

LA KINGS RECALL MICHAEL MERSCH; JOINS CLUB IN PITTSBURGH

by Ryan Cowley • December 10, 2015

Photo credit: Harry How/Getty Images North America

Confirmed yesterday by **MayorsManor** and announced today, the **Los Angeles Kings** have called up forward **Michael Mersch** from **AHL-Ontario**. The 23-year-old will soon join the club in **Pittsburgh**.



John Hoven | The Mayor
 @mayorNHL

MayorsManor has confirmed: #LAKings have called up @mikemersch25 (Mike Mersch) from @ontarioreign. Had 12 goals in 19 AHL games this season.

7:22 PM · Dec 8, 2015

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Today, the Kings President/General Manager **Dean Lombardi announced the move**, but whether Mersch will be making his debut this Friday in Pittsburgh remains to be seen. Either way, Mersch will be suiting up for the silver-and-black very soon and once that does happen, a new era will begin.



Getty Images Sport
Nick Laham

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Mersch, taken by the Kings in the fourth-round of the 2011 Draft, has been arguably the organization's brightest, and most anticipated, prospect who has yet to play a regular-season game for the big club.

After scoring 22 goals and 23 assists in 75 games for the **Manchester Monarchs** last season, Mersch followed that up with 13 goals in 18 playoff games en route to the **Calder Cup** crown. This season, Mersch has 12 goals in 19 games for the **Ontario Reign**.

Michael Mersch highlight reel goal, March 9, 2012 against St. Cloud State

Michael Mersch highlight-reel goal - March 9, 2015 against St. Cloud State



During the first week of the season, some fans were hoping for Mersch to be called up. However, after Los Angeles's 0-3-0 start to the season, the desire of said fans was more out of desperation than anything else. This time, the call-up feels more appropriate as the Kings, who, entering Wednesday's action, lead the **Pacific Division** by nine points, are winners of five-straight games and thus in no position to put any pressure on the Wisconsin alum.

With that said, there is a plethora of upside to Michael Mersch and soon enough, we will see how the 6-foot-1, 225-pounder fares at the **NHL** level.

In August, I **spoke with** Kings' Director of Player Development **Nelson Emerson** about Mersch:

"The thing about Michael Mersch is that place in front of the net, that area below the top of the circle, he's become just a super pro in that area. Can't knock him off his skates, he jumps on loose pucks, he screens in front of the net with tips and rebounds. That's become an area where he's become an expert in."

A glowing Emerson continued:

"One thing about [Mersch], most don't know about his skating but he has worked so hard on his skating over the last couple of years. Now, people will go watch him in a game and they will only talk about his skating being an efficiency. So, give him credit because he's worked so hard."

To read that article in its entirety, click **here**.

Also, be sure to read the new article from MayorsManor, ***What You Need to Know About Michael Mersch's Game***, for more information on the promising young star.



The Michael Mersch era is now upon in Los Angeles as fans now have extra incentive to be excited when tuning in to watch their Kings in action.
