

VSIN **PRO**

2022-23 NBA BETTING GUIDE

VSIN EXPERTS PREVIEW:

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- BROOKLYN
- PHILADELPHIA
- TORONTO
- NEW YORK



B101

VSIN Expert Predictions



MATT
YOUNANS

JONATHAN
VON TOBEL

KELLEY
BYDLON

MITCH
MOSS

ADAM
BURKE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

#1 SEED

76ERS

76ERS

CELTICS

76ERS

BUCKS

#2 SEED

BUCKS

BUCKS

BUCKS

CELTICS

76ERS

#3 SEED

CELTICS

CELTICS

76ERS

BUCKS

CELTICS

#4 SEED

NETS

HAWKS

NETS

HAWKS

NETS

#5 SEED

HEAT

NETS

HAWKS

NETS

CAVALIERS

#6 SEED

HAWKS

HEAT

CAVALIERS

CAVALIERS

HAWKS

#7 SEED

RAPTORS

RAPTORS

HEAT

HEAT

HEAT

#8 SEED

CAVS

CAVS

RAPTORS

RAPTORS

RAPTORS

WESTERN CONFERENCE

#1 SEED

WARRIORS

NUGGETS

NUGGETS

NUGGETS

SUNS

#2 SEED

SUNS

WARRIORS

WARRIORS

T'WOLVES

NUGGETS

#3 SEED

CLIPPERS

T'WOLVES

SUNS

WARRIORS

WARRIORS

#4 SEED

NUGGETS

CLIPPERS

CLIPPERS

CLIPPERS

CLIPPERS

#5 SEED

MAVERICKS

SUNS

T'WOLVES

SUNS

GRIZZLIES

#6 SEED

GRIZZLIES

GRIZZLIES

MAVERICKS

PELICANS

MAVERICKS

#7 SEED

T'WOLVES

PELICANS

PELICANS

GRIZZLIES

T'WOLVES

#8 SEED

LAKERS

MAVERICKS

GRIZZLIES

MAVERICKS

LAKERS

FINALS

EAST CHAMPION

BUCKS

76ERS

BUCKS

76ERS

BUCKS

WEST CHAMPION

WARRIORS

CLIPPERS

CLIPPERS

CLIPPERS

CLIPPERS

FINALS CHAMP

WARRIORS

CLIPPERS

BUCKS

CLIPPERS

BUCKS

PLAYER AWARDS

MVP

GIANNIS
ANTETOKOUNMPO

JAYSON
TATUM

GIANNIS
ANTETOKOUNMPO

JOEL
EMBIID

GIANNIS
ANTETOKOUNMPO

My Three NBA Futures Bets to Win it All

By Jonathan Von Tobel

The NBA season is an absolute beast. Over the course of a regular season, 1,230 games are played from October to April and that leads to ebbs and flows for every team. It also leads to a fluctuating futures market with those highs and lows and gives bettors opportunities to pounce on buy-low opportunities when the market overreacts.

Just look at the last three seasons in the Eastern Conference. We had Boston in the NBA Finals after reaching a low of 66-1 to win a title, Atlanta making the conference finals after bottoming out at 65-1 to win the East and Miami reaching the NBA Finals after getting as low as 80-1 to win the title.

During the season is when I make most of my NBA Finals or conference finals wagers. I enjoy finding buy-low opportunities throughout the season, and that process led to a fantastic scenario in 2020-21 when I had Dallas to win the Western Conference at 14-1 and Boston to win the NBA Finals at that 66-1 price. It's a great way to approach futures betting and also reduces the amount of time your investment is hanging in the balance, something many bettors dislike about playing futures.

There is a benefit to investing in futures in the long term. Data is your friend in sports with long regular seasons such as basketball, and investing in futures is betting that the numbers and data we see for a certain team will play out over the long term. It's why I regularly bet baseball win totals but not many single games. I believe the data will play out the way I expect over the span of a 162-game regular season, and the same can be said for the 82-game schedule in the NBA.

So with that, let's discuss three NBA futures plays that might be worth investing in before the season begins.

Please note, the prices are important here, especially the shorter ones. Investing in a team at +550 to win the title compared to the same team at +750 is nowhere near the same thing. A price of +550 carries an implied probability of 15.4% compared to 11.8% for +750, which is a 3.6% edge for the bettor who has the better price.



Los Angeles Clippers To Win NBA Finals (+750, Circa Sports)

Circa is the highest in the market on the Clippers to win the NBA Finals, and at that price it's worth putting aside some capital for six months. One of the main reasons why teams fluctuate in the market throughout the regular season is injuries, and the other is a slow start to a season or a losing stretch during the season. The Clippers are deep enough to survive an injury or two, and thus, stay at this price or better throughout the season. I believe the Clippers are the best team in the league with the highest probability of winning a title, but Circa has them well behind the Warriors (+500, 16.7%).



Philadelphia 76ers To Win NBA Finals (+1600, FanDuel)

I believe in the roster the 76ers built this offseason, and they have the makings of an elite regular-season team. James Harden and Joel Embiid form one of the best scoring duos in the NBA, a fact evidenced by the 124.1 points per 100 possessions they averaged when on the floor together as well as the +15.8 net rating. The 76ers will be in contention to win the top seed in the Eastern Conference, and that will set them up well for a run at the NBA Finals. This price of 16-1 (5.9%) is just over my buy price of 15-1 and is well above the consensus price of 12-1 (7.7%).



Denver Nuggets To Win NBA Finals (+2000, FanDuel, PointsBet)

The Nuggets should be in contention for the top seed in the Western Conference. Now fully healthy and with much better depth, they are legitimate title contenders and should find themselves back in the conference finals conversation. When Nikola Jokic and Jamal Murray last played together, Nuggets lineups averaged 124.9 points per 100 possessions, and their optimal lineup with those two and Aaron Gordon demolished opponents by 17.0 points per 100 possessions. This team is undervalued at a price of 20-1 (4.8%), which puts them on the same level of probability as teams like Dallas and Miami.

DraftKings Sportsbook NBA Menu One-of-a-Kind

By Julian Edlow

The DraftKings Sportsbook offers an expansive menu of bets you can place on the NBA this season, both for upcoming games and in-game, along with futures offered preseason and in-season. Let's go through the markets offered.

Game Lines

This is where you'll find betting lines for upcoming games. You'll find the lines for games that day, but also potentially some games the next day, and even further into the futures at times (Christmas Day games). You'll also see tabs to bet on halves, quarters and team totals.

Futures

The focal point in the futures tab is generally odds on each team to win the championship, win their conference and win their division. But beyond that, you're able to bet on division finishing positions for each team, and exact outcomes as to how each division finishes top to bottom. If you're confident in a team, but don't think they can actually break through to the NBA Finals, you can also bet on teams to reach a conference final. You can also bet on some even more extreme exact outcome result.

Wins/Playoffs

This is where you'll find over/unders on win totals, as well as YES/NO options on each team to make the playoffs. You can also bet alternate win totals for teams, as well as head-to-head win total matchups between two different teams. There are also more unique sections featuring exact win totals, most regular season wins, most regular season wins at the All-Star break and the longest win streak of the season.

Awards

Pretty standard tab here to vote on all the NBA awards. The awards include MVP, Rookie of the Year, Most Improved Player, Coach of the Year, 6th Man and Defensive Player of the Year. One new feature that's pretty unique is the ability to bet on players to be named to the first team All-NBA.

