02.25", 194, 25-Oct-2004, Right

Complete top-four defenseman, reliable in his own end, active in transition and effective at the offensive blueline.

Strengths & pros

- Safe pick and short estimated time of arrival to the NHL
- Able to make the most of his abilities and tested against top competition
- Actively scans the situation and is aware of his surroundings before getting to the puck
- Fast retrieving loose pucks when he doesn't need to turn
- Solid puck management under pressure and along the boards
- Takes responsibilities, mobile and skilled enough to carry the puck and lead or facilitate transition
- Already a physical player even if he has room to get stronger
- 'Wide' coverage, makes good use of his stick and keeps a good gap
- Competes and shows good attitude on the ice, doesn't get rattled when he makes a mistake

Weaknesses & cons

- Defensive zone coverage away from the puck can be late on needed switches and breakdowns
- Can lose his edge on tight turns and there is room for improvement on his backwards skating and pivots on retrievals
- Seems to offer a lower ceiling than the prospects we ranked above him

07. AXEL SANDIN-PELLIKKA - D, 5'11", 180, 11-March-2005, Right

Skilled and mobile top-four defenseman that makes the play flow for his team and able to take advantage of opportunities at the other end.

Strengths & pros

- Terrific development over the last two seasons
- Strong, fluid four-way skater who can use his mobility to be elusive with the puck
- Able to beat the forecheck and get the play going from the back end on a consistent basis
- Has the confidence, the poise and the willingness to dictate the play
- Tremendous puckhandling skills for a defenseman, rarely makes mistakes in his executions
- Effective on the powerplay, very good at putting the puck on net from the offensive blueline as he uses his wheels to find shooting lanes and his ability to release his wrist in motion

Weaknesses & cons

- When he tries to play the body down low in the defensive zone he can get turned around by the puck carrier and end up on the wrong side
- He is not weak, but defending against bigger forwards in front of the net is probably going to be a weakness at the NHL level
- Not the kind of defenseman you can expect to break up the cycle by winning physical boards battles, should learn to rely more on his footwork in those situations as well, focusing on opportunities to jump in and steal the puck rather than engaging early when he is not first on the puck

08. OTTO STENBERG - W/C, 5'11", 185, 29-May-2005, Left

Dynamic forward with flawless technical skills and the ability to play at top players' pace.

Strengths & pros

- Strong skater with solid balance, seamless transitions and pivots
- Can play with a lot of pace and it takes little time for him to execute difficult plays or to combine with his linemates
- Notable stick dexterity, with a quick release on his dangerous wrist shot and on his backhand as well
- Opponents struggle to catch him in open ice, and he can recognize available space to find his way through
- Can be competitive and willing to initiate contact on the forecheck
- Disappointing first half, but much better second part of the season and finish

Weaknesses & cons

- When he doesn't have a step on his opponent and runs out of space he gets physically engaged, and that's where his effectiveness drops off significantly
- Gets separated from the puck too easily when defensemen manage to make contact and this season he hasn't showed enough determination to fight through challenges to pursue and complete plays
- Too many soft plays with the puck under pressure, giving up possession
- Seems to prioritize not getting hit when carrying the puck, occasionally pulling off plays to avoid contact, often times not taking lanes to the net and circling around instead

09. TOM WILLANDER - D, 6'01", 180, 09-Febr-2005, Right

Very active and modern puck-moving defenseman who could lead a defensive pair at the next level with his mobility and willingness to impact the game

Strengths & pros

- Forced his way into the 1st round with a terrific draft season where he took a big step forward and looked better and better as time went on
- Terrific agility with the puck to beat the forecheck and transition the play up the ice
- Can do a bit of everything, including reading the play at a good level
- With his quick hands and crossovers he likes to play at a pace that is hard to find in a defenseman
- Can play on the powerplay and doesn't hesitate when he has the chance to shoot from the point
- A true competitor that plays with good intensity, is aggressive and doesn't shy away from responsibilities
- Understands how to engage in battles and box out opponents in front

Weaknesses & cons

- As someone who tries to do a lot, he doesn't play a mistake-free type of game
- Sometimes he steps up in the neutral zone on the rushing forward before matching his speed, making for risky situations where a bad bounce off his poke check can leave him behind the play
- On retrievals at the end boards he is so eager to beat the forechecker on him that he approaches the puck with speed and an angle to turn/run away with it, so that when something goes wrong with his first touch he is already moving away from the play. He should be a bit more conservative in his approach on retrievals when he is going after contested pucks
- Didn't play in SHL to maintain his NCAA eligibility and play over there next season, so he is unproven at the senior level

10. MIKHAIL GULYAYEV - D, 5'10", 172, 26-April-2005, Left

Puck-rushing defenseman who can use terrific skating or accurate breakout passes to generate a fast transition.

