Package 'fastRhockey'

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Title Functions to Access Premier Hockey Federation and National Hockey League Play by Play Data

Version 0.4.0

Description A utility to scrape and load play-by-play data and statistics from the Premier Hockey Federation (PHF) <https://www.premierhockeyfederation.com/>, formerly known as the National Women's Hockey League (NWHL). Additionally, allows access to the National Hockey League's stats API <https://www.nhl.com/>.

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URL https://fastRhockey.sportsdataverse.org/, https://github.com/sportsdataverse/fastRhockey

BugReports https://github.com/sportsdataverse/fastRhockey/issues

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`csv_from_url` **Load .csv / .csv.gz file from a remote connection**

Description

This is a thin wrapper on data.table::fread

Usage

```
csv_from_url(...)
```

Arguments

`...`	passed to data.table::fread

Value

a dataframe as created by `data.table::fread()`

`data` **Data in the package for reference**

Description

A dataset containing the full team names, abbreviations, colors & logos for all 32 NHL teams.

A dataset containing the full team names, abbreviations, colors & logos for all PHF teams.

Usage

```
nhl_team_logos

phf_team_logos
```

Format

A data frame with 32 rows and 11 variables:

full_team_name full team name

team_abbr NHL.com team abbreviation

team_nick lowercase, no spaces team nickname

division current NHL division

conference current NHL conference

team_logo_espn primary team logo from ESPN.com

team_color1 current primary team color

team_color2 current secondary team color

team_logo_alternate alternate or throwback logo

team_color_alt1 alternate logo primary color

team_color_alt2 alternate logo secondary color

A data frame with 6 rows and 7 variables:

full_team_name Full team name

team_abbr PremierHockeyFederation.com team abbreviation

team_nick Team Nickname

team_location PHF team location

team_color1 Current primary team color. Full disclosure, I just color picked from the logos

team_color2 Current secondary team color. Full disclosure, I just color picked from the logos

team_logo Primary team logo from fastRhockey data repository

`espn_nhl_teams` **Get ESPN NHL team names and IDs**

Description

Get ESPN NHL team names and IDs

Usage

```
espn_nhl_teams()
```

Value

A teams data frame with the following columns:

col_name	types
espn_team_id	integer
abbreviation	character
display_name	character
short_name	character
mascot	character
nickname	character
team	character
color	character
alternate_color	character
logo	character
logo_dark	character
logos_href_3	character
logos_href_4	character

Author(s)

Saiem Gilani

Examples

```
try(espn_nhl_teams())
```

`load_nhl_pbp` **Load fastRhockey NHL play-by-play**

Description

helper that loads multiple seasons from the data repo either into memory or writes it into a db using some forwarded arguments in the dots

Usage

```
load_nhl_pbp(
  seasons = most_recent_nhl_season(),
  ...,
  dbConnection = NULL,
  tablename = NULL
)
```

Arguments

seasons	A vector of 4-digit years associated with given NHL seasons. (Min: 2011)
...	Additional arguments passed to an underlying function that writes the season data into a database (used by update_nhl_db()).
dbConnection	A DBIConnection object, as returned by DBI::dbConnect()
tablename	The name of the play by play data table within the database

Value

A dataframe

Examples

```
try(load_nhl_pbp(2021))
```

---

load_nhl_player_box **Load fastRhockey NHL player box scores**

Description

helper that loads multiple seasons from the data repo either into memory or writes it into a db using some forwarded arguments in the dots

Usage

```
load_nhl_player_box(
  seasons = most_recent_nhl_season(),
  ...,
  dbConnection = NULL,
  tablename = NULL
)
```

Arguments

seasons	A vector of 4-digit years associated with given NHL seasons. (Min: 2011)
...	Additional arguments passed to an underlying function that writes the season data into a database (used by update_nhl_db()).
dbConnection	A DBIConnection object, as returned by DBI::dbConnect()
tablename	The name of the player box data table within the database