Records Breaker

This section is completely dedicated to LeBron James, who is in position to become the NBA's all-time leading scorer. You can bet on when, where and how LeBron will surpass the record.

Team Specials

This is a unique tab offering different betting combinations for each team throughout the season. All 30 teams have a handful of offerings, pending popularity. For example, you can bet on Jayson Tatum to average 28+ PPG and the Celtics to win their division at +370.

Conference Seeding

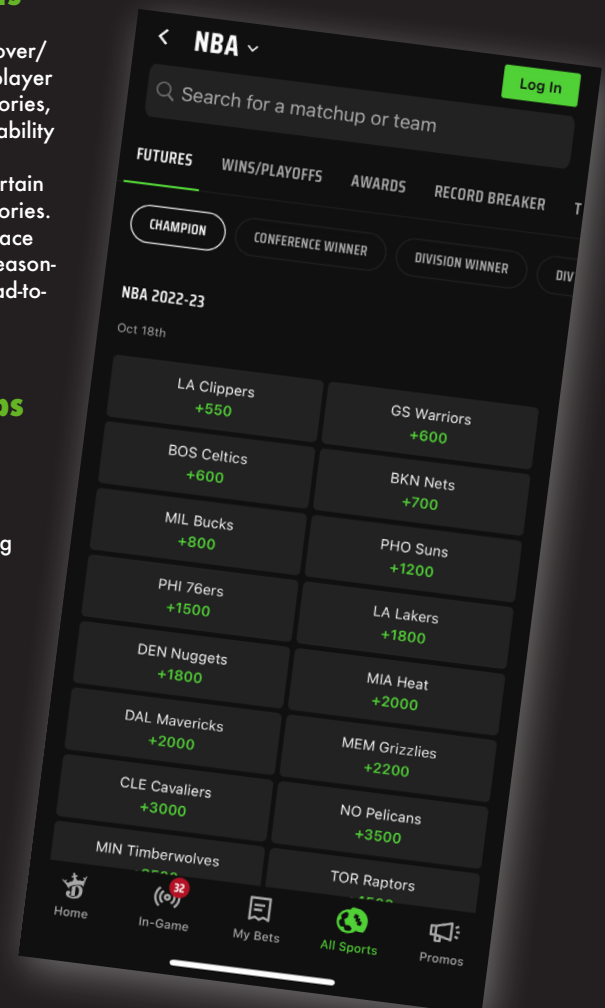
This section gives bettors the ability to bet over/unders on seeding for each team in their conference. If you want to get more aggressive, you can place bets on teams to finish in an exact seed.

Player Stats

This tab offers over/under bets on player statistical categories, along with the ability to bet on which player leads certain statistical categories. You can also place bets on some season-long player head-to-heads.

Game Props

Game props take us back to betting specific games. Opening night games are already available. You can bet races to 10, 15, 20 points and beyond in each quarter.



Despite Big Offseason Moves, Traditional Powers Rule NBA

By Jonathan Von Tobel

A figurative arms race took place over the summer when Atlanta, Cleveland and Minnesota shipped off a combined 10 first-round picks and swapped four more picks for the services of Dejounte Murray, Donovan Mitchell and Rudy Gobert, respectively. Each of those moves increased the respective team's probability of winning a title, but how much each team's chances improved shows just how hard it is to achieve the ultimate goal in the NBA.

The Timberwolves went from 80-1 at BetMGM before the trade for Gobert to 40-1 immediately after, and as of now they sit at 35-1. That is a shift in probability from 1.2% to 2.8% after acquiring the best defensive player in the league. The Hawks went from 1.5% implied probability of winning a title (66-1) to 2% (50-1) after getting Murray. The Cavaliers saw the greatest jump in probability after their acquisition of Mitchell, going from 100-1 (1%) to an insane 30-1 (3.2%), but still their odds to win a title are long.

Those miniscule jumps in probability should paint the picture for bettors clearly enough, but let's say it louder for those in the back: These moves did not make any of these three teams legitimate title contenders. Each still has flaws on its roster, which you will learn about in VSIN's 2022-23 NBA Betting Guide, and those flaws will ultimately hold them back from winning a title. Instead, despite all the noise over the summer and into the fall, it will be the traditional powers again competing for a championship.

In the Western Conference, there is Golden State, the reigning NBA champions whose roster is arguably better than the one that hoisted the Larry O'Brien Trophy last season. Many handicappers – myself included – believe the Los Angeles Clippers, with Kawhi Leonard back from a knee injury, are the best team in the West. Denver had one of the most statistically dominant lineups in the NBA two seasons ago before Jamal Murray and Michael Porter Jr. went down with injuries, and now both players return ready to bring the Nuggets back to the conference finals, and perhaps further. Phoenix has won 115 games over the last two seasons and is still one of the higher power-rated teams in the West. Then there are the young upstarts, Memphis and Dallas, both of which had a taste of postseason success last season. The climb for Minnesota is arduous, and it's highly unlikely the Timberwolves make it out of the West despite an improved roster.

In the Eastern Conference, the gap between the elite and middle class is a gaping chasm. Consider BetMGM's odds once more, this time to win the conference. After the top four, Miami is next at 8-1, which is an 11.1% implied probability. The next likeliest team to win the East is Cleveland at 18-1, which carries an implied probability of just 5.3%. The chances are smaller for Atlanta at a price of 22-1 (4.3%).

One could argue that there's actually some futures value on one or all of the teams mentioned at the top (Atlanta, Cleveland, Minnesota). All three of those teams did get better, and in the case of the Timberwolves and Hawks, they improved to the point where there are some futures worth playing.

But the use of these numbers is to prove a point: The gap remains between these teams and the elites of the NBA. In the chase to win a title, it's hard to take any of these three teams seriously.

Now, let's dive into my futures portfolio and the bets I've made for the upcoming NBA season.

Memphis Grizzlies Under 51: This win total is the highest in the market for Memphis, so there's an edge in playing this Under, especially when you consider what happened with the Grizzlies' roster in the offseason. Jaren Jackson Jr. is going to miss 4-6 months recovering from foot surgery, Kyle Anderson is now a member of the Timberwolves and De'Anthony Melton was traded to the 76ers. Those three pieces were integral in keeping the Grizzlies afloat in games that Ja Morant missed. The Grizzlies' division is also much more challenging with the emergence of the Pelicans as a legitimate offensive force and playoff contender. I expected a win total of about 47 for Memphis, so Under 51 is a great bet.

Minnesota Timberwolves Over 48.5

The viability of Minnesota's roster as a championship contender is questionable, but there should be no question as to how successful this team can be in the regular season. Rudy Gobert is a top-10 defense by himself, and this group of talented scorers led by Karl-Anthony Towns and D'Angelo Russell will be efficient on a night-to-night basis. The Timberwolves will struggle against teams that play a five-out style on offense, but those will be rare in the grind of an 82-game regular-season schedule. Minnesota is not worth investing in from a championship standpoint, but when it comes to the win total there is value, as I expected to see this number at about 51.