Strengths & pros

- Outstanding change of gear through the neutral zone and remarkable speed
- Quick first few steps to build up the play from behind the net or to close in quickly on opponents
- Can beat forecheckers just with his skating
- Can snap hard, accurate passes throughout the rink and legit wrist shots on net from the offensive blueline
- He is a powerplay option and possesses a legit one timer as well
- Has the puckhandling skills to maintain control and make plays at full speed
- Consistently played through Russian juniors and national teams as an underager, producing strong offensive numbers

Weaknesses & cons

- Not consistent yet in taking full advantage of his skating ability when he has possession
- Not the kind of defenseman that can break up the cycle
- Backwards skating is not as good
- Not out of place on the PK, but overall his defensive game is a work in progress

11. DAVID EDSTROM - C, 6'03", 185, 18-Febr-2005, Left

Middle-six center that can shut down the opposition and help offensive wingers to shine.

Strengths & pros

- Complete player, with good reach, decent hands and the ability to support the play and combine with linemates, making them better
- Good understanding of the game, timely shows up in scoring areas and is opportunistic around the net
- Physically strong, willing to engage in all areas of the ice and committed to doing the little things
- Effective in puck battles and along the boards
- Projects as a quality penalty killer and a player that can take the key defensive zone faceoffs
- Skating has kept improving since last season and isn't a concern anymore, it's more effective than it looks

Weaknesses & cons

- Not a particularly skilled or dynamic player
- A lack of quickness in his executions can show up when he doesn't complete the play right off his pre-possession reads
- He rarely creates offensive opportunities on his own, which somewhat limits his upside

12. JAKUB DVORAK - D, 6'05", 210, 25-May-2005, Left

Underdeveloped big defenseman that can make difficult defensive plays look easy and complete simple plays with the puck to build up the play.

Strengths & pros

- Impressive footwork for such a tall defenseman, helps him to adjust to the play and defend
- Effective defensive stick, combining reach and maneuverability
- Plays a pretty smooth and calm game, but can get physical too
- Intriguing upside, showed in past junior seasons that he can also make plays with the puck beyond the red line with decent (probably underrated) hands
- Room to improve his athleticism and to get stronger, things that could make him a force down the road
- Played at last year U18s as an underager and took regular shifts in Extraliga this season as a 17-year-old

Weaknesses & cons

- Could use more sense of urgency in some situations and his compete level could be more consistent
- For a big defenseman he is too soft on the puck, which can lead to avoidable turnovers
- Still a bit of a project, he will need to increase his intensity and become quicker in his reactions, something that hopefully can come around with training and physical development

13. OSCAR FISKER MOLGAARD - C, 5'11.75", 166, 18-Febr-2005, Left

Light, quick two-way center that excels in transition and helps creating opportunities with his skills and smarts

Strengths & pros

- Impressive improvement of his overall game in one year, went from a pretty soft junior player to competing well (even killing penalties) in the SHL
- The way he quickly adjusted to the SHL as a center speaks well for his hockey mind
- Agile puck carrier that uses his feet and hands to keep the defender guessing while he maneuvers the puck
- Added power to his lower body has allowed him to combine good acceleration with his natural agility
- Swift at turning on his opponent and to take position with or without the puck
- Responsible defensively and quick to support his teammates

Weaknesses & cons

- His puck protection will have to improve (it should as he physically matures, he's still light and green)
- The fact he can be separated from the puck and that he is not very confident in his protection ability (rightly so) might play a role in the fact he doesn't lead the charge as much as you may wish
- Despite becoming a SHL regular he didn't dominate in the U20 Div.1 World Championships and in J20 playoffs, confirming he's probably going to be more of a good complimentary player that someone able to lead the offense
- Weak shot, which doesn't help to make him more of a primary threat

14. LENNI HÄMEENAHO - W, 6'01", 185, 07-Nov-2004, Right

A middle-six winger that anticipate plays and brings underrated offensive ability.

Strengths & pros

- Terrific season in the top senior Finnish league, playoffs included
- Great anticipation and strong offensive instincts
- Nice timing and sense off the puck to move through the slot at the right time and position himself to use his decent shot
- His skating would be a much bigger problem if he was a player that reacts to play, instead he has a natural understanding of the game and moves to the right places before the puck
- Attention to details and ability to simplify situations and their solution
- Works hard along the boards and on the forecheck
- Good powerplay option, his skating limitations become less relevant with the man advantage

Weaknesses & cons

- Ugly skater, although there has been improvement from last season and his skating in most situations is more effective than the aesthetics would suggest
- Where his skating really hurts him is on potential breakaways, or perhaps more concerningly when sudden changes of direction are needed (something that however with him seems to occur less often than with other players)
- In terms of skill he lacks a standout quality

15. KASPER HALTTUNEN - W, 6'03.25", 215, 07-June-2005, Right

Powerful goal-scoring winger that can be the primary shooting option on a top powerplay unit.