Value

Returns a tibble

Examples

```
try(load_nhl_player_box(2021))
```

`load_nhl_schedule` **Load fastRhockey NHL schedules**

Description

helper that loads multiple seasons from the data repo either into memory or writes it into a db using some forwarded arguments in the dots

Usage

```
load_nhl_schedule(
  seasons = most_recent_nhl_season(),
  ...,
  dbConnection = NULL,
  tablename = NULL
)
```

Arguments

`seasons`	A vector of 4-digit years associated with given NHL seasons. (Min: 2011)
`...`	Additional arguments passed to an underlying function that writes the season data into a database (used by `update_nhl_db()`).
`dbConnection`	A `DBIConnection` object, as returned by `DBI::dbConnect()`
`tablename`	The name of the schedule data table within the database

Value

Returns a tibble

Examples

```
try(load_nhl_schedule(2021))
```

load_nhl_team_box — Load fastRhockey NHL team box scores

Description

helper that loads multiple seasons from the data repo either into memory or writes it into a db using some forwarded arguments in the dots

Usage

```
load_nhl_team_box(
  seasons = most_recent_nhl_season(),
  ...,
  dbConnection = NULL,
  tablename = NULL
)
```

Arguments

seasons	A vector of 4-digit years associated with given NHL seasons. (Min: 2011)
...	Additional arguments passed to an underlying function that writes the season data into a database (used by update_nhl_db()).
dbConnection	A DBIConnection object, as returned by DBI::dbConnect()
tablename	The name of the team box data table within the database

Value

Returns a tibble

Examples

```
try(load_nhl_team_box(2021))
```

load_phf_pbp — Load fastRhockey PHF play-by-play

Description

helper that loads multiple seasons from the data repo either into memory or writes it into a db using some forwarded arguments in the dots

Usage

```
load_phf_pbp(
  seasons = most_recent_phf_season(),
  ...,
  dbConnection = NULL,
  tablename = NULL
)
```

Arguments

seasons	A vector of 4-digit years associated with given PHF seasons. (Min: 2011)
...	Additional arguments passed to an underlying function that writes the season data into a database (used by update_phf_db()).
dbConnection	A DBIConnection object, as returned by DBI::dbConnect()
tablename	The name of the play by play data table within the database

Value

A dataframe

Examples

```
try(load_phf_pbp(2021))
```

---

load_phf_player_box Load fastRhockey PHF player box scores

Description

helper that loads multiple seasons from the data repo either into memory or writes it into a db using some forwarded arguments in the dots

Usage

```
load_phf_player_box(
  seasons = most_recent_phf_season(),
  ...,
  dbConnection = NULL,
  tablename = NULL
)
```

Arguments

seasons	A vector of 4-digit years associated with given PHF seasons. (Min: 2011)
...	Additional arguments passed to an underlying function that writes the season data into a database (used by update_phf_db()).
dbConnection	A DBIConnection object, as returned by DBI::dbConnect()
tablename	The name of the player box data table within the database

Value

Returns a tibble

Examples

```
try(load_phf_player_box(2021))
```

---

load_phf_schedule Load fastRhockey PHF schedules

Description

helper that loads multiple seasons from the data repo either into memory or writes it into a db using some forwarded arguments in the dots

Usage

```
load_phf_schedule(
  seasons = most_recent_phf_season(),
  ...,
  dbConnection = NULL,
  tablename = NULL
)
```

Arguments

seasons	A vector of 4-digit years associated with given PHF seasons. (Min: 2011)
...	Additional arguments passed to an underlying function that writes the season data into a database (used by update_phf_db()).
dbConnection	A DBIConnection object, as returned by DBI::dbConnect()
tablename	The name of the schedule data table within the database

Value

Returns a tibble

Examples

```
try(load_phf_schedule(2021))
```

`load_phf_team_box` **Load fastRhockey PHF team box scores**

Description

helper that loads multiple seasons from the data repo either into memory or writes it into a db using some forwarded arguments in the dots

