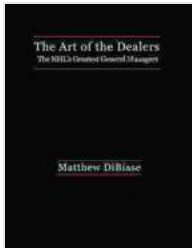


# The NHL's Greatest General Managers: A Comprehensive Guide



## The Art of the Dealers: The NHL's Greatest General Managers by Phil Martin

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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The general manager (GM) is one of the most important positions in any sports organization. In the NHL, the GM is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the team's hockey operations, including player acquisition, salary cap management, and team building. A great GM can make all the difference in a team's success, and some of the most successful teams in NHL history have been led by great general managers.

## The Greatest NHL General Managers

There are many great general managers in NHL history, but a few stand out above the rest. Here are some of the greatest NHL general managers of all time:

- **Sam Pollock** (Montreal Canadiens, 1964-1978): Pollock was the GM of the Montreal Canadiens during their dynasty years in the 1960s and 1970s. He won 9 Stanley Cups with the Canadiens, and he is widely considered to be one of the greatest general managers in NHL history.
- **Glen Sather** (Edmonton Oilers, 1979-1989, New York Rangers, 2000-2015): Sather is one of the most successful general managers in NHL history. He won 5 Stanley Cups with the Edmonton Oilers in the 1980s, and he also led the New York Rangers to the Stanley Cup Finals in 2014. Sather is known for his ability to build strong teams through player acquisition and development.
- **Ken Holland** (Detroit Red Wings, 1997-2019): Holland was the GM of the Detroit Red Wings for over 20 years. He won 4 Stanley Cups with the Red Wings, and he is known for his ability to manage the salary cap and build a consistent winner.
- **Lou Lamoriello** (New Jersey Devils, 1987-2015, Toronto Maple Leafs, 2015-2018): Lamoriello is one of the most successful general managers in NHL history. He won 3 Stanley Cups with the New Jersey Devils, and he is known for his ability to build strong teams through player development and free agent signings.
- **David Poile** (Washington Capitals, 1982-1994, Nashville Predators, 1998-present): Poile is one of the most respected general managers in NHL history. He has won the Stanley Cup with both the Washington Capitals and the Nashville Predators, and he is known for his ability to build strong teams through player acquisition and development.

## **The Qualities of a Great NHL General Manager**

There are many qualities that make a great NHL general manager. Some of the most important qualities include:

- **Hockey knowledge:** A great NHL general manager must have a deep understanding of the game of hockey. They must be able to evaluate players, make sound trades, and develop a winning strategy.
- **Leadership:** A great NHL general manager must be a strong leader. They must be able to motivate their staff, players, and fans. They must also be able to make tough decisions when necessary.
- **Communication:** A great NHL general manager must be a good communicator. They must be able to communicate their vision to their staff, players, and fans. They must also be able to build relationships with other teams and the media.
- **Patience:** A great NHL general manager must be patient. Building a successful team takes time, and there will be setbacks along the way. A great GM must be able to stay the course and make the right decisions, even when things are tough.

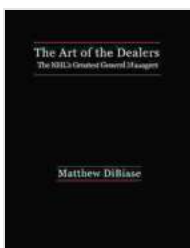
## **The Impact of Great NHL General Managers**

Great NHL general managers have a profound impact on their teams. They can build winning teams, create a winning culture, and bring Stanley Cups to their cities. Here are some of the ways that great NHL general managers can impact their teams:

- **Player acquisition:** A great NHL general manager can acquire the right players to build a winning team. They can make smart trades, sign free agents, and draft the best young players. A great GM can also develop a strong farm system to produce future NHL stars.

- **Salary cap management:** The NHL has a salary cap, which limits the amount of money that teams can spend on player salaries. A great NHL general manager must be able to manage the salary cap effectively in order to build a competitive team. They must be able to make smart decisions about which players to keep and which players to let go.
- **Team building:** A great NHL general manager can build a strong team by creating a positive culture and by fostering a sense of unity among the players. They must be able to create a team that is willing to work hard and sacrifice for each other.
- **Stanley Cup success:** The ultimate goal for any NHL general manager is to win the Stanley Cup. A great GM can build a team that is capable of winning the Stanley Cup, and they can guide their team through the playoffs to the ultimate prize.

Great NHL general managers are essential to the success of their teams. They are responsible for building winning teams, creating a winning culture, and bringing Stanley Cups to their cities. The greatest NHL general managers are able to combine hockey knowledge, leadership, communication, and patience to achieve success. They are the architects of some of the most successful teams in NHL history, and they have a profound impact on the sport of hockey.

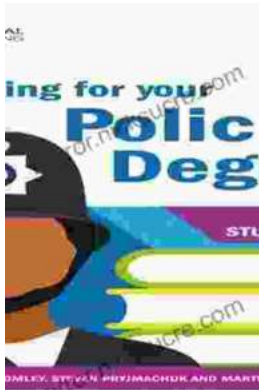


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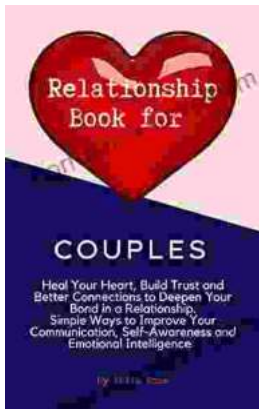
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