

LA KINGS REGULAR-SEASON PREVIEW: GAME 6 @ SAN JOSE

👤 Ryan Cowley 📅 October 21, 2015



Image credit: Chris Thomas

Los Angeles Kings 2015-16 Regular Season:

Game 6 @ San Jose, October 22, 2015, 7:30pm PST

After a five-game homestand to open the season, the **Los Angeles Kings** leave the friendly confines of **STAPLES Center** to prepare for their first road game of the season, and it will be on Thursday against the team that defeated them on opening night: the 4-2-0 **San Jose Sharks**.

Thursday will mark the second of five meetings between the state rivals with the Sharks taking the opening matchup by a convincing 5-1 score.

After **Nick Shore** opened the scoring just 1:49 into said contest, the Sharks took over with new captain **Joe Pavelski** leading the way with three points, adding to his personal dominance of the silver-and-black. The Kings were also lackluster on the penalty kill, allowing a pair of power-play goals.

The big story, however, was in goal as former King **Martin Jones** faced his ex-team for the first time since being traded during the off-season. Jones, while not as busy as **Jonathan Quick**, was solid when he had to be, stopping 19 shots to preserve the win for his new team. Since then, Jones has been masterful in his new role, going 3-1-0 while posting a minuscule goals-against average of 1.18 to go in hand with a .957 save percentage and two shutouts. The Kings will hope to humble the 25-year-old on Thursday night, but it will not be easy as the silver-and-black have yet to generate much offense.



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Still, the Kings won back-to-back games after losing their first three outings of the season. While there may not have been any offensive clinics to speak of, Los Angeles excelled — as they usually do — with solid defense and timely goaltending. As far as the latter is concerned, Jonathan Quick has played in every game for the Kings thus far and seems to only get better. On Monday night, he turned away 22 shots en route to his team's 2-1 win over the **Colorado Avalanche**.

Also in said game, the Kings displayed great resilience having regained the lead just 23 seconds after the Avs tied the game. The goal, scored by **Tyler Toffoli** after stealing the puck for a breakaway, stood as the game-winner.

There is never any love lost between these bitter rivals and Thursday should not be any exception. But while the Sharks will look to continue their torrid start to the season, the Kings will simply look to return to .500 as they eye their third-straight victory.

Enjoy the game!