

= 2010 ? 11 Calgary Flames season =

The 2010 ? 11 Calgary Flames season was the 31st season in Calgary and 39th for the Flames franchise in the National Hockey League (NHL) . The Flames finished second in the Northwest Division but failed to qualify for the playoffs after finishing 10th in the Western Conference . It was the second consecutive season that the Flames missed the playoffs .

The franchise reached two milestones during the season : In November , Curtis Glencross scored the 10,000th goal in franchise history dating back to the founding of the Atlanta Flames in 1972 , and in January , the Flames played their 3,000th game . Calgary hosted the 2011 Heritage Classic , an outdoor game against the Montreal Canadiens . The Flames won the game 4 ? 0 as goaltender Miikka Kiprusoff became the first goaltender to record a shutout in an NHL outdoor game .

Individually , forward Craig Conroy played his 1,000th game before retiring mid season . Team captain Jarome Iginla scored his 500th career assist in January , then recorded his 1,000th point in March en route to leading the team in scoring with 86 points . Former owner Doc Seaman was posthumously inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame .

The season marked a turning point for the organization , as General Manager Darryl Sutter announced in December that he was stepping down from the position after eight years with the Flames . Assistant General Manager Jay Feaster assumed full responsibility for the team on an interim basis .

= = Pre @-@ season = =

Failure to qualify for the 2010 Stanley Cup playoffs resulted in changes to the team 's management and evaluation structure . Former Tampa Bay Lightning general manager Jay Feaster was hired to serve as an assistant to Darryl Sutter , while three scouts were released by the organization as it planned to take a new direction in its amateur scouting .

The organization participated in a five @-@ team prospects tournament held in Penticton , British Columbia , that included the Vancouver Canucks , Edmonton Oilers , Anaheim Ducks and San Jose Sharks . Calgary 's prospects played three games , defeating the Ducks 8 ? 4 before losing to the Oilers and Canucks by 5 ? 3 and 5 ? 4 scores , respectively .

The Flames played seven games as part of their exhibition schedule , including split @-@ squad games on September 21 against the Vancouver Canucks , with each city hosting one of the match @-@ ups . Calgary faced the New York Islanders in Saskatoon for the second consecutive season . They went unbeaten in the pre @-@ season , recording seven consecutive victories .

Calgary ended the exhibition season with several injuries to key players . Centre Daymond Langkow remained sidelined following a neck injury suffered the previous season , while Ryan Stone (knee) was also out . Matt Stajan suffered a shoulder separation , David Moss also suffered a shoulder injury and Ales Kotalik was lost to a knee injury . As a result of the injuries , the Flames signed centre Brendan Morrison to a contract ; Morrison had been in training camp with the Canucks before being released . Rookie defenceman T. J. Brodie proved the surprise player of training camp . Expected to start the year with the Abbotsford Heat of the American Hockey League (AHL) , Brodie impressed the Flames ' coaching staff and earned a position on the team to begin the NHL season .

= = Regular season = =

= = = October ? December = = =

The Flames endured a disastrous start to the season , suffering two shutout losses in their first three games . The second , a 3 ? 0 loss to the Florida Panthers , ended with Flames fans loudly booing the team as it left the ice . Three more players were lost to injury , Raitis Ivanans and Rene Bourque (head injuries) and Adam Pardy (shoulder) , while the team 's top scoring line of Jarome

Iginla , Olli Jokinen and Alex Tanguay was held pointless . The team 's early struggles resulted in a lengthy meeting between the players and coaches about the team 's need to compete harder . The team responded to the meeting with a stronger effort in a 5 ? 3 victory over the Oilers in which Iginla and Tanguay scored their first goals of the season alongside Matt Stajan , who took Jokinen 's spot on the top line .

