

# Caitlin Clark signs eight-year, \$28 million Nike contract

From Miami Herald Wire Services

**Caitlin Clark**, the top scorer in NCAA Division I history and the No. 1 pick in the WNBA draft, will continue her association with Nike by signing a \$28 million, eight-year contract, according to reports Tuesday.

The Wall Street Journal and The Athletic reported the pending deal, citing unnamed people familiar with the negotiations.

Clark's initial name, image and likeness deal with Nike, signed in 2022, expired at the end of the 2023-24 college season.

The new deal would be the richest sponsorship contract for a women's basketball player.

The Associated Press wrote that Under Armour and Adidas also participated in contract discussions with Clark's team in February, according to the WSJ and The Athletic. Puma also showed some interest but walked away when told the bidding would start at \$3 million per year, according to the WSJ.

**GOLF**  
**McIlroy rejoins board:** **Rory McIlroy** didn't stay away from the PGA Tour's policy board for long.

The four-time major champion from Northern Ireland will return as a player director on the policy board and take a seat on the board of PGA Tour Enterprises, the

Guardian reported. McIlroy stepped back from the policy board in November following the dramatic tussle between the PGA Tour and the Saudi Arabia-financed LIV Golf and the organizations' subsequent "framework agreement" for a merger.

According to the Guardian, however, **Webb Simpson** has submitted his resignation from the policy board with an "explicit request" that McIlroy take his seat.

McIlroy would need to be approved by a vote Wednesday, per the report. With peers like **Tiger Woods**, **Jordan Spieth** and **Patrick Cantlay** holding votes, it's unlikely McIlroy's return would

face any resistance. The PGA Tour and DP World Tour have not completed a final merger agreement with LIV's financiers, the Saudi Public Investment Fund (PIF), in the months since a self-imposed Dec. 31 deadline came and went.

Adding McIlroy as a player director could fuel hope that a deal with the PIF can move forward, the Guardian reported. McIlroy, once a sharp critic of LIV Golf, has since come to the position that men's golf needs reuniting, with LIV players allowed back on the tour without penalty.

McIlroy, 34, denied a rumor last week that he was offered \$850 million to jump to LIV.

**NHL**  
**● Matthews leads Leafs:** Toronto's **Auston Matthews** scored with 7:54 left in regulation to cap a three-point night and lift the Maple Leafs to a 3-2 win over the host Boston Bruins in Game 2 of an Eastern Conference first-round playoff series Monday.

**Max Domi** had a goal and an assist and **John Tavares** also scored for Toronto, which returns home with the best-of-seven series tied at 1-1 ahead of Game 3 on Wednesday.

Toronto's **Ilya Samsonov** made 27 saves, including 10 in the third period. Matthews logged his fourth career three-point playoff game.

## STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS

For summaries and complete scores go to the edition at MiamiHerald.com.

**FIRST ROUND (Best-of-7; x-if necessary)**  
**EASTERN CONFERENCE**  
**FLORIDA 1, TAMPA BAY 0**  
G1: Florida 3, Tampa Bay 2  
Tuesday: at Florida  
Thursday: at Tampa Bay, 7  
Saturday: at Tampa Bay, 5  
x-Monday, April 29: at Florida, TBA  
x-Wednesday, May 1: at Tampa Bay, TBA  
x-Saturday, May 4: at Florida, TBA

**CAROLINA 2, N.Y. ISLANDERS 0**  
G1: Carolina 3, N.Y. Islanders 1  
Monday: Carolina 5, NY Islanders 3  
Thursday: at N.Y. Islanders, 2  
Saturday: at N.Y. Islanders, 2  
x-Tuesday, April 30: at Carolina, TBA  
x-Thursday, April 30: at Carolina, TBA  
x-Saturday, May 4: at Carolina, TBA

**BOSTON 1, TORONTO 1**  
G1: Boston 5, Toronto 1  
Monday: Toronto 3, Boston 2  
Wednesday: at Toronto, 7  
Saturday: at Toronto, 8  
Tuesday, April 30: at Boston, TBA  
x-Thursday, May 2: at Toronto, TBA  
x-Saturday, May 4: at Boston, TBA

**N.Y. RANGERS 1, WASHINGTON 0**  
G1: N.Y. Rangers 4, Washington 1  
Tuesday: at N.Y. Rangers  
Friday: at Washington, 7  
Sunday: at Washington, 8  
x-Wednesday, May 1: at N.Y. Rangers, TBA  
x-Friday, May 3: at Washington, TBA  
x-Sunday, May 5: at N.Y. Rangers, TBA

