

Headline: Puck Yeah! NHL Four the Win

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Social: From Rivalry to Ratings: The NHL's 4 Nations Face-Off Pays Off

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Ladies and gentlemen, your winner for the best sporting event of 2025 thus far... The NHL 4 Nations Face-Off!

If you want to talk about must-see action in a sport, well, the NHL got it down to perfection. Four different nations between Finland, Canada, Sweden, and the United States took center stage, I mean center-ice, this past week and it was the closest replica to the movie *Miracle* of all-time.

This time around though, there were no angry Russians taking on college kids from Minnesota or Boston. Instead, we saw matchups that included NHL legends, future Hall-of-Famers, and lines that would present itself as a video-game scenario.

Did you know, that at one point in the final game between Canada and the United States, there was a line for the team up north that featured Sidney Crosby and Connor McDavid? In our lifetimes, those two maybe the greatest to ever do it, and they played alongside each other in a competitive manner. Oh, and not to even mention the fact that Team Canada's starting line featured Crosby and Nathan Mackinnon? That right there... is a total of three Hart Trophies between two players.

Regardless of the final result, whether you were cheering on your favorite player from Team Canada, or your nation in the United States, the 4 Nations Face-Off was the greatest success in sports this year.

Records were shattered, and dreams were made true. The NHL's newest extravaganza even set a ESPN+ audience record, peaking at an audience of 10.4 million viewers for the most-viewed non-NFL event in the streaming platform's history.

Hockey is back, and is better than ever.