The win over Edmonton began a streak where Calgary won five of six games , ending with another victory over the Oilers , 5 ? 4 in a shootout , on October 26 . The Flames ended October with consecutive home losses , to the Colorado Avalanche and Washington Capitals , in which they surrendered two @-@ goal leads in both . The team entered November in the midst of a streak where they lost six of seven games . During the slump , rookie forward Brett Sutter was arrested in Scottsdale , Arizona , on charges that he assaulted a cab driver . Sutter apologized for the incident and his teammates issued a release expressing support , but he was demoted to Abbotsford a few days later . He was subsequently traded to the Carolina Hurricanes along with Ian White in exchange for defenceman Anton Babchuk and forward Tom Kostopoulos in a deal that was being discussed by the two teams prior to Sutter 's legal troubles .

Calgary struggled to a 4 ? 7 ? 2 record in November , losing six of their last seven road games during the month . However , the team ended the month with its star players playing their best games of the season . Kiprusoff recorded his third shutout of the season in a 3 ? 0 win against the Minnesota Wild while Iginla scored eight goals and 12 points in the final nine games of the month . Though they sat in 14th place in the 15 @-@ team Western Conference , the Flames ended November only five points out of a playoff spot . The organization reached a milestone during the month , as Curtis Glencross scored the 10,000th goal in the history of the Flames franchise during a 3 ? 2 victory over the Philadelphia Flyers on November 26 .

The team 's struggles continued into December , where the Flames lost four of six games to begin the month . Back @-@ to @-@ back victories over the Columbus Blue Jackets and Toronto Maple Leafs on December 13 and 16 , respectively , marked the first time the team won consecutive games since late October . The latter victory also spoiled Dion Phaneuf 's first return to Calgary following his trade to Toronto the previous season . The Flames followed the victories with three consecutive losses , but entered the Christmas break on a positive note with a 3 ? 2 shootout victory over the Dallas Stars .

Despite a victory over the Buffalo Sabres after Christmas , and with the team still mired in 14th place in the Western Conference , General Manager and Executive Vice President Darryl Sutter announced his resignation from both positions on December 28 , exactly eight years after he was hired by the team to become its coach in 2002 . The move was not entirely Sutter 's decision , as he was asked by the organization to step aside . The decision came as a shock to many fans , even as it was believed to be inevitable following the team 's decline in recent seasons . Jay Feaster assumed control of the team , serving as acting general manager .

= = = January ? April = = =

Calgary ended 2010 with three consecutive wins and won their first game in 2011 for a season @-@ high four @-@ game winning streak . The streak came to an end at the hands of the New York Islanders on January 3 , a contest that marked the Flames franchise 's 3,000th game in its history . Losses to Vancouver , Detroit and Carolina followed , the latter two in overtime , but the Flames ' four @-@ game eastern road trip that began in Carolina ended with the team registering two wins and six points . The last game of the trip , against the Montreal Canadiens , saw the team come back from a 4 ? 0 deficit to force the contest into overtime before Montreal prevailed . Kiprusoff struggled throughout the road trip , and was jeered by the fans on the team 's first game home , a 6 ? 0 loss to Minnesota .

The team rebounded from the loss , as backup goaltender Henrik Karlsson led the Flames to a 7 ? 4 victory over the Dallas Stars on January 21 . Kiprusoff then showed a return to form by making 41 saves to lead the Flames to a 4 ? 3 shootout win over Vancouver the following night . Victories over the Nashville Predators and St. Louis Blues allowed the Flames to enter the All @-@ Star break on

a four @-@ game winning streak . Posting a 10 ? 3 ? 3 record in the 16 games leading up to the break , the Flames had pulled themselves to within two points of the eighth and final playoff spot in the West , and stood six points shy of fourth in the conference .

Exactly 100 days after the Flames last held a playoff position , they climbed back into the top eight with a 7 ? 0 ? 1 run that culminated in a 3 ? 1 victory over the Chicago Blackhawks . Jokinen tied a franchise record for points in a period during a February 14 game against the Colorado Avalanche when he scored four points in the first period of a 9 ? 1 win . The last Flame to accomplish the feat was Al MacInnis in 1991 . The victory also marked Kiprusoff 's 250th win as a member of the Flames .

