

= Curtis Glencross =

Curtis Jack Glencross (born December 28 , 1982) is a Canadian former professional ice hockey player . An undrafted player , he signed with the Anaheim Mighty Ducks as a free agent in 2004 and made his NHL debut with the team in 2007 . He has also played for the Columbus Blue Jackets , Edmonton Oilers , Calgary Flames and Washington Capitals . He was an effective goal scorer and active within the community during his time in Calgary , which led to the team naming him its recipient of the Ralph T. Scurfield Humanitarian Award in 2012 . After splitting the 2014 ? 15 season between Calgary and Washington , Glencross was unable to reach a contract deal with any NHL team and opted to retire as a player . During his playing career , Glencross was a spokesman for the Special Olympics . He has also participated with Rae Croteau Jr . ' s chuckwagon racing team in the summer .

= = Early life = =

Glencross was born December 28 , 1982 , in Kindersley , Saskatchewan , but grew up in Provost , Alberta . He is the son of Mel and Robin Glencross , and has a younger brother , Matthew , and sister , Kari . His parents both played hockey and say he inherited an intense competitive nature from them . His family moved to Red Deer , Alberta when he was a teenager as his parents began a livestock auction business . Glencross was small for his age , standing less than five feet tall when he was 15 , and as a result was often left off the top teams in minor hockey despite having the talent to play ; he played Midget C hockey in Provost . He experienced a rapid growth spurt , growing a full foot in a period of 17 months , and was recruited to play Junior A hockey for the expansion Brooks Bandits of the Alberta Junior Hockey League (AJHL) in 2000 . He went on to become the first Bandit alumnus to play in the National Hockey League (NHL) , and his number 17 was retired by the team in 2011 .

= = Playing career = =

= = = College and minor professional = = =

The Bandits were a last @-@ place team both years Glencross played , but he was among the AJHL 's leading goalscorers in 2001 ? 02 with 42 goals . He went undrafted by an NHL team , but received interest from National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) schools and was considering returning to Brooks for a third season of junior . Jack Kowal , assistant coach of the University of Alaska @-@ Anchorage Seawolves , had scouted Glencross during the season . Impressed with his ability and intensity on the ice , offered Glencross a full scholarship to play for his school . Glencross played two seasons at Alaska @-@ Anchorage between 2002 and 2004 , scoring 32 goals and 57 points in 72 games . He was named the Western Collegiate Hockey Association offensive player of the week for December 15 , 2003 , after scoring a hat trick against the Colorado College Tigers in a 5 ? 2 win . He led the Seawolves in goals (21) and points (34) in 2002 ? 03 .

Glencross chose to forgo his final two years of college eligibility , signing a professional contract with the Anaheim Mighty Ducks on March 25 , 2004 . He was assigned to the team 's American Hockey League (AHL) affiliate , the Cincinnati Mighty Ducks , to complete the 2003 ? 04 season . He scored two goals in seven regular season games , and one more in nine playoff games . He remained with Cincinnati in 2004 ? 05 , appearing in 51 games and scoring nine points . He was moved to the Portland Pirates , also of the AHL , in 2005 ? 06 and improved to 15 goals and 25 points in 41 games while also appearing in 19 post @-@ season games .

= = = Ducks , Blue Jackets and Oilers = = =

Glencross ' 2006 ? 07 season was split between four teams . Glencross began with the Pirates , but at mid @-@ season earned his first call @-@ up and made his NHL debut on January 13 , 2007 . He scored his first goal on his first NHL shot that night , against Peter Budaj , in a 3 ? 2 loss against the Colorado Avalanche . He played two games with Anaheim before he was traded , along with Zenon Konopka and a 7th round draft pick , to the Columbus Blue Jackets in exchange for Mark Hartigan , Joe Motzko and a 4th round pick on January 26 . Glencross appeared in seven games with the Blue Jackets but finished the season in the AHL with the Syracuse Crunch .

Glencross established himself as an NHL regular in 2007 ? 08 . He appeared in 36 games for the Blue Jackets before being traded to the Edmonton Oilers in exchange for Dick Tarnstrom on February 1 , 2008 . Glencross appeared in 26 games for the Oilers , scoring 15 goals and 25 points in 61 games combined between Columbus and Edmonton . Though he played well with Edmonton , the Oilers did not make a contract offer , making him an unrestricted free agent . Glencross hoped to remain in Edmonton as it was close to his Red Deer home . But after the Oilers made little effort to negotiate with him , he chose to sign a three @-@ year , \$ 3 @. @ 6 million deal with Edmonton 's provincial rival , the Calgary Flames .