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**  
**WINNIPEG 1, COLORADO 0**  
G1: Winnipeg 7, Colorado 6  
Tuesday: at Winnipeg  
Friday: at Colorado, 10  
Sunday: at Colorado, 2:30  
x-Tuesday, April 30: at Winnipeg, TBA  
x-Thursday, May 2: at Colorado, TBA  
x-Saturday, May 4: at Winnipeg, TBA

**EDMONTON 1, LOS ANGELES 0**  
G1: Edmonton 7, Los Angeles 4  
Wednesday: at Edmonton, 10  
Friday: at Los Angeles, 10:30  
Sunday: at Los Angeles, 10:30  
x-Wednesday, May 1: at Edmonton, TBA  
x-Friday, May 3: at Los Angeles, TBA  
x-Sunday, May 5: at Edmonton, TBA

**VANCOUVER 1, NASHVILLE 0**  
G1: Vancouver 4, Nashville 2  
Tuesday: at Vancouver  
Friday: at Nashville, 7:30  
Sunday: at Nashville, 5  
x-Tuesday, April 30: at Vancouver, TBA  
x-Friday, May 3: at Nashville, TBA  
x-Sunday, May 5: at Vancouver, TBA

**VEGAS 1, DALLAS 0**  
G1: Vegas 4, Dallas 3  
Wednesday: at Dallas, 9:30  
Saturday: at Vegas, 10:30  
Monday, April 29: at Vegas, TBA  
x-Wednesday, May 1: at Dallas, TBA  
x-Friday, May 3: at Vegas, TBA  
x-Sunday, May 5: at Dallas, TBA

Atlantic Division, he isn't taking this potential lengthy playoff run for granted.

"I have enjoyed it a lot," Kulikov said. "It's really fun. It's fun to watch and it's fun to play on a good team."

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## PANTHERS

him in the first round in 2009. He tends to fly under the radar — he's not flashy or an offensive juggernaut. He'll make plays in the offensive zone when the opportunity comes, but his priority is being a defensive-minded third-pairing defenseman. His impact comes from limiting the opposition.

"He deserves more credit," fellow defenseman Oliver Ekman-Larsson said. "That's for sure." "Dmitry is underappreciated," echoed coach Paul Maurice.

But Kulikov, 33, embraces that identity, and his ability to step up at key moments is a critical reason Florida's defense is as deep as it is as the Panthers try to make another deep playoff run.

"I got here to be part of a team that wins and have a chance to win. I like to defend," Kulikov said.

"Getting up on the rush and getting opportunities in the offensive zone, that's just all part of the game. But for me, playing the game the honest way and getting the wins, that's the most important."

Kulikov was one of the three key defenseman signings the Panthers made in the offseason — Ekman-Larsson and Niko Mikkola were the others — to both bolster depth and help offset the early absences of Aaron Ekblad and Brandon Montour, who both missed the first 16 games of the season while recovering from shoulder surgery.

In 76 regular-season games, Kulikov had one goal and 19 assists while averaging 16½ minutes on the ice. He was second among Florida defensemen in hits (145) and third in blocked shots (84).

"I think the guys that play in the NHL that block shots, take hits, kill penalties, and I mean this very respectfully, play against the other team's third and fourth lines, which are usually very heavy, those guys get a lot of respect in the room," Maurice said.

"They'll take a hit to make a play, and it's a heavy hit — and he'll give one back, too — and then block a shot. He does all the hard things that are on the defenseman's to-do list. ... He does that every night for us, and he's very much appreciated in that room."

Once Ekblad and Montour returned, Kulikov found himself on the third defense pairing with Ekman-Larsson, giving the Panthers a bottom pairing with nearly 30 combined years and more than 1,900 games of NHL experience.

In nearly 466 minutes together of five-on-five play with Kulikov and Ekman-Larsson on the ice, the Panthers controlled 55.18 percent of shot at-

tempts and allowed just 17 goals. That equates to an average of just 2.19 goals allowed per 60 minutes played, which is 21st among 66 defense pairings with at least 450 minutes together at five-on-five.

