



1972 SUMMIT SERIES.COM

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Orr Would Have Made A Big Difference

Easily Canada's best player, Bobby Orr was unable to play due to his bad knees. He was coming off of knee surgery and although he was named to the team, he never had medical clearance to play. He did practice and travel with the team, and you know it killed him to not be able to play.



One has to wonder how the series outcome would have been effected had Orr been healthy - or even 80% healthy like he often played in the National Hockey League. Undoubtedly the Russians would have still pushed Team Canada to the limit, but Orr was the best player on the planet. He was arguably the greatest player ever.

"I practiced with Bobby Orr every day," said Brian Glennie, who didn't get to play in the series either, "and believe me, if Bobby's knees had been good, i don't think it would have taken that long for the results to be in Canada's favor. in junior I watched him dominate the game we lost to the Russians 2-1, but he was the best player on the ice by far."

Orr still counts the Summit Series as one of his most cherished memories however.

1972 Summit Series.com Player Profile

Team Canada

#4 - Bobby Orr - Defense

Position: D

Shoots: Left

Height: 6-0

Weight: 200

Born: 3/20/1948 Parry Sound, Ontario

1972 NHL Team: Boston Bruins

Summit Series Statistics

GP	G	A	Pts	PIM	SOG	SAG	+/-
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Other Team Canada Appearances -

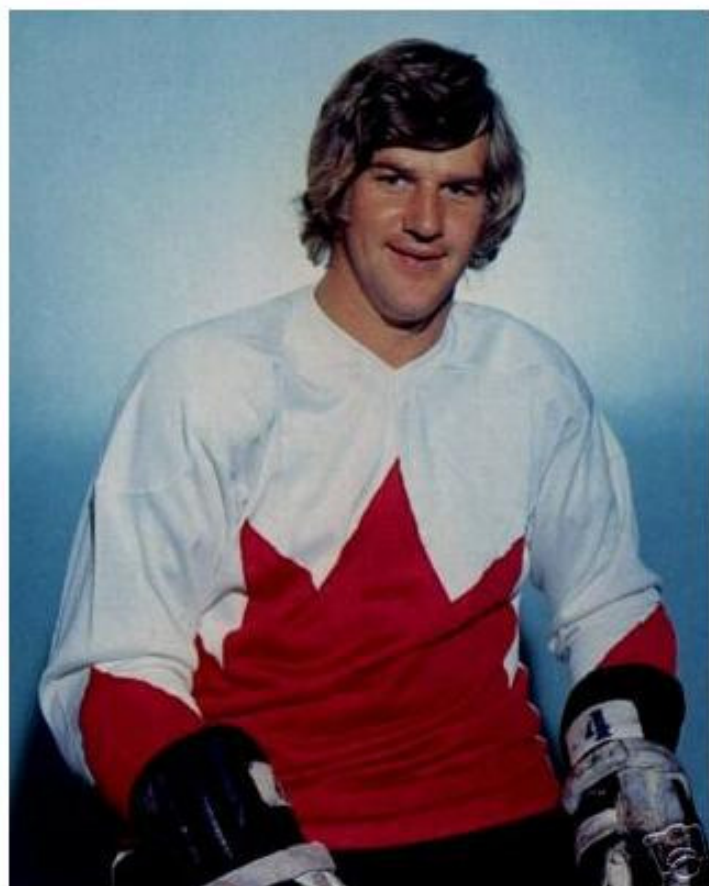
Orr was healthy enough to play in the 1976 Canada Cup. Despite playing on basically one leg, Orr was still dominant, leading the tournament in scoring with nine points. He was named as the tournament MVP.

NHL Career Notes - Considered to be hockey's greatest defenseman and one of the top 3 or 5 players of all time, Orr revolutionized the game with his attack from the defense style of play.

"What that team did, I don't think there has been a greater feat in sports," Orr says. "They had to win three of four in Russia under terrible conditions.

"They lose the first won and win three in a row to win the series. It was an unbelievable comeback against a great Russian team. I've never seen anything like it."

Not playing in the series would probably rank as Orr's most disappointing aspect of his career, but he made up for in the 1976 Canada Cup. Canada only played Russian once in that classic series - Orr dominated in what he ranks as one of his greatest games. He was named as Canada's players of the game despite not picking up a point in the 3-1 Canadian victory.



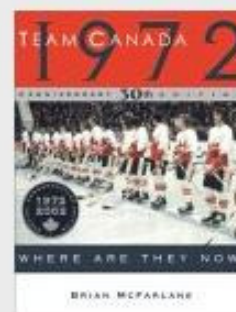
Injuries would limit his career to just nine effective seasons, but in that time he captured 2 Stanley Cups, 8 Norris trophies, 3 Hart Trophies, 2 Art Ross Trophies (the only defenseman to ever do that), 2 Conn Smythe trophies, and the Calder and Patrick Trophies.

Career NHL Statistics

	GP	G	A	Pts	PIM
Regular Season	657	270	645	915	953
NHL Playoffs	74	26	66	92	107

Book Feature

Read Bobby Orr's memories of the Summit Series in [Team Canada 1972: Where Are They Now?](#) By Brian McFarlane \$21.26 Cdn



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