Usage

```
load_phf_team_box(
  seasons = most_recent_phf_season(),
  ...,
  dbConnection = NULL,
  tablename = NULL
)
```

Arguments

`seasons`	A vector of 4-digit years associated with given PHF seasons. (Min: 2011)
`...`	Additional arguments passed to an underlying function that writes the season data into a database (used by `update_phf_db()`).
`dbConnection`	A `DBIConnection` object, as returned by `DBI::dbConnect()`
`tablename`	The name of the team box data table within the database

Value

Returns a tibble

Examples

```
try(load_phf_team_box(2021))
```

`most_recent_nhl_season`

Most Recent NHL Season

Description

Most Recent NHL Season

Usage

```
most_recent_nhl_season()
```

Value

Value for most recent NHL season

`most_recent_nhl_season_api_param`

Most Recent NHL Season for NHL API

Description

Most Recent NHL Season for NHL API

Usage

```
most_recent_nhl_season_api_param()
```

Value

Value for most recent NHL season in the format of the NHL API

`most_recent_phf_season`

Most Recent PHF Season

Description

Most Recent PHF Season

Usage

```
most_recent_phf_season()
```

Value

Value for most recent NHL season

nhl_conferences NHL Conferences

Description

Returns a table of current NHL conferences

Usage

```
nhl_conferences()
```

Value

Returns a data frame

- conference_id - conference ID
- name - conference name
- link - link to conference information
- abbreviation - conference abbreviation
- short_name - conference short name
- active - active conference flag

Examples

```
try(nhl_conferences())
```

nhl_conferences_info NHL Conference Info

Description

Returns information on a conference by conference ID

Usage

```
nhl_conferences_info(conference_id)
```

Arguments

conference_id	Conference ID

Value

Returns a data frame

- conference_id - conference ID
- name - conference name
- link - link to conference information
- abbreviation - conference abbreviation
- short_name - conference short name
- active - active conference flag

Examples

```
try(nhl_conferences_info(conference_id = 7))
```

`nhl_divisions` **NHL Divisions**

Description

Returns information on divisions

Usage

```
nhl_divisions()
```

Value

Returns a data frame

- division_id -
- name -
- name_short -
- link -
- abbreviation -
- active -
- conference_id -
- conference_name -
- conference_link -

Examples

```
try(nhl_divisions())
```

`nhl_divisions_info` **NHL Divisions Info**

Description

Returns information on a division by division ID

Usage

```
nhl_divisions_info(division_id)
```

Arguments

`division_id`	Division ID

Value

Returns a data frame

- division_id -
- name -
- name_short -
- link -
- abbreviation -
- active -
- conference_id -
- conference_name -
- conference_link -

Examples

```
try(nhl_divisions_info(division_id=17))
```

nhl_draft NHL Draft

Description

Returns information on draft

Usage

```
nhl_draft()
```

Value

Returns a data frame: * year - * round - * pick_overall - * pick_in_round - * team_id - * team_name - * team_link - * prospect_id - * prospect_full_name - * prospect_link -

Examples

```
try(nhl_draft())
```

nhl_draft_prospects NHL Draft Prospects

Description

Returns information on draft prospects

Usage

```
nhl_draft_prospects()
```

Value

Returns a tibble with the following columns:

col_name	types
prospect_id	integer
full_name	character
link	character
first_name	character
last_name	character
birth_date	character
birth_city	character
birth_country	character

height	character
weight	integer
shoots_catches	character
nhl_player_id	integer
draft_status	character
birth_state_province	character
primary_position_code	character
primary_position_name	character
primary_position_type	character
primary_position_abbreviation	character
prospect_category_id	integer
prospect_category_short_name	character
prospect_category_name	character
amateur_team_name	character
amateur_team_link	character
amateur_league_name	character
amateur_league_link	character
ranks_midterm	integer
ranks_final_rank	integer
ranks_draft_year	integer

