



Ernie Wakely



Ernest Alfred Linton Wakely
Honored Member of the WHA Hall of Fame
Goaltender
Born November 27, 1940 in Flin Flon, Manitoba
Height: 5' 11" Weight: 160 lbs.

After being selected in the preliminary round of the 1972 General Player Draft, Ernie Wakely became the Winnipeg Jets' first announced signing at a press conference on the morning of May 24, 1972. Wakely left the NHL's St. Louis Blues to sign a three-year contract with the Jets.

Wakely split time with Joe Daley over his first two seasons with the Jets and was outstanding in backstopping the Jets to the Western Division crown and an appearance in the finals in 1972-73. Early in the 1974-75 season, Wakely found himself as the odd man out in a three-man logjam and the Jets traded him to the San Diego Mariners. Wakely soon took over the starting position and San Diego and excelled over the next two and a half seasons with the Mariners, leading them to a post-season berth three times.

After the Mariners folded following the 1976-77 season, Wakely signed with the Cincinnati Stingers, but in November, he was traded to the Houston Aeros. He again seized the starting position and backstopped the Aeros to a third-place finish in the eight-team league. Wakely was on the move once again after the Aeros folded and he signed with the Birmingham Bulls for the 1978-79 season. He teamed up with rookie Pat Riggin on a young Bulls squad that fell just short of qualifying for post-season play in the Bulls' and WHA's final season.

Wakely retired following the 1978-79 season. He was a Second Team All-Star in 1977-78 and appeared in the WHA's first two All-Star Games. He was the WHA's all-time leader in games played and shutouts.

Goaltending Statistics

Regular Season

<u>Season</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>GP</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>GA</u>	<u>EN</u>	<u>SO</u>	<u>Saves</u>	<u>Sv %</u>	<u>GAA</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>T</u>
1972-1973	Winnipeg Jets	49	2894	152	2	2	1259	0.892	3.15	26	19	3
1973-1974	Winnipeg Jets	37	2254	123	2	3	1061	0.896	3.27	15	18	4
1974-1975	San Diego Mariners	35	2062	115	3	2	976	0.895	3.35	20	12	2
1974-1975	Winnipeg Jets	6	355	16	0	1	197	0.925	2.70	3	3	0
1975-1976	San Diego Mariners	67	3823	208	3	3	1772	0.895	3.25	35	27	4
1976-1977	San Diego Mariners	46	2506	129	2	3	1113	0.896	3.09	22	18	3
1977-1978	Cincinnati Stingers	6	311	26	0	0	120	0.822	5.02	0	5	0
1977-1978	Houston Aeros	51	3070	166	3	2	1442	0.897	3.24	28	18	4
1978-1979	Birmingham Bulls	37	2060	129	2	0	944	0.880	3.76	15	17	1

Playoffs

<u>Season</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>GP</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>GA</u>	<u>EN</u>	<u>SO</u>	<u>Saves</u>	<u>Sv %</u>	<u>GAA</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>
1972-1973	Winnipeg Jets	7	420	22	0	2	188	0.895	3.14	4	3
1974-1975	San Diego Mariners	10	520	39	0	0			4.50	4	6
1975-1976	San Diego Mariners	11	640	39	0	0			3.66	5	6
1976-1977	San Diego Mariners	3	160	9	0	0	66	0.880	3.38	2	1



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Scoring Statistics

Regular Season						Playoffs							
Season	Team	GP	G	A	Pts	PIM	Season	Team	GP	G	A	Pts	PIM
1972-1973	Winnipeg Jets	49	0	0	0	0	1972-1973	Winnipeg Jets	7	0	0	0	0
1973-1974	Winnipeg Jets	37	0	0	0	9							
1974-1975	San Diego Mariners	35	0	0	0	0	1974-1975	San Diego Mariners	10	0	0	0	0
1974-1975	Winnipeg Jets	6	0	0	0	0							
1975-1976	San Diego Mariners	67	0	2	2	6	1975-1976	San Diego Mariners	11	0	0	0	4
1976-1977	San Diego Mariners	46	0	1	1	0	1976-1977	San Diego Mariners	3	0	0	0	0
1977-1978	Cincinnati Stingers	6	0	0	0	0							
1977-1978	Houston Aeros	51	0	4	4	2							
1978-1979	Birmingham Bulls	37	0	3	3	0							

Jersey Numbers

<u>#</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Team</u>
30	1972-1973	Winnipeg Jets
30	1973-1974	Winnipeg Jets
30	1974-1975	Winnipeg Jets
31	1974-1975	San Diego Mariners
31	1975-1976	San Diego Mariners
31	1976-1977	San Diego Mariners
35	1977-1978	Cincinnati Stingers
31	1977-1978	Houston Aeros
31	1978-1979	Birmingham Bulls

Transactions

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>
January 6, 1975	Winnipeg Jets trade Ernie Wakely to San Diego Mariners for cash and future considerations.
August 1977	Cincinnati Stingers sign Ernie Wakely as a free agent.
November 1977	Cincinnati Stingers trade Ernie Wakely to Houston Aeros for future considerations.
July 1978	Birmingham Bulls sign Ernie Wakely as a free agent.

Draft History

Selected by Winnipeg Jets in 1972 General Player Draft (St. Louis NHL).