

New Orleans Pelicans at Oklahoma City Thunder

NBA | Preseason | October 6, 2026

Checked Oct 06, 01:08 PM Toronto | prepared snapshot, not live

Away	New Orleans Pelicans
Home	Oklahoma City Thunder
Venue	BOK Center, Tulsa, OK
Scheduled start	Oct 06, 08:00 PM Toronto
Game evidence	S1 source event 401898389

Provisional prediction

Expected score	New Orleans Pelicans 110.1 - Oklahoma City Thunder 119.7
Winner lean	Oklahoma City Thunder model probability 71.2%
Margin / total	Home minus away +9.5 points; total 229.8
Spread meaning	Model margin, not a bookmaker spread or a claim of value.

Lineups not fully set. Historical scoring baseline; probable personnel shown as context, not numeric adjustments. Probabilities are uncalibrated model estimates. NBA PRESEASON: prior regular-season rates transferred without a rotation model; especially low reliability.

What matters in this matchup

PRESEASON: starters, restrictions and replacement minutes determine relevance. Regular-season scoring rates cannot establish tonight's player workload. The provisional team prediction uses prior regular-season rates; player-minute uncertainty is not resolved.

Use and confidence

Early research estimate. Small winner differences are weak leans; model probability is not proven accuracy. Recheck personnel and current prices before relying on it.

1. Availability and playing conditions

New Orleans Pelicans - away

Starting five / preseason minutes: NOT CONFIRMED. Previous-game starters are historical evidence only.

Captured injury listings [S1]

Player	Reported status / issue	Source effective date
Bryce McGowens	Day-To-Day / Toe	2026-06-16T14:36Z

Final lineup, scratches, replacement roles and any restrictions still require a near-start check. Listed return dates are not clearance.

Oklahoma City Thunder - home

Starting five / preseason minutes: NOT CONFIRMED. Previous-game starters are historical evidence only.

Captured injury listings [S1]

Player	Reported status / issue	Source effective date
Thomas Sorber	Day-To-Day / Knee	2026-10-05T17:52Z
Nikola Topic	Day-To-Day / Back	2026-10-05T17:51Z
Cason Wallace	Day-To-Day / Rest	2026-10-05T17:47Z
Alex Caruso	Day-To-Day / Rest	2026-10-05T17:46Z
Chet Holmgren	Day-To-Day / Rest	2026-10-05T17:45Z

Final lineup, scratches, replacement roles and any restrictions still require a near-start check. Listed return dates are not clearance.

Location and conditions

Indoor arena: outdoor wind and precipitation are not direct playing-surface inputs. Travel disruption was not assessed. [S1]

Rest and travel

New Orleans Pelicans: no completed current-phase game captured; Oklahoma City Thunder: no completed current-phase game captured. Actual travel itinerary, time-zone adaptation and numerical fatigue effect are unverified.

2. New Orleans Pelicans - recent game evidence

No completed current-phase games in the captured schedule. Prior-season games are not substituted as preseason workload evidence.

Evidence limit: score-state and box-score review does not by itself establish tactics, quality of chances, causal luck, or opponent-adjusted team strength.

2. Oklahoma City Thunder - recent game evidence

No completed current-phase games in the captured schedule. Prior-season games are not substituted as preseason workload evidence.

Evidence limit: score-state and box-score review does not by itself establish tactics, quality of chances, causal luck, or opponent-adjusted team strength.

3. Matchup interpretation and key players

New Orleans Pelicans

Current phase: 0 games, 0 wins; scoring average not available. These are descriptive averages, not projected scores.

Preseason results and minutes have a different purpose from regular-season team rankings. Rotation confirmation is required before allocating expected shots, assists or rebounds.

Oklahoma City Thunder

Current phase: 0 games, 0 wins; scoring average not available. These are descriptive averages, not projected scores.

Preseason results and minutes have a different purpose from regular-season team rankings. Rotation confirmation is required before allocating expected shots, assists or rebounds.

How to read the matchup

Compare the two recent-game sections: did score and underlying volume agree, did the game change late, and did current absences affect the players producing those numbers? Where shot-quality, possession or bullpen detail is missing, the report cannot declare a repeatable style edge.

Conditional game scripts

If starters play limited minutes, reserve combinations may decide the result. If rotation experiments change pace or shot distribution, prior results can mislead. The team score is a provisional prior-season baseline; no player workload is assigned without supporting inputs.

4. Executed simulations and prediction limits

EXPERIMENTAL TEAM-SCORE BASELINE. This run is real and reproducible, but is not adjusted for the personnel, injuries, game-flow evidence, weather or tactical factors described in this report. It supplies the provisional prediction on page one; no accuracy or betting edge is established.	
Scenario win share	New Orleans Pelicans 28.8% Oklahoma City Thunder 71.2%
Average sampled score	New Orleans Pelicans 110.13 Oklahoma City Thunder 119.66
Total scenarios	Mean 229.79; central 80% sampled totals 208-252
Trials / seed	100,000 / 2158062127
Raw ties	1.9%; assumed 50/50 winner split
Run completed	2026-10-06T17:34:39.730899+00:00
Input hash	See retained JSON run record

Method: pooled venue scoring/conceding moments; independent negative-binomial draws where overdispersed, otherwise Poisson. For NHL, current completed regular-season results augment the preserved prior sample. NBA preseason estimates explicitly transfer preserved regular-season scoring without a rotation model. There is no opponent-strength, roster, goalie/pitcher or recency adjustment. Historical NHL overtime/shootout scores are included; raw ties are not regulation ties. MLB postseason transfer remains unvalidated.

Monte Carlo repeat-run error approximately +/- 0.28 percentage points at 95%. This only measures simulation noise; it excludes model and input uncertainty. No accuracy, calibration or ROI is claimed.

New Orleans Pelicans: 82 historical qualifying games; 41 in this venue role. Latest input 2026-04-13T00:30Z.

Oklahoma City Thunder: 82 historical qualifying games; 42 in this venue role. Latest input 2026-04-13T00:30Z.

Spread and total probabilities

DraftKings via ESPN, captured 2026-10-06T17:00:45.354414+00:00 [S1]. Snapshot, not a live available offer.

Captured spread	Oklahoma City Thunder -2.5; model cover 66.0%; away cover 34.0%; push 0.0%
Captured total	222.5; model over 66.1%; under 33.9%; push 0.0%

These fractions come from the same uncalibrated score scenarios. Price, bookmaker availability and edge are not established. NHL historical shootout scores and fair random tie breaking are a proxy, not exact sportsbook settlement.

Conditional player-prop outlook

NBA player props require supported individual minutes and role inputs. Team scoring does not justify inventing player projections; individual estimates are not available in this version.

What changes the prediction

Different starter; scratch or minutes restriction; changed batting order/rotation; material weather change; corrected source results. The current model does not recompute player-specific team adjustments. This prepared report does not refresh itself.

5. Sources and freshness

Source numbers refer to the captured snapshots below. This is a prepared report; personnel and conditions may change before the game.

S1 | fetched 2026-10-06T17:00:45.354414+00:00

<https://site.api.espn.com/apis/site/v2/sports/basketball/nba/summary?event=401898389>

Release status: PROVISIONAL RESEARCH. Predictions and conditional prop scenarios are experimental and unvalidated. All 23 catalog entries remain DRAFT; validated forecasts remain disabled.