

= Evander Kane =

Evander Frank Kane ( born August 2 , 1991 ) is a Canadian professional ice hockey left winger currently playing for the Buffalo Sabres of the National Hockey League ( NHL ) . Kane was selected fourth overall in the first round of the 2009 NHL Entry Draft by the Atlanta Thrashers .

During his major junior career , Kane won the Memorial Cup with the Vancouver Giants of the Western Hockey League ( WHL ) in 2007 , finished as runner @-@ up for the Jim Piggott Memorial Trophy as WHL rookie of the year in 2008 and was named to the WHL West First All @-@ Star Team in 2009 . Kane also set the Giants ' franchise record for single @-@ season goals in 2008 ? 09 .

Internationally , Kane has won gold medals with Team Canada at the 2008 Ivan Hlinka Memorial Tournament and 2009 World Junior Championships . He has also competed in the 2010 IIHF World Championship .

= = Early life = =

Kane was born on August 2 , 1991 , in Vancouver , British Columbia , to Perry and Sheri Kane , who named him after American boxer Evander Holyfield ( he later met Holyfield at age 18 ) . Kane has two sisters , Brea and Kyla , who are two and four years younger , respectively .

Coming from an athletic lineage , his father was an amateur boxer and hockey player . Kane 's mother was a professional volleyball player . His uncle , Leonard Kane , is a member of the Canadian Ball Hockey Hall of Fame . Kane 's cousin , Dwayne Provo , played in the Canadian Football League ( CFL ) for seven years and spent one season with the New England Patriots of the National Football League ( NFL ) . Another cousin , Kirk Johnson , boxed for Canada at the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona and later fought John Ruiz for the 2002 World Boxing Association ( WBA ) Heavyweight title .

Growing up in East Vancouver , Kane attended high school at John Oliver Secondary . In addition to hockey , he played baseball , basketball and soccer growing up . After beginning to skate at the age of three , he began playing minor hockey at eight . His father instructed him in his early years and initially wanted to keep him out of organized hockey until Kane was ten . At the age of 14 years , Kane recorded 140 points in 66 games with the bantam North Shore Winter Club , followed by a 22 @-@ goal , 54 @-@ point campaign to finish fourth in league scoring with the Greater Vancouver Canadians of the BC Hockey Major Midget League ( BCMML ) . Kane also played minor hockey with the Vancouver Thunderbirds , prior to bantam and midget .

= = Playing career = =

= = = Amateur = = =

= = = Vancouver Giants ( 2006 ? 09 ) = = =

Kane was drafted 19th overall in the 2006 WHL Bantam Draft by the Vancouver Giants . He received his first WHL call @-@ up for a game against the Seattle Thunderbirds on December 13 , 2006 , due to other Giants players international commitments in the World Junior Championships . Kane scored his first WHL goal , a game @-@ tying marker , on March 25 , 2007 , the last game of the regular season . He also suited up for five WHL post @-@ season games , being originally called up for the playoffs after Giants forward Tim Kraus was suspended for game three of the opening round . He later appeared in two Memorial Cup games , tallying an assist , as part of the Giants ' 2007 Memorial Cup championship .

Set to begin his rookie campaign with the Giants the following season , Kane experienced a minor setback , as he was forced to miss the start of training camp with a case of mononucleosis . He

nevertheless recovered and joined the Giants full @-@ time to tally 24 goals ? third in team scoring ? and 41 points in his first WHL season . Finishing tenth in rookie scoring , he was nominated for the Jim Piggott Memorial Trophy as WHL rookie of the year , which was awarded to Brayden Schenn of the Brandon Wheat Kings .

Kane emerged with an impressive start to the 2008 ? 09 season , registering at least a point in each of his first 22 games . After recording his first WHL hat @-@ trick on October 10 , 2008 , against the Kelowna Rockets , he was named WHL Player of the Week on October 12 , succeeding linemate Casey Pierro @-@ Zabotel , who had been chosen the previous week . Kane earned a spot as an injury replacement at the 2009 World Junior Championships with Team Canada . Upon returning with a gold medal , Kane was named player of the week for the second time in the season on January 12 , 2009 , after scoring six points in two games immediately following the World Juniors . Later that month , he participated in the 2009 CHL Top Prospects Game as captain for Team Cherry .

Kane finished his second WHL season with 48 goals and 96 points , fourth in League scoring . He surpassed Adam Courchaine 's team record of 43 goals in a single season , set in 2002 ? 03 . Second in team scoring to Pierro @-@ Zabotel 's 115 points , the linemates finished one @-@ two in all @-@ time Giants ' single @-@ season scoring as Pierro @-@ Zabotel and Kane both surpassed Gilbert Brulé 's previous 87 @-@ point mark . Kane received WHL West First Team All @-@ Star honours along with teammates Pierro @-@ Zabotel and Jonathon Blum . In the subsequent 2009 playoffs , after the Giants swept the Prince George Cougars in the first round , Kane scored a double @-@ overtime game @-@ winner to force a seventh game in the second round against the Spokane Chiefs . After eliminating the Chiefs in the seventh game , the Giants were then defeated by the Kelowna Rockets in six games in the semi @-@ finals . In 17 post @-@ season games , Kane accumulated 15 points .