Miami Heat Under 49.5

It is a somewhat simple handicap here for Miami. The team got worse when PJ Tucker departed via free agency for Philadelphia, and no impactful addition was made to offset that loss. Kyle Lowry becoming more available than he was last season will help soften the blow of Tucker's loss, but this team is now very thin in the frontcourt and projects to be very undersized. Jimmy Butler has already shot down playing power forward, so that leaves the position to the undersized Caleb Martin and others. To make matters worse, division rival Atlanta is appreciably better with the addition of Dejounte Murray, and the conference is better with the addition of Donovan Mitchell in Cleveland and Brooklyn sticking together. Miami overachieved last season to get to 53 wins, but that's unlikely to happen again this season.

Dallas Mavericks Under 49

After Dallas made the Western Conference finals last season, it might seem foolish to expect less, but just look at what happened to Atlanta after its run to the Eastern Conference finals two years ago. The market usually buys into a team's postseason run the previous year, overvalues them the following year and they end up disappointing (although it wasn't a run to the conference finals, the Knicks are another example). Dallas' roster is also much worse this season. Jalen Brunson departed for New York, and the response by Mavericks executives was to bring in JaVale McGee and Christian Wood. Dallas lacks depth at guard with the loss of Brunson, and if either Luka Doncic or Spencer Dinwiddie miss time, this offense is going to suffer. Doncic is an incredible player, and if he has an MVP season this play is a loser, but to ask an inferior version of a team to win 50 or more games is foolhardy.

Detroit Pistons Over 28.5

One of the indicators that a team is primed for a breakout season is how it finishes the previous one, and Detroit finished extremely well. The young Pistons might have gone 10-14 SU after the All-Star break, but they were 18-6 ATS in those 24 games and at one point covered 14 of 15. That stretch of competitive basketball showed that they were growing, and they got much better in the offseason with the additions of Alec Burks, Nerlens Noel and Bojan Bogdanovic. Once he was healthy, Cade Cunningham averaged 19.2 points on 44.2% shooting over his last 35 games and projects to be more like that player over the course of a full season. The betting market has gone from 26.5 on this win total — a number I personally bet Over — to as high as 30 at Circa. By my numbers, there is still value at 28.5, so I will include this as a preseason best bet.

Atlanta Hawks To Win Southeast Division (+170)

One should never be afraid to come off their priors after doing more research, and that is the case for me when it comes to Atlanta. When the Hawks first acquired Dejounte Murray, I was skeptical, but after more research I am in on this experiment being successful in the regular season. The trepidation of the masses — that this won't work with two ball-dominant guards — fails to realize that professional athletes adjust. Trae Young is an incredible weapon when on the ball, and he could be even more dominant off the ball. Murray works away from the ball as well, despite his struggles as a catch-and-shoot weapon, because he is skilled as a cutter and as someone who can attack closeouts.

Karl-Anthony Towns (MIN) To Win MVP (+7500)

This is a correlated play to my Timberwolves win total bet. Minnesota has the makings of a dominant regular-season team, and Karl-Anthony Towns should benefit quite a bit from the presence of Rudy Gobert. If the Timberwolves are going to win as many games as I believe they will, then Towns will no doubt find himself in the middle of the MVP race. However, this play is not so much about my belief in the Timberwolves as it is about the number. The 75-1 at Circa is undoubtedly on the high side with the market consensus being 50-1.

Herbert Jones (NO) To Win Defensive Player of the Year (+6500)

Much of the handicap when it comes to awards is narrative, and there is no better narrative behind a player to win an award than that of Herbert Jones. The second-year pro for New Orleans was the center of the media's affections due to his play on defense, and he even grabbed quite a few All-Defense votes last season. He has captured the hearts of the voters who decide this award and, if he maintains his level of play, he is much more live to win this award than the 1.5% implied probability.



BOSTON

COACH: JOE MAZZULLA - 1ST SEASON

DIVISION: ATLANTIC

ARENA: TD GARDEN

RECORD: 65-41 SU, 57-46 ATS, 51-54 O/U



NBA TITLE
+550

CONFERENCE
+260

DIVISION
+100

SEASON WINS
53.5

STEVE MAKINEN'S RATINGS

POWER RATING

104.5 (#1 of 30)

EFFECTIVE STRENGTH RATING

6.1 (#1 of 30)

BETTOR'S RATING

-9.9 (#1 of 30)

ROSTER CHANGES

ADDITIONS

Danilo Gallinari, Malcolm Brogdon

LOSSES

Aaron Nesmith, Daniel Theis

DRAFT

JD Davison (Round 2, Pick 53)

OUTLOOK

It has hardly been a positive offseason for Boston after its berth in the NBA Finals. The Celtics' offseason addition of Danilo Gallinari was lost for the season due to a knee injury, and starting center Robert Williams had to undergo his own knee procedure which will sideline him for 8-12 weeks. On top of that, it seems Ime Udoka's time in Boston is all but done after he was suspended for the season. Still, the Celtics are a highly rated team with championship aspirations in a highly competitive Eastern Conference.

The loss of Williams is a massive blow for the Celtics, who are not exactly replete with depth at the center position. Al Horford will be part of the team's starting five at the beginning of the season, but the rotation behind him will consist of Luke Kornet or Grant Williams as a small-ball option. Perhaps Kornet becomes more effective in a Robert Williams role — being lined up on the worst offensive player and then playing off them as a help defender — but his numbers are not great in his first few years in the league. He is also not the lob threat that Williams is, which eliminates that facet of Boston's game. Center has become a position which most teams just fill with veteran bodies and put little resources into, but it was an integral part of what the Celtics did last season and the lack of depth at the position will hurt them at times once the regular season begins.

Once the Celtics are healthy, they are going to be a threat to win the Eastern Conference. The addition of Malcolm Brogdon gives them another combo guard who can assist with the playmaking this team was lacking. In clutch minutes last season, Boston had a -9.5 net rating and averaged just 0.977 points per possession, both marks ranking 26th in the league. The Celtics' offense sputtered in close games, so the presence of Brogdon should help alleviate that issue, and he fits with any combination of Marcus Smart, Jaylen Brown and Jayson Tatum. Those four are each fantastic defenders as well, so even without Williams this team will be able to defend at a very high level. Smart, Brown and Tatum held opponents to 101.7 points per 100 possessions when on the floor together and Brogdon improved Indiana's defensive rating by 5.5 points per 100 possessions last season. That makes for a very switchable and capable group of defenders, and bettors should expect Boston to finish as a top defensive unit again, especially once Williams makes his way back to the floor.

Boston has the highest win total on the board (53.5) at multiple shops and for good reason, but one must wonder what an extended absence of Williams does from a wins perspective. He underwent surgery at the end of September, and if his recovery takes 12 weeks, we won't see him on the floor until January. The market rates the Celtics as the best team in the league, and thus their win total is shaded a touch higher than it should be. Given the depth concerns at center and Williams' absence, it would not be the smartest investment to bet this team Over its win total.

