Cheat Sheet #2
How to Interpret Goaltending Performances

The Goal:
To provide better overall context for goalie performances.

PowerScout's Major Findings:
1. Goaltenders can be compared directly to skaters
2. The goaltending position is 27% of winning

Legend

Very important	★★★
Important	☆☆
Somewhat important	☆

These are the 11 stats used to calculate goalie Point Shares (PS) and Maximum Point Shares (MAX)

STAT	Context it Provides	GOALIE	PowerScout Insight
Even-Strength Goals Against	Difficulty of shots faced	★★★	Even-strength goals against have the most negative impact on goaltender performance. Simply, the more goals allowed, the lower the performance.
Power-play Goals Against	Difficulty of shots faced	☆☆	In terms of performance - power-play goals against are less costly than even-strength goals because a goalie will face tougher shots closer to the net when short-handed.
Short-handed Goals Against	Difficulty of shots faced	★★★	Short-handed goals against have a negative impact on goalie performance equivalent to a goal allowed at even-strength.
Shots on Goal Against (1st & 2nd Period)	Timeliness of saves, opposition Intensity	★★★	Opponents who attack in the 1st & 2nd periods (high Intensity) will likely have more high-quality scoring chances, and thus the more credit his performance receives.
Shots on Goal Against (3rd Period)	Difficulty of saves opposition Intensity	☆	A defensive posture adopted by a goaltender's team in the 3rd period often results in him facing weaker shots. His performance receives less credit in these situations.
Shots on Goal For (1st, 2nd & 3rd Period)	Quality of shots faced, team Intensity	☆	The more his own team attacks & shoots during the game, the less likely there will be sound defensive play. Thus the higher his own team's Intensity, the higher the performance credited to the goalie.
Power-play Opportunities Against	Quality of shots faced	☆☆	The more power-plays against, the better the quality of shots faced. Thus the more shots saved when short-handed, the better the goalie must have performed.
Power-play Opportunities For	Quality of shots faced	☆	If his own team gets a powerplay, fewer and easier shots are expected by a short-handed opponent, and this adjusts the performance of the goalie down.
Home Ice	Pressure to make saves and impact	☆	Teams normally play better defensively at home while visitors play poorer offensively, so we adjust a goalie performance to take out the impact of home ice advantage.
Strength of Opposition	Quality of shots faced	★★★	The stronger the opponent, the better their players, and the more difficult the shots faced. A performance is adjusted higher when it happens against the best teams.
Playing Era	Factor to compare across eras	★★★	To account for differences in league goal-scoring, a factor is used to adjust the data to a common base & allow direct comparisons between any year.
Average MAX		44	Shutouts typically have > 70 MAX
Average (PS)		15	Assuming 55 starts. A full season yields 22 PS.
Relative Importance to Winning		27%	

The PowerScout system is based on a complex analysis of over 14,000 games, 12,000 skaters and 28,000 goaltending performances since 1997.