Strengths & pros

- Volume shooter than can do damage with his threatening one timer or his hard wrist shot
- 'Heavy' stick helps him being strong on the puck and in battles
- Goes in hard in boards battles and takes full advantage of his big frame
- Has some puck skills that help him to get into scoring positions with the puck
- His instincts get better the closer he is to the opponents' net and show up not only when it comes to finish
- Stepped up at the U18s when he needed to lead a struggling Finnish team
- Skating looks okay when he is pursuing an offensive play

Weaknesses & cons

- When he has to chase the play on the defensive side his skating looks worse
- Makes late reads off the puck especially in the defensive zone, which combine with his so-so skating to make him a liability when the other team has possession in his own end
- His D-zone positioning is too passive, fails to put pressure on D-men and his point coverage is really poor
- Went 28 games in Liiga without scoring a single goal, considering his shooting ability this suggests his overall game needs to take a big step to become effective against men. It's impossible not to notice that Hämeenaho had 12 goals in the same league, even taking into account that Kasper is 7 months younger the difference remains striking

16. DMITRI SIMASHEV - D, 6'04", 198, 04-Febr-2005, Left

Big defenseman with outstanding tools who should be able to accomplish more than he currently does.

Strengths & pros

- Great skater in all directions, with agile footwork for his size and a strong stance
- Good handle on the puck, with range and the ability to pull off the occasional stickhandling move that can surprise the opponent
- Already able to hold his own defensively in the KHL, with some remarkable plays against the rush
- Can get physical on his opponent, particularly along the boards
- Can look really good when he has time and space, some of his best plays are really impressive and suggest a high ceiling for his potential

Weaknesses & cons

- Doesn't show good enough instincts to take advantage of his abilities on a regular basis
- At first glance can look poised when he has possession, and with the tools at his disposal that would be logical, but then there are plays that show he actually isn't
- Some of his decisions with the puck and the timing of his plays are not indicative of a smart player and may be signs of limited hockey sense
- His play at the offensive blue line is predictable and he doesn't free up time and space for the other PP-unit members. Right now he doesn't look like a good option to run a powerplay at the next level
- A couple of season ago he was already able to release decent wristers, but we haven't noticed much progress in his shooting and in his ability to open up lanes to the net

17. FELIX NILSSON - W/C, 6'00.5", 187, 22-June-2005, Left

Middle-six multipurpose forward that uses his skills to combine with linemates and can help a powerplay from the right faceoff circle

Strengths & pros

- Skilled player, but can contribute in all areas
- Reliable, works hard on the other side of the puck and doesn't mind finishing his checks
- Has a knack for making some difficult plays look simple, something coming from an advanced stickhandling that is effective more than flashy and that allows him to build passing lanes even from a stationary position
- Can recognize and ignite the supporting teammate, typically from the boards
- Has the vision to exploit the lanes he opens up and deliver timely passes
- Doesn't mind going to the front, opportunistic around the net

Weaknesses & cons

- Was unable to get on the scoresheet in 20 SHL games
- Room to improve his shot (which could make him more dangerous in the future)
- At the start of the season we had his skating labeled as a clear weakness that was holding him back, as he would sometimes struggle when trying to use his edges and often times didn't look agile or quick enough. Whatever you may think of the current level of his skating, the improvements have been impressive and it's trending in the right direction
- Upside is probably that of a good complementary player
- His draft season was cut short by a wrist injury during the junior playoffs, forcing him to miss the U18s

18. NOAH DOWER NILSSON - W/C, 5'11.75", 185, 25-Apr-2005, Left

Talented forward with the skills and acumen to potentially produce relevant offensive numbers.

Strengths & pros

- Capable of pulling off tremendous stickhandling moves, using both range and dexterity to beat his opponent one-on-one
- His shot is a legit threat and he can use his puckhandling abilities to find the room to get it off
- As his shot demands defenders' attention, he remains aware of his options and can expose holes in their coverage delivering sharp passes to open teammates
- His offensive instincts, vision and creativity are among the best of this offensively rich draft class
- He's been evolving in a more complete player that works more consistently to win possession for his team

Weaknesses & cons

- One of those odd cases where a player's skating looks better at 15 than at draft time. Once a light skater faster than his peers despite a personal style and the need to add power, now that he is stronger Noah has become heavier on his skates and a less agile player
- As he works to rediscover more of his past skating nimbleness, he should focus on improving his edge work, which has often looked detrimental when it comes to performing quick turns and carrying out speed
- D-zone play and contribution to start the transition will have to improve, especially to play C at higher levels
- High-risk, high-reward prospect

19. JESSE KIISKINEN - W, 6'00.25", 190, 23-Aug-2005, Right

Middle-six winger that plays hard and can bring some secondary scoring.