Win total recommendation: Under 53.5

SCHEDULE STRENGTH

98.03 (#26 toughest of 30)

DATE	OPPONENT	SCHEDSIT
10/18/22	PHILADELPHIA	-
10/21/22	AT MIAMI	TWO DAYS
10/22/22	AT ORLANDO	A2A B2B
10/24/22	AT CHICAGO	ONE DAY
10/28/22	CLEVELAND	3+ DAYS
10/30/22	WASHINGTON	ONE DAY
11/2/22	AT CLEVELAND	TWO DAYS
11/4/22	CHICAGO	ONE DAY
11/5/22	AT NEW YORK	H2A B2B
11/7/22	AT MEMPHIS	ONE DAY
11/9/22	DETROIT	ONE DAY
11/11/22	DENVER	ONE DAY
11/12/22	AT DETROIT	H2A B2B
11/14/22	OKLAHOMA CITY	ONE DAY
11/16/22	AT ATLANTA	ONE DAY
11/18/22	AT NEW ORLEANS	ONE DAY
11/21/22	AT CHICAGO	TWO DAYS
11/23/22	DALLAS	ONE DAY
11/25/22	SACRAMENTO	ONE DAY
11/27/22	WASHINGTON	ONE DAY
11/28/22	CHARLOTTE	H2H B2B
11/30/22	MIAMI	ONE DAY
12/2/22	MIAMI	ONE DAY
12/4/22	AT BROOKLYN	ONE DAY
12/5/22	AT TORONTO	A2A B2B
12/7/22	AT PHOENIX	ONE DAY
12/10/22	AT GOLDEN STATE	TWO DAYS
12/12/22	AT LA CLIPPERS	ONE DAY
12/13/22	AT LA LAKERS	A2A B2B
12/16/22	ORLANDO	TWO DAYS
12/18/22	ORLANDO	ONE DAY
12/21/22	INDIANA	TWO DAYS
12/23/22	MINNESOTA	ONE DAY
12/25/22	MILWAUKEE	ONE DAY
12/27/22	HOUSTON	ONE DAY
12/29/22	LA CLIPPERS	ONE DAY
1/1/22	AT DENVER	TWO DAYS
1/3/22	AT OKLAHOMA CITY	ONE DAY
1/5/22	AT DALLAS	ONE DAY
1/7/22	AT SAN ANTONIO	ONE DAY
1/9/22	CHICAGO	ONE DAY
1/11/22	NEW ORLEANS	ONE DAY
1/12/22	AT BROOKLYN	H2A B2B
1/14/22	AT CHARLOTTE	ONE DAY
1/16/22	AT CHARLOTTE	ONE DAY
1/19/22	GOLDEN STATE	TWO DAYS
1/21/22	AT TORONTO	ONE DAY
1/23/22	AT ORLANDO	ONE DAY
1/24/22	AT MIAMI	A2A B2B
1/26/22	NEW YORK	ONE DAY
1/28/22	LA LAKERS	ONE DAY
2/1/22	BROOKLYN	3+ DAYS
2/3/22	PHOENIX	ONE DAY
2/6/22	AT DETROIT	TWO DAYS
2/8/22	PHILADELPHIA	ONE DAY
2/10/22	CHARLOTTE	ONE DAY
2/12/22	MEMPHIS	ONE DAY
2/14/22	AT MILWAUKEE	ONE DAY
2/15/22	DETROIT	A2H B2B
2/23/22	AT INDIANA	3+ DAYS
2/25/22	AT PHILADELPHIA	ONE DAY
2/27/22	AT NEW YORK	ONE DAY
3/1/22	CLEVELAND	ONE DAY
3/3/22	BROOKLYN	ONE DAY
3/5/22	NEW YORK	ONE DAY
3/6/22	AT CLEVELAND	H2A B2B
3/8/22	PORTLAND	ONE DAY
3/11/22	AT ATLANTA	TWO DAYS
3/13/22	AT HOUSTON	ONE DAY
3/15/22	AT MINNESOTA	ONE DAY
3/17/22	AT PORTLAND	ONE DAY
3/18/22	AT UTAH	A2A B2B
3/21/22	AT SACRAMENTO	TWO DAYS
3/24/22	INDIANA	TWO DAYS
3/26/22	SAN ANTONIO	ONE DAY
3/28/22	AT WASHINGTON	ONE DAY
3/30/22	AT MILWAUKEE	ONE DAY
3/31/22	UTAH	A2H B2B
4/4/22	AT PHILADELPHIA	3+ DAYS
4/5/22	TORONTO	A2H B2B
4/7/22	TORONTO	ONE DAY
4/9/22	ATLANTA	ONE DAY

MAKINEN'S PROJECTED WINS: 56.2



BROOKLYN

COACH: STEVE NASH - 3RD SEASON

DIVISION: ATLANTIC

ARENA: BARCLAYS CENTER

RECORD: 45-42 SU, 34-50 ATS, 42-44 O/U



NBA TITLE
+700

CONFERENCE
+310

DIVISION
+210

SEASON WINS
51.5

STEVE MAKINEN'S RATINGS

POWER RATING
101 (#9 of 30)

EFFECTIVE STRENGTH RATING
-0.6 (#18 of 30)

BETTOR'S RATING
-5.7 (#9 of 30)

ROSTER CHANGES

ADDITIONS

T.J. Warren, Royce O'Neale, Markieff Morris

LOSSES

Andre Drummond, Bruce Brown, Goran Dragic, Blake Griffin, James Johnson

DRAFT

None

OUTLOOK

There is no denying the Nets' potential if health improves, certain players buy into their roles and all the pieces fall into place. That is a big ask for a team which has shown none of those qualities since coming together, and there is no faulting anyone doubting their ability to be successful. However, if this team finds its potential, the league is in trouble.

Steve Nash has a few options for his regular starting lineup. He could roll with Nic Claxton at center and Ben Simmons at power forward, which could work, though it would put two non-shooters and poor free-throw shooters on the floor together. The defensive potential of that pairing is there, but for the sake of this preview, we have rolled with a lineup which is likely going to be the closing lineup for Nash if it's available. Kyrie Irving, Seth Curry, Royce O'Neale and Kevin Durant are all shooters who need to be respected by opposing defenses. O'Neale shot 38.0% on catch-and-shoot 3-point attempts last season and Curry hit 47.0% of those attempts, making them perfect complements to two ball-dominant players like Irving and Durant. Simmons fits well in this offense in a Draymond Green-type role, facilitating and screening as Irving and Durant operate off ball. Simmons and O'Neale also give this lineup two solid on-ball defenders who can take on an opponent's better offensive weapons. Overall, this lineup has high upside on offense with enough on defense to allow it to be on the floor in clutch minutes.

Brooklyn's depth could also turn out to be a strength this season. Patty Mills and Joe Harris are career 38.9% and 43.9% 3-point shooters, and both can fill different roles off the bench. Mills played some point guard last season for the Nets — Brooklyn was outscored by 3.7 points per 100 possessions in those minutes — and Harris is an underrated team defender. Cam Thomas is a one-dimensional scorer, but he can handle the ball and facilitation has been stressed as part of his offseason regiment. The signing of T.J. Warren could turn out to be a brilliant one if he can stay healthy. That is not to say the depth is perfect. The Nets lack a true backup point guard with the ability to play downhill and draw fouls, and the roster lacks true centers behind Claxton, as Day'Ron Sharpe is severely undersized for the position. Perhaps Thomas emerges as a better point guard option this season, but one can clearly see some flaws with the team's depth.

This is an extremely talented roster overall, and when a team has scorers at the level of Irving and Durant, it is going to be a threat to win a title. However, this team has been held down by so much nonsense unrelated to basketball, it's hard to fault a single person who does not believe this roster will stay intact for an 82-game schedule. That doesn't even factor in the lengthy injury history of Durant and Irving, who are almost guaranteed to miss an extended period. Are the Nets capable of winning 50 or more games this season? Absolutely. Is it likely given what we know? No. The high win total on Brooklyn is 51.5 at FanDuel and that is a number to go Under on, even at the -142 price.