Examples

```
try(nhl_draft_prospects())
```

`nhl_draft_prospects_info`

NHL Draft Prospects Info

Description

Returns information on draft prospect for a given prospect id

Usage

```
nhl_draft_prospects_info(prospect_id)
```

Arguments

`prospect_id`	Prospect unique ID

Value

Returns a data frame: * prospect_id - * full_name - * link - * first_name - * last_name - * birth_date - * birth_city - * birth_country - * nationality - * height - * weight - * shoots_catches - * nhl_player_id - * primary_position_code - * primary_position_name - * primary_position_type - * primary_position_abbreviation - * prospect_category_id - * prospect_category_short_name - * prospect_category_name - * amateur_team_link - * amateur_league_link -

Examples

```
try(nhl_draft_prospects_info(prospect_id=65242))
```

`nhl_draft_year` **NHL Draft by Year**

Description

Returns information on draft for a given year

Usage

```
nhl_draft_year(year)
```

Arguments

`year`	Draft year (XXXX)

Value

Returns a data frame: * year - * round - * pick_overall - * pick_in_round - * team_id - * team_name - * team_link - * prospect_id - * prospect_full_name - * prospect_link -

Examples

```
try(nhl_draft_year(year=2020))
```

nhl_game_boxscore NHL Game Boxscore

Description

Returns information on game boxscore for a given game id

Usage

```
nhl_game_boxscore(game_id)
```

Arguments

game_id	Game unique ID

Value

Returns a named list of data frames: team_box, player_box, skaters, goalies, on_ice, on_ice_plus, penalty_box, scratches, team_coaches

Examples

```
try(nhl_game_boxscore(game_id=2021020182))
```

nhl_game_content NHL Game Content

Description

Returns game content for a given game ID

Usage

```
nhl_game_content(game_id)
```

Arguments

game_id	Game unique ID

Value

Returns a tibble

Examples

```
try(nhl_game_content(game_id=2021020182))
```

`nhl_game_feed` **NHL Game Feed**

Description

Returns information on game feed for a given game id

Usage

```
nhl_game_feed(game_id)
```

Arguments

`game_id`	Game unique ID

Value

Returns a named list of data frames: all_plays, scoring_plays, penalty_plays, plays_by_period, current_play, linescore, decisions, team_box, player_box, skaters, goalies, on_ice, on_ice_plus, penalty_box, scratches, team_coaches

Examples

```
try(nhl_game_feed(game_id=2018020561))
```

`nhl_game_shifts` **NHL Game Shifts**

Description

Returns information on game shifts for a given game id

Usage

```
nhl_game_shifts(game_id)
```

Arguments

`game_id`	Game unique ID

Value

Returns a tibble

Examples

```
try(nhl_game_shifts(game_id=2021020182))
```

---

nhl_player_info NHL Player Info

Description

Returns player information for a given player ID

Usage

```
nhl_player_info(player_id)
```

Arguments

player_id	Player unique ID

Value

Returns a tibble

Examples

```
try(nhl_player_info(player_id=8476899))
```

---

nhl_player_stats NHL Player Stats

Description

Returns player stats for a given player ID

Usage

```
nhl_player_stats(player_id)
```

Arguments

player_id	Player unique ID

Value

Returns a tibble

Examples

```
try(nhl_player_stats(player_id=8476899))
```

---

nhl_schedule NHL Schedule

Description

Returns NHL Schedule data

Usage

```
nhl_schedule(season = NULL, day = as.Date(Sys.Date(), "%Y-%m-%d"))
```