Strengths & pros

- Plays with good drive and doesn't shy away from the tough areas, moving to the inside whenever he can
- Good offensive instincts to go along with a more than decent shot and a pretty quick toe-drag release
- Can surprise the opposition with some quick smart passes to open linemates
- Has showed the potential to become a strong forechecker (not consistently there yet) who doesn't mind getting physical on defensemen
- As a passionate player that can contribute in different ways he makes for a safer pick than most options available in the second half of the 2nd round
- They don't play the same style, but in terms of role he has the potential to become somewhat similar to countryman Artturi Lehkonen

Weaknesses & cons

- Not as skilled or creative as some other offensive players available
- More likely to be a complementary forward at the next level, there are question marks about his chances to become more than a 3rd liner

20. ALEXANDER RYKOV - W, 6'00", 176, 14-July-2005, Left

Complete and fearless middle-six winger whose style seems to fit the North American game.

Strengths & pros

- Goes right in the middle of stuff, without the puck he drives himself through the play not caring about traffic
- On the forecheck he can fearlessly attack the end boards with speed to win possession, getting physical if needed
- Pretty heavy wrister that he can use from mid range already, but balanced attacker able to recognize and set up open teammates
- Willing to protect the puck along the boards and good at combining with linemates, using their support
- Pursues inside lanes with and without the puck, can attack the offensive blueline with strong skating and drive the net off the rush
- Skating down the wing he angles his body well to protect the puck against defensemen that try to push him to the outside
- Had a successful 20-game stint at the senior level in the second-tier men's Russian league

Weaknesses & cons

- Not as dynamic or creative as most Russian top-six wingers, might end up becoming a 3rd liner at the next level rather than a legit scorer
- Missed two months of action, and two periods into his first game back he injured (again?) his left leg while trying to check an opponent in the corner. Probably a knee injury that costed him the rest of his draft campaign
- With the lack of international action and his season cut short he barely played at the junior level this season, these factors make harder to evaluate where he stands heading into the draft

THE REST OF THE PACK - NOTES

A puck-moving defenseman with above-average hands and high quality skating, [Theo Lindstein](#) (#21) can get the job done and be a competent D-partner in all situations, but has yet to demonstrate the ability to utilize his skills to make more of an impact and become a difference maker.

Inconsistent and mistake-prone, [Anton Wahlberg](#) (#22) has qualities that can make you forget about how much refinement his game may need. Strong game along the boards, some explosiveness in his skating, ability to use his reach and puck protection to challenge defensemen one-on-one, good presence around the net and when he is on he can be a force on the forecheck, getting first on loose pucks. Even if a bit of a project, in a less crowded group of candidates he would belong in the second round.

In terms of talent and skills [Roman Kantserov](#) (#23) should definitely be higher on our list. He has soft, quality hands that allows him to maneuver and finish in tight, a pretty accurate shot from mid range and a good motor to push the pace of his game.

A key for his future success may be showing he can work with his skills in the inside areas of the ice against men. One of the older 1st-time eligibles for this draft, as a 5-foot-9 forward he is still untested against stronger competition, as he only played junior hockey so far (save for a couple of minutes) and without the chance to measure up against his best peers in international competition.

He can play an up-tempo game, be quite elusive and win pucks with deft stick work, but not getting the chance to check his effectiveness at the senior level left a level of uncertainty around him that ends up hurting his draft stock.

[Felix Unger Sörum](#) (#24) is eligible for this year's draft rather than 2024 by only two days, but you wouldn't tell by the poise he demonstrates with the puck. We considered him an underrated player going into the U18 Worlds, and in that tournament he showed he can complement well other top-six players. He has good decision making and is a very good passer, a quality that makes him worthy of powerplay usage as well.

His skating seems to work at a convenient level only when he brings his full effort, something that he has yet to show he can sustain with any consistency. With a more efficient skating he could also be more regularly effective on the forecheck. Another aspect to improve is his shooting, as of now it takes him a little too much time to load up and release legit shots. If he manages to improve these elements, this is a kid that you want to pair with your good players.

Skating has always been the concern for us with [Rasmus Kumpulainen](#) (#25). There has been some clear improvement over the time, his stride and footwork are better than they were and he can even display an extra step when going down the wing protecting the puck. Still, the overall pace he can play with is probably going to remain a weakness at the next level, just like his ability (lack thereof) to get first on loose pucks.