Win total recommendation: Under 51.5

SCHEDULE STRENGTH
98.04 (#25 toughest of 30)

DATE	OPPONENT	SCHEDSIT
10/19/22	NEW ORLEANS	-
10/21/22	TORONTO	ONE DAY
10/24/22	AT MEMPHIS	TWO DAYS
10/26/22	AT MILWAUKEE	ONE DAY
10/27/22	DALLAS	A2H B2B
10/29/22	INDIANA	ONE DAY
10/31/22	INDIANA	ONE DAY
11/1/22	CHICAGO	H2H B2B
11/4/22	AT WASHINGTON	TWO DAYS
11/5/22	AT CHARLOTTE	A2A B2B
11/7/22	AT DALLAS	ONE DAY
11/9/22	NEW YORK	ONE DAY
11/12/22	AT LA CLIPPERS	TWO DAYS
11/13/22	AT LA LAKERS	A2A B2B
11/15/22	AT SACRAMENTO	ONE DAY
11/17/22	AT PORTLAND	ONE DAY
11/20/22	MEMPHIS	TWO DAYS
11/22/22	AT PHILADELPHIA	ONE DAY
11/23/22	AT TORONTO	A2A B2B
11/25/22	AT INDIANA	ONE DAY
11/27/22	PORTLAND	ONE DAY
11/28/22	ORLANDO	H2H B2B
11/30/22	WASHINGTON	ONE DAY
12/2/22	TORONTO	ONE DAY
12/4/22	BOSTON	ONE DAY
12/7/22	CHARLOTTE	TWO DAYS
12/9/22	ATLANTA	ONE DAY
12/10/22	AT INDIANA	H2A B2B
12/12/22	AT WASHINGTON	ONE DAY
12/16/22	AT TORONTO	3+ DAYS
12/18/22	AT DETROIT	ONE DAY
12/21/22	GOLDEN STATE	TWO DAYS
12/23/22	MILWAUKEE	ONE DAY
12/26/22	AT CLEVELAND	TWO DAYS
12/28/22	AT ATLANTA	ONE DAY
12/31/22	AT CHARLOTTE	TWO DAYS
1/2/22	SAN ANTONIO	ONE DAY
1/4/22	AT CHICAGO	ONE DAY
1/6/22	AT NEW ORLEANS	ONE DAY
1/8/22	AT MIAMI	ONE DAY
1/12/22	BOSTON	3+ DAYS
1/15/22	OKLAHOMA CITY	TWO DAYS
1/17/22	AT SAN ANTONIO	ONE DAY
1/19/22	AT PHOENIX	ONE DAY
1/20/22	AT UTAH	A2A B2B
1/22/22	AT GOLDEN STATE	ONE DAY
1/25/22	AT PHILADELPHIA	TWO DAYS
1/26/22	DETROIT	A2H B2B
1/28/22	NEW YORK	ONE DAY
1/30/22	LA LAKERS	ONE DAY
2/1/22	AT BOSTON	ONE DAY
2/4/22	WASHINGTON	TWO DAYS
2/6/22	LA CLIPPERS	ONE DAY
2/7/22	PHOENIX	H2H B2B
2/9/22	CHICAGO	ONE DAY
2/11/22	PHILADELPHIA	ONE DAY
2/13/22	AT NEW YORK	ONE DAY
2/15/22	MIAMI	ONE DAY
2/24/22	AT CHICAGO	3+ DAYS
2/26/22	AT ATLANTA	ONE DAY
2/28/22	MILWAUKEE	ONE DAY
3/1/22	AT NEW YORK	H2A B2B
3/3/22	AT BOSTON	ONE DAY
3/5/22	CHARLOTTE	ONE DAY
3/7/22	AT HOUSTON	ONE DAY
3/9/22	AT MILWAUKEE	ONE DAY
3/10/22	AT MINNESOTA	A2A B2B
3/12/22	AT DENVER	ONE DAY
3/14/22	AT OKLAHOMA CITY	ONE DAY
3/16/22	SACRAMENTO	ONE DAY
3/19/22	DENVER	TWO DAYS
3/21/22	CLEVELAND	ONE DAY
3/23/22	CLEVELAND	ONE DAY
3/25/22	AT MIAMI	ONE DAY
3/26/22	AT ORLANDO	A2A B2B
3/29/22	HOUSTON	TWO DAYS
3/31/22	ATLANTA	ONE DAY
4/2/22	UTAH	ONE DAY
4/4/22	MINNESOTA	ONE DAY
4/5/22	AT DETROIT	H2A B2B
4/7/22	ORLANDO	ONE DAY
4/9/22	PHILADELPHIA	ONE DAY

MAKINEN'S PROJECTED WINS: 48.6



PHILADELPHIA

COACH: DOC RIVERS - 3RD SEASON

DIVISION: ATLANTIC

ARENA: WELLS FARGO CENTER

RECORD: 57-37 SU, 44-49 ATS, 43-49 O/U



NBA TITLE

15-1

CONFERENCE

+700

DIVISION

+350

SEASON WINS

50.5

STEVE MAKINEN'S RATINGS

POWER RATING

101 (#8 of 30)

EFFECTIVE STRENGTH RATING

2 (#11 of 30)

BETTOR'S RATING

-5.8 (#8 of 30)

ROSTER CHANGES

ADDITIONS

P.J. Tucker, De'Anthony Melton, Danuel House, Montrezl Harrell

LOSSES

Danny Green, DeAndre Jordan, Paul Millsap

DRAFT

None

OUTLOOK

When last season ended, Philadelphia had some clear flaws it needed to address, and the team did just that with the acquisitions it made via trade and free agency. Now the 76ers come into this season better than they were, and with a full offseason to get James Harden acclimated to the system, this team is truly a contender in the Eastern Conference.

The primary issue Philadelphia needed to fix was its production when Joel Embiid left the floor. Last season, the 76ers went from an offensive rating of 116.9 to 109.7 when Embiid left the floor and were outscored by 3.4 points per 100 possessions without him out there. Even the minutes with Harden on the floor but without Embiid were a nightmare (-11.6 net rating), but this season should be better with a deeper bench. De'Anthony Melton is a great option off the bench who averaged 10.8 points per game and shot 48.4% on corner 3-point attempts last season. He can also run the point, and that showed when Memphis was +7.8 in the minutes he was at the position. The team also brought in Montrezl Harrell, a dynamic offensive weapon who has improved his team's offensive rating every season but one when he was on the floor. Danuel House is a decent 3-and-D wing to add to the bench, and with stayover pieces like Furkan Korkmaz and Shake Milton, Doc Rivers has a much deeper bench than he had last season.

Not only is the depth improved, but so is the starting lineup. When Embiid and Harden shared the floor, this offense scored 124.1 points per 100 possessions and posted a +15.8 net rating. Those two should still form one of the more devastating offensive duos in the league, but now they have a true primary defender in PJ Tucker who can also add to the offense with his ability to hit corner 3-pointers (41.0% last season). In our projected starting lineup we have Tyrese Maxey, and he and Harden give the 76ers two ball-handlers on the floor at once. Philadelphia's transition frequency increased with Maxey on the floor, and he improved the 76ers' overall efficiency in transition as well as their points added per 100 possessions in the fastbreak. Those four with Tobias Harris, who is a great pull-up shooter (43.9% from 3-point range), give the 76ers' starting unit versatility in scoring options.