= = = Professional = = =

= = = Atlanta Thrashers / Winnipeg Jets ( 2009 ? 2015 ) = = =

Kane was selected fourth overall by the Atlanta Thrashers . Less than a month later , the Thrashers signed Kane to an entry @-@ level contract on July 20 , 2009 .

Kane made the Thrashers ' lineup out of his first NHL training camp for the 2009 ? 10 season . He recorded his first career NHL point in his debut on October 3 , 2009 , earning an assist on a goal by Rich Peverley against the Tampa Bay Lightning . His first goal was scored five days later , on October 8 , beating Chris Mason with a snap shot in a 4 ? 2 win over the St. Louis Blues . He suffered a bone fracture , late in his rookie season , blocking a shot during a game against the Tampa Bay Lightning on March 6 , 2010 . Kane missed 15 games before returning to the lineup on April 3 . Kane finished his NHL rookie campaign with 14 goals and 26 points in 66 games , ranked 12th among first @-@ year point @-@ scorers .

Kane suffered several minor injuries during his second NHL season in 2010 ? 11 season . During a game against the Colorado Avalanche on November 30 , 2010 , Kane suffered a left knee injury after he was struck by a shot from teammate Tobias Enström ; he missed two games . The following month , he missed one game due to an arm injury , sustained during a game against the Pittsburgh Penguins on December 7 . In January 2011 , he missed an additional six games due to a lower @-@ body injury . Kept from the lineup for a total nine games , Kane increased his points total to 43 with 19 goals and 24 assists . He ranked fifth in team point @-@ scoring ? third among forward behind captain Andrew Ladd and Bryan Little .

During the off @-@ season , the Thrashers franchise was bought and relocated by True North Sports and Entertainment , becoming the Winnipeg Jets . Kane was enjoying a successful first season as a Jet , leading his team in scoring with 18 goals and 31 points by mid @-@ January 2012 . During that month , however , he was sidelined with a concussion that was reported on January 21 . Later in the season , he recorded a four @-@ point game ( two goals and two assists ) in a 7 ? 0

win against the Florida Panthers on March 1 , 2012 . On September 15 , 2012 , Kane signed a six @-@ year , \$ 31 @.@ 5 million contract extension with the Jets .

As a result of the 2012 ? 13 NHL lockout , Kane joined Dinamo Minsk of the Kontinental Hockey League ( KHL ) . He was the first Canadian NHL player to sign a contract with the KHL . However , after 12 games with the club , in which he recorded one goal , Kane was released . The club 's athletic director suggested that Kane " could not adapt to hockey in the KHL , " but also said that both sides mutually agreed to end the contract .

On April 3 , 2014 , Kane was accused of assault , after an incident in Vancouver , and sued for financial damages . On April 5 , 2014 , Kane was a healthy scratch under new head coach Paul Maurice , in a game against the Toronto Maple Leafs . After the game , Maurice said it was a coach 's decision , and that if Kane wanted back in the lineup , all he needed to do was " probably just come to the rink . " On February 3 , 2015 Kane was a healthy scratch against the Vancouver Canucks . It was later determined that he was scratched because of an incident with his teammates . Kane revealed in an October 2015 interview that he felt the Jets did not " have his back " throughout his legal and behavioral issues but instead felt that they traded away their problem .

= = = Buffalo Sabres ( 2015 ? present ) = = =

The Jets traded Kane on February 11 , 2015 , as well as Zach Bogosian and the rights to Jason Kasdorf , to the Buffalo Sabres in exchange for Tyler Myers , Drew Stafford , Joel Armia , Brendan Lemieux and a conditional first @-@ round pick in the 2015 NHL Entry Draft ( Jack Roslovic ) .

= = International play = =

Kane competed in the 2008 Ivan Hlinka Memorial Tournament , capturing gold with Canada 's under @-@ 18 team . He totalled four points in four games , including an assist in the 6 ? 3 gold medal game win against Russia . Later that year , Kane competed on Team Canada during the 2009 World Junior Ice Hockey Championships . As the youngest player on the team , Kane contributed six points in six games , helping Canada to a fifth @-@ straight gold medal with a 5 ? 1 victory over Sweden in the final .

Following his rookie season in the NHL , Kane was named to the Canadian men 's team for the 2010 IIHF World Championship in Germany . General Manager Mark Messier made a specific effort to assemble a young team ; as a result , Kane was one of five teenagers on the roster . He finished the tournament with two goals and two assists in seven games . Canada was eliminated in the quarterfinal by Russia and finished in seventh place .

The following year , Kane returned to the national team for the 2011 IIHF World Championship in Slovakia . Kane recorded two assists over seven games as Canada suffered a second consecutive defeat in the quarterfinal to Russia .

= = Career statistics = =

= = = Regular season and playoffs = = =

= = = International = = =

= = Awards = =

= = = CHL = = =

== WHL ==

== International ==

== Records ==

Vancouver Giants franchise record ; most goals , single @-@ season ? 48 in 2008 ? 09 ( surpassed Adam Courchaine ? 43 in 2002 ? 03 )