With the puck he shows good composure to maintain possession when pressured inside the offensive zone, like close to the boards. Something we always liked with him is his ability to protect puck and turn on the opponent, moving the other way. Furthermore, he can sense when there is ice available to come off the boards and move with the puck towards the middle in an effective way. He has good puck control and once he gets going he is also a good puck carrier through the neutral zone. In the offensive zone he

can stay poised and settle things down, including on the powerplay, where he can set up teammates with good passes.

As a center with size that did well in international tournaments there is a chance he goes higher than where we have him.

[Emil Pieniniemi](#) (#26) is a blueliner that we have liked for quite some time. We think he is reliable with the puck in his own zone and in retrievals as long as he gets proper support from his D-partner (he is not the kind of defenseman that takes care of those responsibilities on his own, but he can make a solid first play to ignite his partner), he is willing and able to absorb hits to make a play like few other defensemen in this class and can defend the rush.

He is competitive, leaves little time and space to forwards to maneuver in his zone and takes good angles along the boards while getting physical. His decent four-way mobility contributes to have above-average defensive range, but his stride could use some more explosiveness and quickness.

While he can activate with good timing from the offensive blueline with and without the puck, he has struggled to capitalize so far. He doesn't possess a threatening shot and it lacks in accuracy when Pieniniemi happens to have the chance to score.

[Albert Wikman](#) (#27) is a pretty steady defenseman in his own zone, he doesn't offer offensive upside, but progressed enough with the puck on his stick to be relied upon alongside a puck-moving partner that can take care of most duties on the breakout. Unfortunately, he went down with an injury during the second game of the U18 Worlds that sidelined him for the rest of the way.

[Alex Ciernik](#) (#28) is a smallish talented forward that at this stage plays smaller than his size. After an encouraging D-1 season, we feel like he failed to take the next step this year. The talent is especially apparent in his skating, the skills are there, but the ability to put them to work with consistency and the effectiveness against quality competition are a question mark for us.

[Emil Järventie](#) (#29) can play with pace and intensity, bringing some goal scoring ability as well. He doesn't have ideal size, but competes and can battle along the boards, he could become a 3rd liner able to provide some secondary scoring. Järventie was already a pretty advanced prospects two years ago, but progressed less than most of his peers in the last two seasons, he will probably need to learn to combine more effectively with his linemates to succeed as a pro player.

[Raul Yakupov](#) (#30) is a competitive goal scorer that we already profiled and listed with 5th-round value in last year's free draft guide.

He played center for his junior team this season, but despite his faceoff number (winning percentage close to 60%) we project him more as a winger. He averaged almost 5 shots on goal per game and after an underwhelming start to the season he recorded 24 goals and 24 assists in his last 31 MHL games. He had an easier schedule being on a weak team that is part of the lower half of the league, but he also didn't have a lot of support offensively.

The cousin of former Oilers' 1st overall pick Nail Yakupov, Raul is an outstanding shooter than can score from different ranges. He is able to withstand physical challenges and drive the hard areas of the ice where his offensive instincts and finishing ability can do more damage.

The obvious knock on him remains his skating. Especially away from the puck when Yakupov doesn't feel involved it can look downright bad and inadequate for higher levels, but with the puck it's a different story and it makes you wonder.

Yakupov was up with his senior KHL team in the playoffs and with limited opportunities he confirmed how dangerous he can be in the offensive zone.

We expect him to be passed over at the draft for the second time, but as long as his skating shows any sign of improvement we'll probably keep having him on our list for future drafts as well.

We listed J.J. Moser as a player to draft for four straight years before he eventually got selected in the 2nd round. Yakupov is a completely different kind of player and, unlike Moser, a boom-or-bust type of prospect, but we probably won't let his case go either.

You can take a look at last year's profile for more on him.

[Jiri Felcman](#) (#31) is a 6-foot-4 center with smooth skating and good feet. He is not without skills either, he is a good passer who can quickly spot open linemates, even if he should limit blind passes that can become offensive zone turnovers.

Felcman can play tough on some plays, getting hard on the puck to disrupt a play or finishing an opponent along the board, but can also be randomly soft on an important defensive play, or pass on taking an open lane to the net. He really struggled to score this season, the main reason being he rarely looked confident and resolute enough on clear scoring opportunities, but it's also worth noting that throughout our viewings he had terrible puck luck.

Even in the case he doesn't develop more of a scoring instinct and his offense doesn't come around beyond his passing ability, the potential is there to evolve into a centerman that can eventually match up against strong top-six centers.