There is no perfect team and Philadelphia is far from that. There are still concerns about the backup center position as there remains no true big behind Embiid, and the defense for this bench is still going to be an issue. However, the top end of the roster is among the best in the NBA, and if Harden finds the version of himself who was an MVP candidate in his first season in Brooklyn, this team is a threat to Milwaukee and Boston in the East. It is surely a threat to win quite a few games in the regular season. The lowest total in the market is 50.5 at DraftKings, a total worth playing at a modest -120 (54.5% implied probability) price.

Win total recommendation: Over 50.5

SCHEDULE STRENGTH
98.09 (#23 toughest of 30)

DATE	OPPONENT	SCHEDULE SIT
10/18/22	AT BOSTON	-
10/20/22	MILWAUKEE	ONE DAY
10/22/22	SAN ANTONIO	ONE DAY
10/24/22	INDIANA	ONE DAY
10/26/22	AT TORONTO	ONE DAY
10/28/22	AT TORONTO	ONE DAY
10/29/22	AT CHICAGO	A2A B2B
10/31/22	AT WASHINGTON	ONE DAY
11/2/22	WASHINGTON	ONE DAY
11/4/22	NEW YORK	ONE DAY
11/7/22	PHOENIX	TWO DAYS
11/10/22	AT ATLANTA	TWO DAYS
11/12/22	ATLANTA	ONE DAY
11/13/22	UTAH	H2H B2B
11/18/22	MILWAUKEE	3+ DAYS
11/19/22	MINNESOTA	H2H B2B
11/22/22	BROOKLYN	TWO DAYS
11/23/22	AT CHARLOTTE	H2A B2B
11/25/22	AT ORLANDO	ONE DAY
11/27/22	AT ORLANDO	ONE DAY
11/28/22	ATLANTA	A2H B2B
11/30/22	AT CLEVELAND	ONE DAY
12/2/22	AT MEMPHIS	ONE DAY
12/5/22	AT HOUSTON	TWO DAYS
12/9/22	LA LAKERS	3+ DAYS
12/11/22	CHARLOTTE	ONE DAY
12/13/22	SACRAMENTO	ONE DAY
12/16/22	GOLDEN STATE	TWO DAYS
12/19/22	TORONTO	TWO DAYS
12/21/22	DETROIT	ONE DAY
12/23/22	LA CLIPPERS	ONE DAY
12/25/22	AT NEW YORK	ONE DAY
12/27/22	AT WASHINGTON	ONE DAY
12/30/22	AT NEW ORLEANS	TWO DAYS
12/31/22	AT OKLAHOMA CITY	A2A B2B
1/2/22	NEW ORLEANS	ONE DAY
1/4/22	INDIANA	ONE DAY
1/6/22	CHICAGO	ONE DAY
1/8/22	AT DETROIT	ONE DAY
1/10/22	DETROIT	ONE DAY
1/12/22	OKLAHOMA CITY	ONE DAY
1/14/22	AT UTAH	ONE DAY
1/15/22	AT LA LAKERS	A2A B2B
1/17/22	AT LA CLIPPERS	ONE DAY
1/19/22	AT PORTLAND	ONE DAY
1/21/22	AT SACRAMENTO	ONE DAY
1/25/22	BROOKLYN	3+ DAYS
1/28/22	DENVER	TWO DAYS
1/30/22	ORLANDO	ONE DAY
2/1/22	ORLANDO	ONE DAY
2/3/22	AT SAN ANTONIO	ONE DAY
2/5/22	AT NEW YORK	ONE DAY
2/8/22	AT BOSTON	TWO DAYS
2/10/22	NEW YORK	ONE DAY
2/11/22	AT BROOKLYN	H2A B2B
2/13/22	HOUSTON	ONE DAY
2/15/22	CLEVELAND	ONE DAY
2/23/22	MEMPHIS	3+ DAYS
2/25/22	BOSTON	ONE DAY
2/27/22	MIAMI	ONE DAY
3/1/22	AT MIAMI	ONE DAY
3/2/22	AT DALLAS	A2A B2B
3/4/22	AT MILWAUKEE	ONE DAY
3/6/22	AT INDIANA	ONE DAY
3/7/22	AT MINNESOTA	A2A B2B
3/10/22	PORTLAND	TWO DAYS
3/12/22	WASHINGTON	ONE DAY
3/15/22	AT CLEVELAND	TWO DAYS
3/17/22	AT CHARLOTTE	ONE DAY
3/18/22	AT INDIANA	A2A B2B
3/20/22	CHICAGO	ONE DAY
3/22/22	AT CHICAGO	ONE DAY
3/24/22	AT GOLDEN STATE	ONE DAY
3/25/22	AT PHOENIX	A2A B2B
3/27/22	AT DENVER	ONE DAY
3/29/22	DALLAS	ONE DAY
3/31/22	TORONTO	ONE DAY
4/2/22	AT MILWAUKEE	ONE DAY
4/4/22	BOSTON	ONE DAY
4/6/22	MIAMI	ONE DAY
4/7/22	AT ATLANTA	H2A B2B
4/9/22	AT BROOKLYN	ONE DAY

MAKINEN'S PROJECTED WINS: 48.4



TORONTO

COACH: NICK NURSE -5TH SEASON

DIVISION: ATLANTIC

ARENA: SCOTIABANK ARENA

RECORD: 50-38 SU, 48-39 ATS, 43-45 O/U



NBA TITLE
45-1

CONFERENCE
20-1

DIVISION
16-1

SEASON WINS
47

STEVE MAKINEN'S RATINGS

POWER RATING
98.5 (#16 of 30)

EFFECTIVE STRENGTH RATING
0.3 (#16 of 30)

BETTOR'S RATING
-4.4 (#13 of 30)

ROSTER CHANGES

ADDITIONS

Otto Porter Jr., Josh Jackson

LOSSES

Svi Mykhailiuk, Yuta Watanabe

DRAFT

Christian Koloko (Round 2, Pick 33)

OUTLOOK

Injuries were the story for Toronto throughout the 2021-2022 season, and they played a huge role in a first-round loss to Philadelphia. The additions the Raptors made in the offseason were few, but they are near-perfect fits for this roster. This team does not project to be among the contenders, but with positive health this will be one of the hardest outs each night and possibly in the postseason.

Our projected starting lineup for Toronto is the one it used most last season. However, the returns were average so it will be interesting to see if Nick Nurse makes any adjustments as the season progresses. When Fred VanVleet, Gary Trent Jr., OG Anunoby, Scottie Barnes and Pascal Siakam shared the floor, they only outscored opponents by 1.8 points per 100 possessions. Defense was this lineup's calling card. They allowed just 107.8 points per 100 possessions, 90.7 points per 100 plays in halfcourt settings and were among the best lineups in the league at forcing turnovers (16.9% turnover rate). Those steals turned into points, as this group added 2.7 points per 100 plays in transition off steals last season, and that figures to be one of its strengths yet again. Having said that, offense is not an overall strength for this team and it's why there is a gap between the Raptors and the elites of the Eastern Conference.

