

= Keith Aulie =

Keith Aulie ( born June 11 , 1989 ) is a Canadian professional ice hockey defenceman currently playing with HIFK of the Finnish Liiga . Aulie was drafted by the Calgary Flames 116th overall in the 2007 NHL Entry Draft . Aulie played junior hockey for the Brandon Wheat Kings of the Western Hockey League ( WHL ) , and was honoured as the League 's Top Scholastic Player in 2007 .

Internationally , Aulie played in the 2009 World Junior Championships , where he paired with Tyler Myers on defence and helped Canada capture a gold medal . He was traded to the Toronto Maple Leafs in trade for Dion Phaneuf , among others , from the Flames during the 2009 ? 10 season . Aulie made his NHL debut with the Maple Leafs in November 2010 . Off the ice , Aulie was honoured by the Canadian Red Cross for saving his father after he fell through ice on the family farm .

= = Playing career = =

= = = Junior = = =

Aulie played junior hockey with the Brandon Wheat Kings of the Western Hockey League ( WHL ) , after being selected in the first round of the 2004 WHL Bantam Draft . Prior to being drafted , Aulie played minor hockey with the Weyburn Bantam RedCoat Rams . Aulie made his WHL debut with the Wheat Kings during the 2005 ? 06 season , playing in 38 games and recording two assists . After the 2006 ? 07 season , Aulie was named the winner of the Doc Seaman Trophy as the WHL 's top scholastic player . He played in 66 games that season , scoring his first career WHL goal , and adding eight assists . The Calgary Flames made Aulie their fourth @-@ round pick , 116th overall , in the 2007 NHL Entry Draft . In the leadup to the Draft , Aulie was ranked 108th overall among North American skaters by the NHL Central Scouting Bureau . Aulie spent his entire WHL career with the Wheat Kings , and in his final season ( 2008 ? 09 ) , he served as the team 's captain and was named to the WHL Eastern Conference All @-@ Star Team . Aulie improved his point totals in each of his four WHL seasons , finishing with 17 points in his third season and 33 during his final season .

= = = Professional = = =

Aulie signed his first professional contract with the Calgary Flames in January 2009 . After exhausting his junior eligibility , Aulie began his professional career with the Abbotsford Heat of the American Hockey League ( AHL ) , the Flames ' top minor league affiliate . During his first professional season with the Heat , Aulie 's rights were traded to the Toronto Maple Leafs , along with Dion Phaneuf and Fredrik Sjöström , in exchange for Matt Stajan , Ian White , Niklas Hagman and Jamal Mayers . After the trade , Aulie joined the Toronto Marlies , the Maple Leafs ' AHL affiliate , for the remainder of the 2009 ? 10 season . His season was cut short after only five games with the Marlies , however , due to an injury . He played 48 games during his first professional season , scoring two goals and adding four assists between both teams at the AHL level .

At the start of the 2010 ? 11 season , Aulie was assigned to the Marlies after training camp with the Maple Leafs . He was later called up to the NHL on November 12 , 2010 , when Dion Phaneuf was injured . Aulie played his first career NHL game the next day against the Vancouver Canucks , playing 12 games total with the Maple Leafs in his call @-@ up before ultimately being returned to the Marlies . Despite the time he spent away from the AHL , Aulie was selected to the Western Conference team for the AHL All @-@ Star Game . During the Skills Competition , Aulie competed in the hardest shot event , finishing third , with a top speed of 95 @.@ 5 mph . After the Maple Leafs traded defenceman François Beauchemin to the Anaheim Ducks , Aulie was called up to rejoin the team . Maple Leafs General Manager Brian Burke said one of the reasons for the trade was to open up a spot at the NHL level for Aulie : " ... as soon as we get a roster spot , we 're calling up Keith

Aulie . We expect him to be here for a while . " Aulie engaged in his first career NHL fight against Scott Hartnell of the Philadelphia Flyers , earning him the nickname " Muhammad Aulie . " He scored his first career NHL goal against the New York Islanders on March 9 , 2011 .

Prior to the 2011 ? 12 season , Aulie was demoted to the Toronto Marlies . On February 27 , 2012 , he was then traded to the Tampa Bay Lightning in exchange for Carter Ashton . After the trade , Aulie split time between the AHL level with the Norfolk Admirals and Syracuse Crunch and the NHL with the Lightning .

On July 1 , 2014 , Aulie signed as a free agent to a one @-@ year contract with the Edmonton Oilers . On December 31 , Aulie was suspended for two games as a result of an illegal check to Calgary Flames center Matt Stajan .

As a free agent , Aulie accepted a professional try @-@ out contract to attend the training camp of the Arizona Coyotes on September 9 , 2015 . A month into the 2015 ? 16 season , Aulie was signed to a professional try @-@ out contract with the Coyotes AHL affiliate , the Springfield Falcons on November 3 , 2015 . Aulie featured in 7 games for 1 goal over the duration of his try @-@ out before he was released on November 26 , 2015 . On January 3 , 2016 , Aulie signed his first European contract , joining HIFK of the Finnish Liiga for the remainder of the season .

= = International play = =

Aulie represented Canada internationally for the first time at the 2009 World Junior Championships . He played on a defensive pairing with Tyler Myers and helped Team Canada to a gold medal . Aulie , standing 6 ' 5 " tall , and Myers , at 6 ' 7 " , were nicknamed the " twin towers " by media covering the event . After the tournament , Aulie was honoured by his hometown of Rouleau with a steak dinner , as well as by his then @-@ NHL team , the Calgary Flames , when he attended a game against the St. Louis Blues .

= = Personal life = =

Aulie 's parents are Bill and Karen . He has a younger sister , Krystal . He attended school in Rouleau , Saskatchewan , until Grade 9 , where he helped capture a provincial volleyball championship in addition to multiple provincial track medals . He attended high school at Athol Murray College of Notre Dame in Wilcox , before he began playing with the Brandon Wheat Kings .

In December 2006 , Aulie 's father was using a tractor to clear snow off a frozen dugout in anticipation of an outdoor shinny game on New Year 's Day . The ice could not support the weight of the tractor , and he fell through . Aulie was able to pull his father out of the water and get him to safety . The Canadian Red Cross honoured Aulie with their Rescuer Award for his act .

= = Career statistics = =

= = = Regular season and playoffs = = =

Junior and professional statistics source

= = = International = = =

International statistics source