[Adam Cedzo](#) (#32) is a smallish right-handed forward that can score goals. He has been inconsistent in our viewings, but he really impressed in a couple of games, showing the ability to win battles against bigger opponents and elude checkers along the boards. He has good awareness, is quick at finishing his chances around the net and can score with his one-timer on the powerplay.

[Alexander Suvorov](#) (#33) first made our final rankings ahead of the 2021 draft as a 'worth monitoring' prospect. He only showed marginal improvement last season, but after getting loaned to Severstal he had a breakthrough year in the KHL.

He is a talented player with the puck and his hands quality shows up on seamless pass receptions at full speed. He was always a gifted skater, but this season he demonstrated impressive straight line speed and acceleration, to an extent that we didn't remember in the past. He is also able to use his edges at full speed to make himself elusive with the puck. Suvorov has a noteworthy snap on his release as well, which makes him a dangerous shooter from mid range, like from the faceoff circle with the man advantage.

A creative and competitive player, the feeling is Suvorov has yet to find his comfort zone to play more consistently to his strengths. He is aggressive without the puck, showing an obsession for hitting (perhaps to exorcise his small stature) that can take away from what his focus should be, winning possession. There isn't much missing in terms of skills with Suvorov, it's now a matter of settling down and learning how to better exploit those skills, as he gets more experience and understands what works and what not.

While we give him 5th round value, if we were at the draft table we would try to draft him later on (like for Yakupov), as the chances he will get selected in his last year of eligibility seem slim.

[Yegor Rimashevsky](#) (#34) became a bit of an enigma this season, too often not skating with any intensity, sometimes not looking 100%. Which is too bad, because when he is on Rimashevsky actually has some distinctive, positive traits. He combines goal-scoring ability, hard play in the tough areas and especially the ability to disrupt plays and win pucks with his poke check on the forecheck.

[Juraj Pekarcik](#) (#35) is certainly an entertaining player. Very active and athletic, he seems always in the middle of things. He can create havoc off the rush, challenging defenders with powerful skating and purpose, with appreciable intent to attack through the middle of the ice and target the net. We like how Pekarcik can step up and lead the charge when his team is struggling, however he is a raw player that is often noticeable for bad reasons as well. He makes a number of mistakes that create too many turnovers, especially when he needs to do his part to help the breakout from the side boards in the defensive zone.

Sometimes in their draft year prospects manage to address the question marks that were surrounding them, sometimes they only end up making them bigger. Unfortunately, the latter is the case for [Arttu Kärki](#) (#36), a talented defenseman who is coming off a season that we consider disappointing in spite of the strong offensive numbers he produced.

In the past we had concerns about his intensity in the defensive zone, and those were only exacerbated by this year's viewings. Kärki will have to start competing harder not to go down as a soft defenseman that didn't come close to maximize the potential he shows on some of his plays.

He can complete impressive rushes, breakout passes or quick plays in the offensive zone, but as an NHL prospect at this point he is looking like a wild card at best, one that we wouldn't be comfortable drafting before the later rounds.

[Jakub Stancl](#) (#37) is a sized winger that did pretty well in some international competitions over the last two seasons. He brings good effort on both sides of the rink, willing to go and battle along the boards, works to keep possession alive, though not always smart enough to come up with the puck or recognize support.

Decent handle on the puck and can combine well with his linemates when he has a bit of time to make a play. Quickness could be a problem at the next level. Our main concern is that he may not process the game fast enough for the NHL.

We never bought the early hype that had [Noel Nordh](#) (#38) high in many lists, but he put together a pretty solid draft season that culminated in a good effort at the U18 Worlds, where he played well the role of a 3rd-line forward. Which is encouraging, given that we project him as a bottom-six winger. Nordh, in fact, seems to lack the quickness to become more than that.

[Tuomas Uronen](#) (#39) impressed us at last year's U18s in Germany as an underager, but failed to do so this season. Uronen is still able to bring a positive contribution for his team by playing a smart supporting game, but for a player of his ilk we expected him to play with more intensity and that will be needed for him to become a complementary player at the next level.

[Milan PISOJA](#) (#40) is a 6-foot-3 Slovak defenseman that drew our attention in the last part of the season. He can absorb contact in the defensive zone to make a play and get really physical on his opponent when the right opportunity is there. He has pretty good reach, with decent poke-check and defensive stick. He could be able to play as a regular in the Slovak top men's league next season. When given some room he can carry the puck up the ice and surprise the opposition with rushes deep in the offensive zone. He may suffer from limited vision once there, however, as we haven't noticed him setting up teammates at the other end of the rink.

[Magomed Sharakanov](#) (#41) is a sturdy defenseman that moves well, can spin away from pressure, beat opponents one-on-one with the puck and be aggressive without it.

