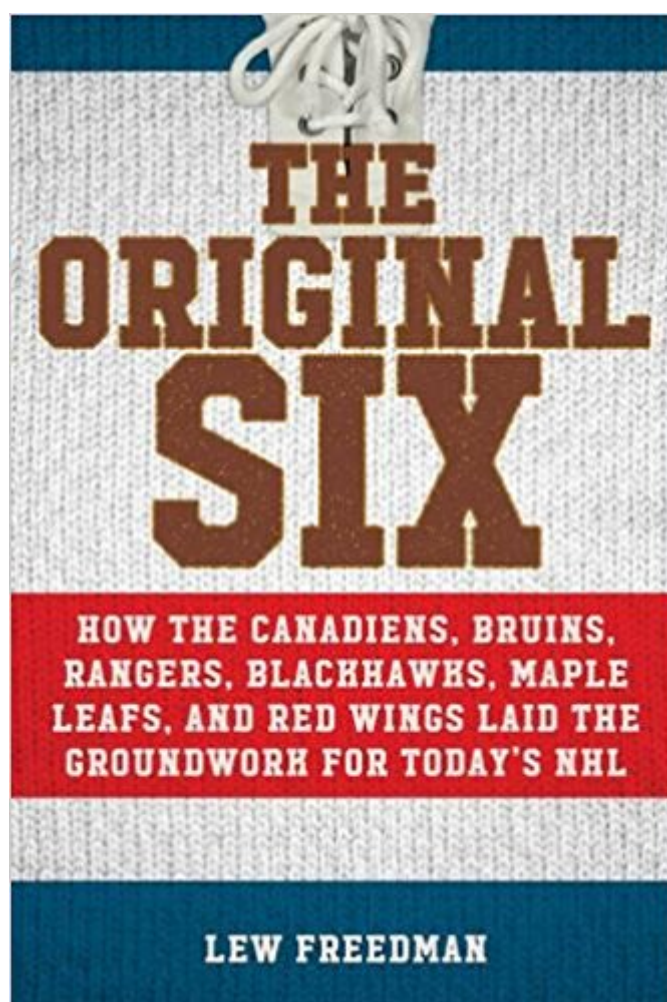


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# **The Original Six: How The Canadiens, Bruins, Rangers, Blackhawks, Maple Leafs, And Red Wings Laid The Groundwork For Today's National Hockey League**





## Synopsis

Since the inception of the National Hockey League on November 26, 1917, the sport of hockey has been one of the most popular games across the globe. After the National Hockey Association (NHA), which had been founded in 1909, ceased operations, the NHL took over and became a mainstay for the sport. While there had been teams that dated back to the 1800s and many that came and went through the years, there are six teams which are considered to be the Original or Traditional Six: the Montreal Canadiens, Boston Bruins, New York Rangers, Chicago Blackhawks, Toronto Maple Leafs, and Detroit Red Wings. In *The Original Six*, Lew Freedman (*Clouds Over the Goalpost*, *A Summer to Remember*) takes readers on a trip down memory lane, not only introducing the NHL's humble beginnings, but how far the game has actually come. Broken up into six sections, Freedman tells the history and stories of the teams that represent the heart and soul of the NHL. From how these teams came to be and the steps that were taken to get them established to their early years and how they helped shape the game we love today, *The Original Six* is not only for lovers of these teams, but for the sport itself. Whether you're a diehard supporter or fair-weather fan, learn how this incredible sport began and of the teams that helped it grow into one of the most entertaining and enjoyable games in the world. Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Sports Publishing imprint, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in sports; books about baseball, pro football, college football, pro and college basketball, hockey, or soccer, we have a book about your sport or your team. Whether you are a New York Yankees fan or hail from Red Sox nation; whether you are a die-hard Green Bay Packers or Dallas Cowboys fan; whether you root for the Kentucky Wildcats, Louisville Cardinals, UCLA Bruins, or Kansas Jayhawks; whether you route for the Boston Bruins, Toronto Maple Leafs, Montreal Canadiens, or Los Angeles Kings; we have a book for you. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to publishing books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked by other publishers and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

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## Customer Reviews

Lew Freedman is the author of nearly 60 books on sports, including *Clouds over the Goalpost* and *A Summer to Remember*, and is the winner of more than 250 journalism awards. A veteran sportswriter, Freedman was formerly a staff writer for the *Chicago Tribune* and *Philadelphia Inquirer*, as well as other papers.

This is a reasonably well-written book, but if you are looking for a new or original take on the NHL's early years, you won't find it here. If you've already read a bit about professional hockey and were hoping to learn how the game, the league, and hockey's style of play have evolved over the first 50 years of the NHL's existence, you won't really find it here. What you will find are brief profiles of the great players, coaches, and executives who made up the league's first 50 years--greats such as Rocket Richard, Toe Blake, Gordie Howe, Stan Mikita, and Conn Smythe, to name just a few. These profiles are all lumped together into one chapter for each Original Six team, with the end result presumably being a picture of the NHL's first five decades of existence. Unfortunately, this approach doesn't provide much new information about the NHL's; rather, it's just a rehash of what's been published many other times in many other places--indeed, a lot of this information can be found on Wikipedia or at the 100 Greatest Player Profiles currently available on the NHL's website. It's quite frankly a lazy approach to covering the NHL's history--the easiest way to get a book out of the subject without having to do any original research. I was really hoping to learn more about how the game has evolved over the years, the style of play, the strategy and approach of NHL players--how did the league grow and change from 1917 until the first expansion of 1967? I'm sure it's quite a story, but it's not told in *The Original Six*.

Pretty disappointing effort. Contains many errors and is an overall disjointed summary of a marvelous and exciting era. A definitive, well written history of the Original Six still awaits its creation,

was very well done .like the 20s and 30s those where days when my dad and a few cousin played,,the older players loved the game instead of the money being made today

Great hockey book for the fan who grew up on the original 6

Love the story of the original six

Hockey history is told.Wonderful insights into teams and players insights into the team's how they started just great to read

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