The Flames hosted the Montreal Canadiens at McMahon Stadium in February for the 2011 Heritage Classic . The game was played before 41 @, @ 022 fans who braved a windchill as cold as ? 21 ° C (? 6 ° F) . Calgary won the game , 4 ? 0 , on the strength of Bourque 's two goals , including the 100th of his career . Kiprusoff became the first goaltender in NHL history to record a shutout at an outdoor game , and his play remained strong following the Heritage Classic , as he shut the Blues out in back @-@ to @-@ back games on February 27 and March 1 . He then became the first goaltender in 25 years to stop two penalty shots in one game to lead the Flames to a 4 ? 3 win over the Blue Jackets on March 4 as the Flames moved into fifth place in the West . Two nights later , Iginla scored his 30th goal of the season on a penalty shot against Pekka Rinne of the Nashville Predators . In doing so , he became the 10th player in NHL history to score at least 30 goals in ten consecutive seasons .

Jay Bouwmeester , the NHL 's active " ironman " leader , broke Karlis Skrastins ' League record for consecutive games played by a defenceman when he appeared in his 496th consecutive game on March 15 against the Phoenix Coyotes . Bouwmeester last missed a game in the 2003 ? 04 season when he suffered a broken foot . He remained 400 games behind Garry Unger 's overall record of 914 consecutive games played .

A period of struggle through the middle part of March saw the Flames drop back out of a playoff spot . A 5 ? 4 shootout victory over the Oilers on March 26 represented only their second win in eight games . While they ended that night just one point behind the eighth place Blackhawks , Chicago had played three fewer games at that point . A controversial loss to the Ducks on March 30 left Calgary three points behind Chicago with four games to play . The Flames had an apparent tying goal disallowed after Anaheim 's Ryan Getzlaf appeared to pull the puck out of the net in a game the Ducks went on to win 4 ? 2 .

The Flames gained a boost when it was announced that injured forward Daymond Langkow had been cleared to return to action on April 1 against the Blues . It was Langkow 's first game in over a year after suffering cracked vertebrae in his neck late in the 2009 ? 10 season . Langkow recorded an assist in that game , a 3 ? 2 victory . Iginla was involved in all three goals for Calgary ; his second goal of the night , and game winner , was the 1,000th point of his NHL career .

= = Post @-@ season = =

Though the Flames won their third consecutive game in April with a 6 ? 1 victory over Edmonton , victories the same night by the Ducks and Blackhawks officially eliminated Calgary from playoff contention . Individually , Iginla recorded his 12th career hat trick to reach the 40 goal mark for the fourth time in his career while Kiprusoff tied Mike Vernon 's franchise record of 262 wins . The Flames ended their season with an overtime loss to the Canucks . Though they ended the year second in the Northwest Division , the Flames finished tenth in the Western Conference , three points behind the eighth place Blackhawks .

Several coaches were released by the organization at the conclusion of the season . Goaltender Coach Jamie McLennan and Video Coach Rob Cookson were the first to be let go . McLennan had joined the coaching staff in 2009 after retiring as a player , while Cookson had been a member of the Flames ' staff for nine years . Assistant Ryan McGill was later relieved of his position , while assistant Dave Lowry was the only member of Brent Sutter 's staff who was retained by the Flames .

While several players were invited to participate in the 2011 IIHF World Championship , Jarome Iginla , Jay Bouwmeester , Mark Giordano , Curtis Glencross and Alex Tanguay all turned down invitations to play for Team Canada for various reasons . Mikael Backlund and prospect Tim Erixon both played for Sweden . The pair won silver medals after the Swedes were defeated by Finland in the championship final .

= = Schedule and results = =

= = = Pre @-@ season = = =

= = = Regular season = = =

= = Player statistics = =

= = = Skaters = = =