That sounds pretty appealing, doesn't it?

Style wise, Magomed has always reminded us of Mikhail Sergachyov, and you could argue he is a poor man's version of him.

However, something seems to be still missing in his game. In some circumstances he lacks poise, his decision making is not always ideal. In these cases, usually it's either a problem of confidence (but why shouldn't he be, considering he was the leader of his team on the back end) or of recognition and sense for the game. Only on occasion he looks 100% into it, rarely that happens throughout an entire shift, there are impressive moments mixed with quiet stretches. In most shifts he leaves the impression he could do more. A compete level that can look inconsistent during the same shift probably suggests some level of indecisions pervading his game.

[Daniil Ivanov](#) (#42) is a huge defenseman that moves well. Last year we had him as a 'Worth Considering' prospect, ranked #65 on our final list.

He possesses a powerful slapshot and an impressive one-timer that makes him a legit threat on the powerplay.

His quickness of play, reaction time and decision making under pressure remain aspects to improve that still make him a bit of a project, but with his tools he could be worth the wait.

With his long reach and mobility, he can defend well against the rush, quickly closing in on his opponents while moving backwards.

[Dominik Petr](#) (#43) is a prospect that has been well known for a while and that really struggled in Finnish juniors this season. Petr have suffered through some injuries since last year's U18 Worlds where he took part as an underager, and he didn't look at his best when we saw him this year. He will definitely need to improve his skating and athleticism to become effective again as a disruptive force without the puck, like he was at younger levels, and to be successful as a pro. We still like parts of his game, in particular his ability to combine with his linemates through quality passes. He should definitely shoot more though.

[Timur Mukhanov](#) (#44) is a 5-foot-8 skillful forward who can be dangerous off the rush and set up his linemates, but whose effectiveness drops in other situations.

That's especially true when Mukhanov doesn't have possession, as he shows little sense for positioning off the puck. He has a tendency to cover areas that are already taken care of by teammates, while leaving space uncovered where the opposition can take advantage. He seems to only focus on where the puck is, rather than caring about where it will go, getting there late. Too often this makes him a liability on the forecheck and in defensive zone coverage, which certainly doesn't help him getting quality minutes at even strength.

Mukhanov needs a lot of development and probably a change of his approach on the ice to become more productive and a legit NHL prospect. He has yet to be an impactful player in MHL playoffs. Getting stronger on the puck and more effective away from it seem to be two necessary steps for him to make his offensive talent matter at the next level. For now, we wouldn't advise to spend more than a late flyer on him.

If you are not swinging for the fences, you could probably do much worse late in the draft than picking up [Matteo Koci](#) (#45), who seems to have a legit chance to become a serviceable 3rd-pairing defenseman. He plays surprisingly physical for his size, is a solid skater and is fairly competent with the puck when he needs to make a play.

[Joel Svensson](#) (#47) had one of the most disappointing draft years among the prospects we were closely following going into this season.

We have him labeled as an above-average stickhandler with some puck protection ability, someone who can drive the net and shoot better than most Swedes. We also saw him as a player able to disrupt opponents' plays with a strong stick to create turnovers and opportunities, but that was missing in our viewings this season. His drive and intensity were not good enough. Even his threatening wrist shot seemed to suffer from a general lack of pace in his game, as he was often not fast or resolute enough when it came to release it before the opponent could deliver a stick check.

To be fair with Svensson, injuries sidelined him repeatedly throughout this season, leaving us to wonder whether he was 100% or not when we watched him. This, together with what he showed in his best moments in the past, suggests it's probably worth to take a flyer on him at the end of the draft.

PLEASE NOTE:

The following rankings do not aim to predict what will happen at the NHL draft.

The Value column on the right provides our assessment of the overall value of the player in this draft when considering the entire pool of draft eligible players, whereas our ranking (first column on the left) only pertains to players who spent their draft season in Europe.

