



Red Wings hosting Hockey Fights Cancer Night during game against Pittsburgh Penguins

Jimmy-Howard-Cancer-Mask.jpg

This is a rendition of the mask Jimmy Howard will wear tonight to raise cancer awareness. *(Courtesy of Detroit Red Wings)*

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DETROIT - The Detroit Red Wings will be raising awareness for the fight against cancer tonight when they host the Pittsburgh Penguins at Joe Louis Arena.

All 30 NHL teams are hosting Hockey Fights Cancer Night this season and the Red Wings are one of seven that will feature all-lavender dasher boards.

Lavender is the color used in the bid to raise awareness for cancer.

"I've been involved in cancer research and raising money for 14 years and have kids in the (dressing) room every night for that amount of time," said Red Wings coach Mike Babcock. "It's a great cause, it's an ongoing battle. Kids, anybody involved with cancer, people don't understand when someone in your family gets cancer, the whole family gets cancer.

"We've made significant strides in the battle and research and doctors are doing great things but there's a lot of work to be done. It's one night here today but it's ongoing 365 days a year and anytime you're in a position of notoriety and you can help, you should help.

"This is something near and dear, close to me for sure and I'm thrilled that the players are involved as well."

Fans are encouraged to wear purple clothing to the game vs. the Penguins and everyone in attendance will receive a "My Purple Is" card. During a stoppage in play, fans will be asked to stand and hold up their card to recognize someone in their life who has been affected by the disease.

Goaltender **Jimmy Howard will wear a special mask** to raise awareness for cancer.

Tonight's activities will also include a bone marrow registration drive behind section 126; players will use lavender tape on their sticks, which will be sold at **Auctions.NHL.com** next week; captain Henrik Zetterberg will host 20 cancer patients and survivors in his suite; the Red Wings will host 20 patients and survivors; and a portion of the 50/50 raffle will be donated to the Van Andel Institute.

Upper-level seats are available for \$40 or \$55 and 100 percent of the proceeds from each ticket will be donated to the Van Andel Institute.

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