= = = Calgary Flames = = =

In his first year with the Flames , Glencross set new personal highs in games played (74) , goals (13) and points (40) . He missed six games in December 2008 with a knee injury , and three more early in the 2009 ? 10 NHL season after he was suspended for a blind @-@ side hit on Chris Drury of the New York Rangers . He set a new personal best with 15 goals on the season that included his first NHL hat trick in a victory over the Carolina Hurricanes . His season was ended on March 17 after suffering a leg injury when he was struck by Matt Hendricks of the Colorado Avalanche in a knee @-@ on @-@ knee collision .

Playing in the final year of his contract , Glencross set personal highs of 24 goals and 43 points in 2010 ? 11 . While the Flames received offers from other teams for Glencross at the trade deadline , the team chose to hold on to him though they risked losing him as an unrestricted free agent following the season . Glencross chose to remain in Calgary , agreeing to a four @-@ year , \$ 10 @. @ 2 million contract with the Flames on May 17 , 2011 . Glencross felt that he could have earned a bigger contract on the open market , but chose to take less money to remain in Calgary . With 26 goals in 2011 ? 12 , Glencross finished second on the team to Jarome Iginla 's 32 . He was the league 's most efficient scorer , scoring on 23 @. @ 6 percent of his shots on net .

Glencross reached several milestones in the lockout @-@ shortened 2012 ? 13 season en route to leading the Flames with 15 goals . After scoring his 100th career goal , he recorded both his 100th assist and 200th point in a 5 ? 4 victory over the Phoenix Coyotes on February 24 , 2013 . His season was ended prematurely by a knee injury after Anaheim 's Ben Lovejoy stuck his leg out to cause a knee @-@ on @-@ knee collision . The injury forced Glencross out of the team 's final four games of the season .

Injuries plagued Glencross throughout the 2013 ? 14 season as he missed 15 games to a sprained knee , then suffered a high ankle sprain three weeks after his December 10 return . The injury forced him out of the lineup for nearly three months ; he missed an additional 29 games before returning to action . In just the sixth game after his return , he scored his third career hat @-@ trick in an 8 @-@ 1 victory against the Edmonton Oilers .

= = = Washington Capitals = = =

As Glencross ' contract was set to expire at the end of the 2014 ? 15 season , his future in Calgary was placed in doubt ; the team asked him for a list of teams he would agree to waive his no trade clause to as the March 2 , 2015 , trade deadline approached . Though the team was in playoff contention at the deadline , it still opted to move Glencross . He was traded to the Washington Capitals on March 1 , in exchange for second and third round picks at the 2015 NHL Entry Draft . He made his debut with Washington two nights later . Combined between Calgary and Washington ,

Glencross scored 13 goals and 35 points in 71 games played .

Despite his reduced offensive output relative to previous seasons , Glencross expected to sign with a new team as a free agent . However , when no contract offers materialized , Glencross instead accepted a professional tryout offer with the Toronto Maple Leafs . Toronto opted against signing Glencross and , after releasing him from the try @-@ out , Glencross signed another tryout offer , with the Colorado Avalanche . After two scoreless pre @-@ season games he was released by the Avalanche on October 5 , 2015 . His first pre @-@ season game with the Avalanche was in Calgary ; the Flames recognized Glencross ' contributions with the team during the game , a gesture he appreciated . However , the Avalanche also released Glencross , leaving his career in limbo as the 2015 ? 16 NHL season began . He opted against playing in Europe in favour of remaining in Canada with his young family and , on October 20 , 2015 , announced his retirement as a player . Glencross played 507 games , scored 134 goals and had 275 points .

= = Personal life = =

While Glencross grew up around the rodeo circuit , he did not enter into the sport until he met World Professional Chuckwagon Association driver Rae Croteau Jr. in 2005 . He became interested in chuckwagon racing at the time , and while he does not race , Glencross was a part of Croteau 's team in 2007 and 2008 , helping around the stables .

Glencross and his wife Tanya have two daughters and a son . An active member of the community during his playing career , Glencross served as a spokesman for the Special Olympics program , and hosted an annual charity golf tournament in support of Calgary Crime Stoppers . The first event , held in 2009 , raised C \$ 100 @,@ 000 . Glencross is also involved with the Alberta Children 's Hospital . In recognition of his community efforts , the Flames named him the 2012 recipient of the Ralph T. Scurfield Humanitarian Award , given by the team in recognition of on @-@ ice leadership coupled with community service .

= = Career statistics = =