Toronto finished just 16th in non-garbage time offensive efficiency last season (112.9) and what was supposed to be their best lineup averaged just 109.6 points per 100 possessions. This is because they have almost no presence offensively in halfcourt settings. For the season, the Raptors ranked 26th in halfcourt offensive efficiency (91.3) and their most used lineup was not much better at 94.4 per 100 plays. What this team is missing is a true north-south presence which can attack the basket, draw fouls and finish within 4 feet. This team was 24th in offensive free throw rate (17.8) last season and 26th in frequency of attempts at the rim (30.2%). Those are similar figures to what this team has put out each of the last two seasons and its weaknesses remain, so the Raptors will likely finish in the same area of the standings this season.

There is a lot to like about the Raptors. They have a dynamic young piece in Scottie Barnes and they are one of the most athletic teams in the league with length and speed. However, when their best addition is Otto Porter Jr. and the front office does nothing to address its biggest weaknesses, it's hard to invest in this team's regular-season and postseason success. The SuperBook has the highest win total on the board at 47 at a -110 price on both sides. Better health should lead to more consistency for Toronto, but to invest in this team to match or surpass its win total from last season is not the way to go.

Win total recommendation: Under 47

SCHEDULE **STRENGTH**
98.4 (#12 toughest of 30)

DATE	OPPONENT	SCHEDULE SIT
10/19/22	CLEVELAND	-
10/21/22	AT BROOKLYN	ONE DAY
10/22/22	AT MIAMI	A2A B2B
10/24/22	AT MIAMI	ONE DAY
10/26/22	PHILADELPHIA	ONE DAY
10/28/22	PHILADELPHIA	ONE DAY
10/31/22	ATLANTA	TWO DAYS
11/2/22	AT SAN ANTONIO	ONE DAY
11/4/22	AT DALLAS	ONE DAY
11/6/22	CHICAGO	ONE DAY
11/7/22	AT CHICAGO	H2A B2B
11/9/22	HOUSTON	ONE DAY
11/11/22	AT OKLAHOMA CITY	ONE DAY
11/12/22	AT INDIANA	A2A B2B
11/14/22	AT DETROIT	ONE DAY
11/16/22	MIAMI	ONE DAY
11/19/22	AT ATLANTA	TWO DAYS
11/23/22	BROOKLYN	3+ DAYS
11/26/22	DALLAS	TWO DAYS
11/28/22	CLEVELAND	ONE DAY
11/30/22	AT NEW ORLEANS	ONE DAY
12/2/22	AT BROOKLYN	ONE DAY
12/3/22	ORLANDO	A2H B2B
12/5/22	BOSTON	ONE DAY
12/7/22	LA LAKERS	ONE DAY
12/9/22	AT ORLANDO	ONE DAY
12/11/22	AT ORLANDO	ONE DAY
12/14/22	SACRAMENTO	TWO DAYS
12/16/22	BROOKLYN	ONE DAY
12/18/22	GOLDEN STATE	ONE DAY
12/19/22	AT PHILADELPHIA	H2A B2B
12/21/22	AT NEW YORK	ONE DAY
12/23/22	AT CLEVELAND	ONE DAY
12/27/22	LA CLIPPERS	3+ DAYS
12/29/22	MEMPHIS	ONE DAY
12/30/22	PHOENIX	H2H B2B
1/2/22	AT INDIANA	TWO DAYS
1/4/22	MILWAUKEE	ONE DAY
1/6/22	NEW YORK	ONE DAY
1/8/22	PORTLAND	ONE DAY
1/10/22	CHARLOTTE	ONE DAY
1/12/22	CHARLOTTE	ONE DAY
1/14/22	ATLANTA	ONE DAY
1/16/22	AT NEW YORK	ONE DAY
1/17/22	AT MILWAUKEE	A2A B2B
1/19/22	AT MINNESOTA	ONE DAY
1/21/22	BOSTON	ONE DAY
1/22/22	NEW YORK	H2H B2B
1/25/22	AT SACRAMENTO	TWO DAYS
1/27/22	AT GOLDEN STATE	ONE DAY
1/28/22	AT PORTLAND	A2A B2B
1/30/22	AT PHOENIX	ONE DAY
2/1/22	AT UTAH	ONE DAY
2/3/22	AT HOUSTON	ONE DAY
2/5/22	AT MEMPHIS	ONE DAY
2/8/22	SAN ANTONIO	TWO DAYS
2/10/22	UTAH	ONE DAY
2/12/22	DETROIT	ONE DAY
2/14/22	ORLANDO	ONE DAY
2/23/22	NEW ORLEANS	3+ DAYS
2/25/22	AT DETROIT	ONE DAY
2/26/22	AT CLEVELAND	A2A B2B
2/28/22	CHICAGO	ONE DAY
3/2/22	AT WASHINGTON	ONE DAY
3/4/22	AT WASHINGTON	ONE DAY
3/6/22	AT DENVER	ONE DAY
3/8/22	AT LA CLIPPERS	ONE DAY
3/10/22	AT LA LAKERS	ONE DAY
3/14/22	DENVER	3+ DAYS
3/16/22	OKLAHOMA CITY	ONE DAY
3/18/22	MINNESOTA	ONE DAY
3/19/22	AT MILWAUKEE	H2A B2B
3/22/22	INDIANA	TWO DAYS
3/24/22	DETROIT	ONE DAY
3/26/22	WASHINGTON	ONE DAY
3/28/22	MIAMI	ONE DAY
3/31/22	AT PHILADELPHIA	TWO DAYS
4/2/22	AT CHARLOTTE	ONE DAY
4/4/22	AT CHARLOTTE	ONE DAY
4/5/22	AT BOSTON	A2A B2B
4/7/22	AT BOSTON	ONE DAY
4/9/22	MILWAUKEE	ONE DAY

MAKINEN'S PROJECTED WINS: 42.0



NEW YORK

COACH: TOM THIBODEAU - 3RD SEASON

DIVISION: ATLANTIC

ARENA: MADISON SQUARE GARDEN

RECORD: 37-45 SU, 39-43 ATS, 38-42 O/U



NBA TITLE
100-1

CONFERENCE
50-1

DIVISION
60-1

SEASON WINS
38.5

STEVE MAKINEN'S RATINGS

POWER RATING

96.5 (#19 of 30)

EFFECTIVE STRENGTH RATING

-1.4 (#20 of 30)

BETTOR'S RATING

-1.4 (#20 of 30)

ROSTER CHANGES

ADDITIONS

Jalen Brunson, Isaiah Hartenstein

LOSSES

Alec Burks, Kemba Walker, Taj Gibson, Nerlens Noel

DRAFT

Trevor Keels (Round 2, Pick 42)

OUTLOOK

New York might not have landed both of its coveted targets in the offseason, but it landed one and that makes it a successful summer for the Knickerbockers. The expectations should not be too high, but New York will be a respectable club with a realistic opportunity to find its way back to the postseason by way of the play-in tournament.

