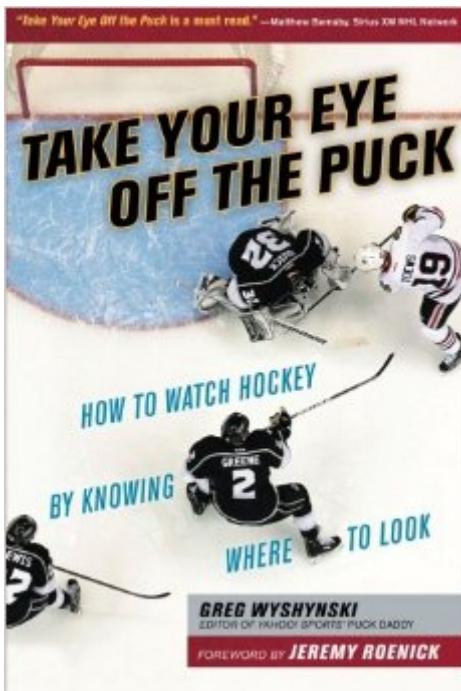


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# Take Your Eye Off The Puck: How To Watch Hockey By Knowing Where To Look



## **Synopsis**

A guide for sports fans on how to watch and appreciate the game of hockey. More and more fans are watching the NHL each week, but many of them don't know exactly what they should be watching. How does an offense create shooting lanes for its best sniper? When a center breaks through and splits between two defensemen, which defender is to blame? Why does a goalie look like a Hall of Famer one week and a candidate for the minor leagues the next? This guide for sports fans on how to watch and appreciate the game of hockey takes you inside a coach's mind as he builds a roster or constructs a game plan, to the chaos of the goalie's crease, and deep into the perpetual chess match between offense and defense. Discussing topics such as what to look for when a team goes on the power play and why playing center might be the most grueling job in sports, *Take Your Eye Off the Puck* shows fans how to get the most out of watching their favorite sport.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This was a great book and an easy read. A "hockey for dummies" book would not inform me of anything. I know the game of hockey. I know the basics. I watch the NHL everyday. I play NHL 16 everyday. This book isn't going to go over the basics, no need to worry about that. A coaching book? That would be too technical for me. I'm not going to be a hockey coach, I don't need to know every technical pence of jargon. Thus enters Greg's book. A beautiful balance of knowledge, insight, comedy, and history. This is for the person who knows hockey but would like to know more. For the guy who knows what's going on, but wants to know why it's going on. I would suggest this book for

any hockey lover. And if you like the book, make sure to check out Greg's podcast with Jeff Marek. It's top notch as well.P.S. The Roenick forward weirded me out, because he supplied only like 9 lines. If I could change anything, I would of had Greg get a forward from a player explaining how he first fell in love with hockey, how he learned the game, and how hockey is the greatest sport on this earth. Maybe tell a story or two about his playing days. I can't be too upset as I usually skip long forwards anyway.

Have been waiting for my Kindle version, it's here! As his fans already know, Wysh knows hockey to a depth of detail which for even committed fans can be difficult to clearly perceive. He clearly explains "systems," special teams, etc. in ways I finally get. Nice, \*simple\* diagrams and plenty of funny explanations. Subtract a star if you just don't like his sense of humor--de gustibus non est disputandum--add a sixth star if you do, & if you listen to Marek vs. Wyshinski you know already. --(And Jeremy Freaking Roenick had \*nothing\* to do with the book other than the oddly generic intro someone forced him to write, wherein the author's name does not appear. They might as well have asked Pierre McGuire and Don Cherry to collaborate on an intro. should fix this.)

It seems to be the first draft of the book, not completely edited. At least the illustrations inside. Some illustrations, which meant to include directions of movement of 1st forward in F1, F2... D2 to indicate movement - which should be lines ending in a directional arrow, are instead 'T's. Unclear from his description if he means for those to move TO the dead end part of the line or from it, in context. Some illustrations that are supposed to show who has the puck, with an 'x', just don't have one. Cover is soft, understood. But it's actually flimsy. Slight textual errors, just occasional. Those don't take as much away from his effort as his sometimes poor explanations. His descriptions of some entrance to zone formations, are better than nothing. But not satisfying. It's like he started a paragraph, then 1/3 the way through decided he couldn't be bothered to finish it. Inserted what he considers a clever witticism, instead. Feels to me that he doesn't understand what his readers, or at least what I do or don't know. For example, I just came across a clearly intended inside joke, without him explaining it. No idea what it means, or what's funny about it. I guess I don't know enough about hockey for him. Then he tells me where to find the half-boards. So, maybe I'm just not his target audience. I play twice a week on ice, time to time roller. Played on and off since college. Just never had much coaching. I'm only in the second chapter, so maybe it'll get better. Just, I'm having a frustrating time not to just put it down and find something else to pick up.

Hockey is perhaps the most difficult sport to appreciate as a casual fan. One might argue that it's not difficult to "take your eye off the puck" when you can barely see the thing on TV, anyway. Enter this book. If you have even a vague interest in hockey, this book will take you to new levels of understanding and fandom. Even a well-versed student of the game will find new perspectives throughout. It's an easy read without being breezy or fluffy -- in fact, the book is chock full of great insights, both from the author and from sources around the NHL. Best of all, there's plenty of humor infused throughout. Wyshynski gives an incredibly fresh take on a topic that could have easily turned staid or stale. My only complaint is regarding the bizarre "forward" by Jeremy Roenick. He contributed all of two generic paragraphs that really add nothing of value. Not sure why he's listed as a co-author?

I learned some things, so the book served its purpose. However, it is written as if the author and I were shooting the breeze at a bar. Disorganized. Since I have a certain foundation in hockey knowledge, and the NHL, I caught most of his references. But I was hoping the book would be aimed, and organized, for a more introductory audience.

Not a super technical X's and O's type of book but a general fan type book. Good stuff, anyone familiar with the Marek vs Wyshynski podcast or Puck Daddy blog will be familiar with Greg Wyshynski and his sense of humor, writing style and knowledge of the game. Recommended for all the hockey fans out there who read or don't. If you are a hockey lifer there aren't going to be any dramatic revelations that you will find here but it is worth the read for the anecdotes and humor.

This was a tremendous study of the game of hockey, from many different perspectives. It forces you to smile, think and sometimes laugh. I think fans at all levels of the game will enjoy it - and then enjoy the game even more!

As an ignorant travel hockey mom, I bought this book to help me understand and appreciate what is happening on the ice. While written in a fun and enjoyable way, you do need to have some rudimentary knowledge of hockey to get the most out of this book. I wish there was a chapter with the down-and-dirty basics.

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