



## NORTHERN ONTARIO HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

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The 2021 NHL Draft was held on July 23-24, 2021 and saw five former NOHA Players hear their names called during the weekend, including 2018-2019 NOHA Minor Midget Player of the Year, Chase Stillman, who was the first to be selected.

Stillman, who played the 18-19 season with the Sudbury Minor Midget Wolves, was selected in the first round by the New Jersey Devils 29<sup>th</sup> overall. The 6'1" forward played last season in Denmark before representing Canada at the World Under-18 Championship in Texas.

Goaltender Benjamin Gaudreau (Corbeil) of the Sarnia Sting was drafted 81<sup>st</sup> overall (3<sup>rd</sup> round) by the San Jose Sharks. Like Stillman, the former North Bay Trappers netminder played for Team Canada at the World Under-18 Championship and was recognized the Goaltender of the Tournament.

Sault Ste. Marie's Jack Matier heard his name called by the Nashville Predators with the 124<sup>th</sup> selection (4<sup>th</sup> round). The Ottawa 67's blueliner did not play this season but helped capture a Gold Medal for Team Canada at the World Under-18 Championship.

London Knights forward Max McCue (Sudbury) will be joining Gaudreau on the West Coast after being selected by the Sharks with the 156<sup>th</sup> pick. McCue was unable to play last season due to the shutdown of the OHL, however in 2019-2020, tallied two goals and four assists in 34 games with London, and played for Team Canada Black at the World Under 17 Challenge.

Rounding out the selections was North Bay Battalion (OHL) goaltender, Joe Vrbetic, who was drafted by the Montreal Canadiens in the 7<sup>th</sup> round, 214<sup>th</sup> overall. Vrbetic spent the 2018-2019 season with the Powassan Voodoos of the NOJHL where he led the League with a .928 save percentage.

### NHL Draft Results for NOHA Players since 2015

Year	Round	Overall	First Name	Last Name	Team	Home Centre/NOHA Team
2015	3	67	Blake	Speers	New Jersey Devils	Sault Ste. Marie
2016	5	128	Colton	Point	Dallas Stars	North Bay
2016	2	44	Boris	Katchouk	Tampa Bay Lightning	Soo Thunderbirds (NOJHL)
2016	4	105	Evan	Cormier	New Jersey Devils	North Bay Trappers (NOJHL)
2018	5	155	Damien	Giroux	Minnesota Wild	Hanmer
2019	5	142	Nicholas	Porco	Dallas Stars	Sault Ste. Marie
2020	6	158	Philippe	Daoust	Ottawa Senators	French River Rapids (NOJHL)
2021	1	29	Chase	Stillman	New Jersey Devils	Sudbury
2021	3	81	Benjamin	Gaudreau	San Jose Sharks	Corbeil
2021	4	124	Jack	Matier	Nashville Predators	Sault Ste. Marie
2021	5	156	Max	McCue	San Jose Sharks	Sudbury
2021	7	214	Joe	Vrbetic	Montréal Canadiens	Powassan Voodoos (NOJHL)