When Evan Fournier, RJ Barrett, Julius Randle and Mitchell Robinson were on the floor together last season, they were outscored by 5.3 points per 100 possessions. Even with Tom Thibodeau on the bench, those four had a defensive rating of 115.8 and opponents took advantage of a poor interior defense which allowed 67.5% shooting at the rim. On offense, they fared no better, ranking in the 36th percentile of lineups in offensive efficiency at 110.5 points per 100 possessions. Despite those pedestrian numbers, the Knicks are running it back once more, but with Jalen Brunson filling the role of point guard. How much better does Brunson really make this lineup? In his minutes at point guard last season, the Mavericks were +6.4 per 100 possessions, and he's a solid passer who assisted on 23.8% of the made baskets when he was on the floor. However, in two of four seasons he made the Mavericks' defensive rating worse in his minutes on the floor, and last season they gave up 2.7 more points per 100 possessions with him out there. Can he positively contribute to a bad defensive unit like the one New York is going to roll out to start games?

The Knicks' bench is the best thing the team has going for it, and it is full of young pieces. Third-year player Immanuel Quickley has been stupendous in his time as a pro, and last season the Knicks outscored opponents by 6.7 points per 100 possessions. He improved as a passer as well and assisted on 23.5% of the made baskets when on the floor. If Thibodeau really buys into him as the primary option off the bench, he is a real candidate for Sixth Man of the Year or Most Improved. Isaiah Hartenstein is a great rim protector. When he was on the floor, opponents' rim shooting dropped by 6.2% and he blocked 3.3% of shot attempts. Obi Toppin is a great offensive asset who injects some speed into the Knicks. New York's transition frequency increased by 2.7% in his minutes, and in his minutes at power forward, the Knicks were +8.0 per 100 possessions. Then there is Quentin Grimes, a young piece who is coming off a brilliant summer in which he led the Knicks to a berth in the Summer League championship.

New York was one of the most overvalued teams in the preseason last year due to an overachieving season that captured the hearts of the betting market. The expectations are not there this year, so we see a consensus win total of 38.5 at most shops. This starting lineup does not excite anybody, but Brunson is a good player and some of the potential lineups we could see him in have potential considering the reserves this team has built up. I hate to say it as the resident "New York Hater," but 38.5 is too low.

Win total recommendation: Over 38.5

SCHEDULE STRENGTH 98.61 (#1 toughest of 30)

DATE	OPPONENT	SCHEDULE SIT
10/19/22	AT MEMPHIS	-
10/21/22	DETROIT	ONE DAY
10/24/22	ORLANDO	TWO DAYS
10/26/22	CHARLOTTE	ONE DAY
10/28/22	AT MILWAUKEE	ONE DAY
10/30/22	AT CLEVELAND	ONE DAY
11/2/22	ATLANTA	TWO DAYS
11/4/22	AT PHILADELPHIA	ONE DAY
11/5/22	BOSTON	A2H B2B
11/7/22	AT MINNESOTA	ONE DAY
11/9/22	AT BROOKLYN	ONE DAY
11/11/22	DETROIT	ONE DAY
11/13/22	OKLAHOMA CITY	ONE DAY
11/15/22	AT UTAH	ONE DAY
11/16/22	AT DENVER	A2A B2B
11/18/22	AT GOLDEN STATE	ONE DAY
11/20/22	AT PHOENIX	ONE DAY
11/21/22	AT OKLAHOMA CITY	A2A B2B
11/25/22	PORTLAND	3+ DAYS
11/27/22	MEMPHIS	ONE DAY
11/29/22	AT DETROIT	ONE DAY
11/30/22	MILWAUKEE	A2H B2B
12/3/22	DALLAS	TWO DAYS
12/4/22	CLEVELAND	H2H B2B
12/7/22	ATLANTA	TWO DAYS
12/9/22	AT CHARLOTTE	ONE DAY
12/11/22	SACRAMENTO	ONE DAY
12/14/22	AT CHICAGO	TWO DAYS
12/16/22	AT CHICAGO	ONE DAY
12/18/22	AT INDIANA	ONE DAY
12/20/22	GOLDEN STATE	ONE DAY
12/21/22	TORONTO	H2H B2B
12/23/22	CHICAGO	ONE DAY
12/25/22	PHILADELPHIA	ONE DAY
12/27/22	AT DALLAS	ONE DAY
12/29/22	AT SAN ANTONIO	ONE DAY
12/31/22	AT HOUSTON	ONE DAY
1/2/22	PHOENIX	ONE DAY
1/4/22	SAN ANTONIO	ONE DAY
1/6/22	AT TORONTO	ONE DAY
1/9/22	MILWAUKEE	TWO DAYS
1/11/22	INDIANA	ONE DAY
1/13/22	AT WASHINGTON	ONE DAY
1/15/22	AT DETROIT	ONE DAY
1/16/22	TORONTO	A2H B2B
1/18/22	WASHINGTON	ONE DAY
1/20/22	AT ATLANTA	ONE DAY
1/22/22	AT TORONTO	ONE DAY
1/24/22	CLEVELAND	ONE DAY
1/26/22	AT BOSTON	ONE DAY
1/28/22	AT BROOKLYN	ONE DAY
1/31/22	LA LAKERS	TWO DAYS
2/2/22	MIAMI	ONE DAY
2/4/22	LA CLIPPERS	ONE DAY
2/5/22	PHILADELPHIA	H2H B2B
2/7/22	AT ORLANDO	ONE DAY
2/10/22	AT PHILADELPHIA	TWO DAYS
2/11/22	UTAH	A2H B2B
2/13/22	BROOKLYN	ONE DAY
2/15/22	AT ATLANTA	ONE DAY
2/24/22	AT WASHINGTON	3+ DAYS
2/25/22	NEW ORLEANS	A2H B2B
2/27/22	BOSTON	ONE DAY
3/1/22	BROOKLYN	ONE DAY
3/3/22	AT MIAMI	ONE DAY
3/5/22	AT BOSTON	ONE DAY
3/7/22	CHARLOTTE	ONE DAY
3/9/22	AT SACRAMENTO	ONE DAY
3/11/22	AT LA CLIPPERS	ONE DAY
3/12/22	AT LA LAKERS	A2A B2B
3/14/22	AT PORTLAND	ONE DAY
3/18/22	DENVER	3+ DAYS
3/20/22	MINNESOTA	ONE DAY
3/22/22	AT MIAMI	ONE DAY
3/23/22	AT ORLANDO	A2A B2B
3/27/22	HOUSTON	3+ DAYS
3/29/22	MIAMI	ONE DAY
3/31/22	AT CLEVELAND	ONE DAY
4/2/22	WASHINGTON	ONE DAY
4/5/22	AT INDIANA	TWO DAYS
4/7/22	AT NEW ORLEANS	ONE DAY
4/9/22	INDIANA	ONE DAY

MAKINEN'S PROJECTED WINS: 36.8

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- Includes Dave Tuley, Matt Youmans, Michael Lombardi, Josh Appelbaum, Steve Makinen, Jonathan Von Tobel, Adam Burke and Andy MacNeil

BETTING GUIDES

- Sport-specific betting previews for major sports and events, including our College Football and NFL betting guides

BETTING SPLITS

- Data displays percentage of handle and tickets for all major sports from DraftKings Sportsbooks in U.S.
- Page is updated every 10 minutes with any changes to these numbers

ADVANCED DATA

- 3 sets of power ratings used by betting pros to handicap games
- Estimated scores and lines
- Advanced betting statistics for major sports (e.g. ATS records for referees and umpires)

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