(Florida's pairing of Ekblad and Gustav Forsling is second in that group at 1.33 goals per 60 minutes, while the Montour-Mikkola pairing is 34th at 2.5 goals per 60 minutes).

"They really play within their own game," Maurice said of the Kulikov and Ekman-Larsson pairing. "Veteran defenseman don't try to do all things at once. They don't try to be all things. ... They're predictable in their play. They're predictable for each other. They're both smart guys. They learn how to play off each other."

Ekman-Larsson called Kulikov a "steady, steady veteran guy" who has helped him elevate his game.

"We can read off each other," Ekman-Larsson said. "Just overall, he's bumping into guys and wants me to bump into your guys, and when he's up the ice, he kind of want to get me up the ice. We're reading off each other very good. And he's a guy that cares a lot about his surroundings and just making everybody feel comfortable. That's helped me, too."

Kulikov thriving with the Panthers this season is a full-circle moment. He spent his first seven NHL seasons with the Panthers after Florida drafted him 14th overall in 2009. That stretch included five years with Florida as one of the worst teams in the NHL and two years with first-round exits from the playoffs.

Kulikov had played in just 16 playoff games since his first stint with the Panthers ended in 2016 before signing with Florida last summer. After Florida's successful regular season that included winning the



### CITY OF DORAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

All residents, property owners and other interested parties are hereby notified of a **COUNCIL MEETING** on **May 8, 2024 beginning at 6:00 PM** to consider text amendments to the City's Land Development Code. The City Council will consider this item for **FIRST READING**. The meeting will be held at the **City of Doral, Government Center, Council Chambers located at 8401 NW 53rd Terrace, Doral, Florida, 33166**.

The City of Doral proposes to adopt the following Ordinance:

**ORDINANCE No. 2024-15**

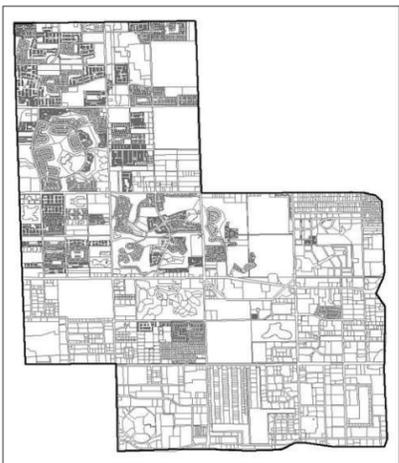
**AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, APPROVING/DENYING TEXT AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY OF DORAL LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, CHAPTER 74, "MISCELLANEOUS AND SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS," ARTICLE IV, "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES," TO REVISE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE REGULATIONS; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION INTO THE CODE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

HEARING NO.: 24-05-DOR-01

APPLICANT: City of Doral

REQUEST: The City Manager's Office respectfully recommends that the Mayor and City Councilmembers approve amendments to the City's Land Development Code, Chapter 74, "Miscellaneous and Supplementary Regulations," Article IV, "Alcoholic Beverages," to revise alcoholic beverage regulations.

Location Map



Inquiries regarding the item may be directed to the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, if a person decides to appeal any decisions made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. This notice does not constitute consent by the City for introduction or admission of otherwise inadmissible or irrelevant evidence, nor does it authorize challenges or appeals not otherwise allowed by law. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person who is disabled and who need special accommodations to participate in this meeting because of that disability should contact the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL no later than three (3) business days prior to the proceeding.

Connie Diaz, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Doral



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**ORDINANCE No. 2024-16**

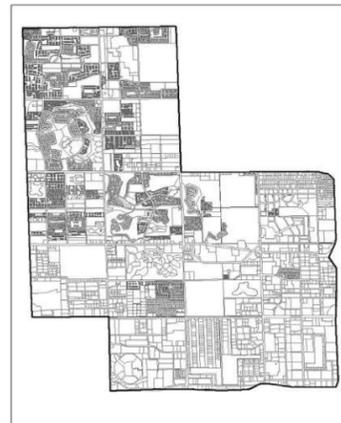
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HEARING NO.: 24-05-DOR-02

APPLICANT: City of Doral

REQUEST: The City Manager's Office respectfully recommends that the Mayor and City Councilmembers approve amendments to the City's Land Development Code, Chapter 74, "Miscellaneous and Supplementary Regulations," Article IV, "Alcoholic Beverages," to remove alcoholic beverage regulations.

Location Map



Inquiries regarding the item may be directed to the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL.

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