2023 FINAL RANKINGS

RANK	NAME	POS.	NATION	TEAM	VALUE	CSB
1	MATVEI MICHKOV	W	RUS	SOCHI	top 3	2
2	LEO CARLSSON	W/C	SWE	OREBRO	top 5	1
3	DALIBOR DVORSKY	C	SVK	AIK STOKHOLM	top 10	3
4	DANIIL BUT	W	RUS	YAROSLAVL	top 15	9
5	EDUARD SALE	W	CZE	BRNO	top 15	4
6	DAVID REINBACHER	D	AUT	KLOTEN	top 15	5
7	AXEL SANDIN-PELLIKKA	D	SWE	SKELLEFTEA	top 15	7
8	OTTO STENBERG	W/C	SWE	FROLUNDA	1st R.	6
9	TOM WILLANDER	D	SWE	ROGLE	1st R.	12
10	MIKHAIL GULYAYEV	D	RUS	OMSK	1st R.	10
11	DAVID EDSTROM	C	SWE	FROLUNDA	2nd R.	25
12	JAKUB DVORAK	D	CZE	LIBEREC	2nd R.	15
13	OSCAR FISKER MOLGAARD	C	DEN	HV 71	2nd R.	18
14	LENNI HAMEENAHO	W	FIN	ASSAT	2nd R.	8
15	KASPER HALTTUNEN	W	FIN	HIFK	2nd R.	11
16	DMITRI SIMASHEV	D	RUS	YAROSLAVL	2nd R.	19
17	FELIX NILSSON	W/C	SWE	ROGLE	2nd R.	24
18	NOAH DOWER NILSSON	W/C	SWE	FROLUNDA	2nd R.	17
19	JESSE KIISKINEN	W	FIN	PELICANS	2nd R.	13
20	ALEXANDER RYKOV	W	RUS	CHELYABINSK	2nd R.	23
21	THEO LINDSTEIN	D	SWE	BRYNAS	2nd R.	14
22	ANTON WAHLBERG	W	SWE	MALMOE	3rd R.	30
23	ROMAN KANTSEROV	W	RUS	MAGNITOGORSK	3rd R.	16
24	FELIX UNGER SORUM	W	SWE	LEKSAND	3rd R.	57
25	RASMUS KUMPULAINEN	C	FIN	PELICANS	3rd R.	22
26	EMIL PIENINIEMI	D	FIN	KARPAT	4th R.	31
27	ALBERT WIKMAN	D	SWE	FARJESTAD	4th R.	32
28	ALEX CIERNIK	W	SVK	SODERTALJE	4th R.	21
29	EMIL JARVENTIE	W	FIN	ILVES	4th R.	33
30	RAUL YAKUPOV	W	RUS	NIZHNEKAMSK	5th R.	N.R.

RANK	NAME	POS.	NATION	TEAM	VALUE	CSB
31	JIRI FELCMAN	C	CZE	LANGNAU	5th R.	67
32	ADAM CEDZO	W	SVK	TRINEC	5th R.	78
33	ALEXANDER SUVOROV	W	BLR	SEVERSTAL	5th R.	N.R.
34	YEGOR RIMASHEVSKY	W	RUS	DYNAMO MOSCOW	5th R.	36
35	JURAJ PEKARCIC	W	SVK	NITRA	5th R.	41
36	ARTTU KARKI	D	FIN	TAPPARA	5th R.	37
37	JAKUB STANCL	W	CZE	VAXJO	5th R.	26
38	NOEL NORDH	W	SWE	BRYNAS	5th R.	20
39	TUOMAS URONEN	W	FIN	HIFK	6th R.	35
40	MILAN PISOJA	D	SVK	TEAM SVK U18	6th R.	N.R.
41	MAGOMED SHARAKANOV	D	RUS	DYNAMO MOSCOW	6th R.	66
42	DANIIL IVANOV	D	RUS	KHIMIK	6th R.	N.R.
43	DOMINIK PETR	C	CZE	LUKKO	6th R.	80
44	TIMUR MUKHANOV	W	RUS	OMSK	7th R.	27
45	MATTEO KOCI	D	CZE	KARLOVY VARY	7th R.	74
46	JESSE NURMI	W	FIN	KOOKOO	7th R.	28
47	JOEL SVENSSON	W/C	SWE	VAXJO	7th R.	134
48	NORWIN PANOCHA	D	GER	EISBAREN	7th R.	114
49	EMIL KUUSLA	W	FIN	JOKERIT	7th R.	45
50	ZEB FORSFJALL	C	SWE	SKELLEFTEA	7th R.	34
51	ARTTU ALASIURUA	C	FIN	KARPAT	Worth Considering	92
52	MILTON OSCARSON	C	SWE	OREBRO	W.C.	65
53	ISAC HEDQVIST	W	SWE	LULEA	W.C.	112
54	IVAN REMEZOVSKY	D	RUS	SKA-1946	W.C.	69
55	BOGDAN KONYUSHKOV	D	RUS	NOVGOROD	W.C.	N.R.
56	VASIL ATANASOV	C/W	RUS	NOVGOROD	W.C.	N.R.
57	ERIK PAHLSSON	C	SWE	HV 71	W.C.	N.R.
58	FILIP ERIKSSON	C	SWE	VAXJO	W.C.	N.R.
59	NIKITA SUSUYEV	W	RUS	SPARTAK	W.C.	29
60	HUGO FRANSSON	D	SWE	HV 71	W.C.	68