Arguments

season	NHL Season
day	Date

Value

Returns a tibble

Examples

```
try(nhl_schedule(season = 2023))
```

nhl_teams NHL Teams

Description

Returns NHL Teams information

Usage

```
nhl_teams()
```

Value

Returns a tibble

Examples

```
try(nhl_teams())
```

nhl_teams_info NHL Teams Info

Description

Returns NHL Teams information for a given team ID

Usage

```
nhl_teams_info(team_id)
```

Arguments

team_id	A unique team ID

Value

Returns a tibble

Examples

```
try(nhl_teams_info(team_id = 14))
```

nhl_teams_roster NHL Teams Roster

Description

Returns NHL Teams roster information for a given team ID

Usage

```
nhl_teams_roster(team_id, season = most_recent_nhl_season_api_param())
```

Arguments

team_id	A unique team ID
season	season in format XXXXYYYY

Value

Returns a tibble

Examples

```
try(nhl_teams_roster(team_id = 14, season = 20202021))
```

nhl_teams_stats NHL Teams Stats

Description

Returns NHL Teams stats information for a given team ID

Usage

```
nhl_teams_stats(team_id, season = most_recent_nhl_season_api_param())
```

Arguments

team_id	A unique team ID
season	season in format XXXXYYYY

Value

Returns a tibble

Examples

```
try(nhl_teams_stats(team_id = 14))
```

---

phf_game_all PHF Game All

Description

phf_game_all: pull in the raw data for a game_id from the PHF/NWHL API

Usage

```
phf_game_all(game_id)
```

Arguments

game_id	The unique ID code for the game that you are interested in viewing the data for

Value

A named list of data frames: plays, team_box, skaters, goalies, game_details, scoring_summary, shootout_summary, penalty_summary, officials, team_staff, timeouts

Examples

```
try(phf_game_all(game_id = 268127))
```

---

phf_game_details PHF Game Details

Description

phf_game_details: pull in the raw data for a game_id from the PHF/NWHL API

Usage

```
phf_game_details(game_id)
```

Arguments

game_id	The unique ID code for the game that you are interested in viewing the data for

Value

A data frame with game team details

Examples

```
try(phf_game_details(game_id = 268078))
```

`phf_game_raw` **PHF Game Raw**

Description

phf_game_raw: pull in the raw data for a game_id from the PHF/NWHL API

Usage

```
phf_game_raw(game_id)
```

Arguments

`game_id`	The unique ID code for the game that you are interested in viewing the data for

Value

A list of data frames

Examples

```
try(phf_game_raw(game_id = 268078))
```

`phf_game_summary` **PHF Game Summary**

Description

phf_game_summary: pull in the raw data for a game_id from the PHF/NWHL API

Usage

```
phf_game_summary(game_id)
```

Arguments

game_id	The unique ID code for the game that you are interested in viewing the data for

Value

A named list of data frames: scoring_summary,shootout_summary, penalty_summary, officials, team_staff, timeouts

Examples

```
try(phf_game_summary(game_id = 268078))
```

---

phf_leaders PHF Player Leaderboards

Description

PHF Player Leaderboards

Usage

```
phf_leaders(player_type, season = 2021, season_type = "Regular Season")
```

Arguments

player_type	Player type: skaters, goalies
season	Season (YYYY) to pull the team stats from, the concluding year in XXXX-YY format
season_type	Season type: Regular Season or Playoffs

Value

A data frame of stat leaders

Examples

```
try(phf_leaders(player_type = "skaters", season = 2022, season_type="Regular Season"))
try(phf_leaders(player_type = "goalies", season = 2022, season_type="Regular Season"))
```

phf_league_info PHF League Information

Description

PHF League Information per year

Usage

```
phf_league_info(season = 2022)
```

Arguments

season	Season (YYYY) to pull the league info and IDs for. Season is the concluding year in XXXX-YY format

Value

A named list of data frames: seasons, divisions, teams, league, officials, brackets

Examples

```
try(phf_league_info(season = 2021))
```

phf_pbp *phf_pbp*

Description

phf_pbp: pull in the raw data for a game_id from the PHF/NWHL API

Usage

```
phf_pbp(game_id)
```

Arguments

game_id	The unique ID code for the game that you are interested in viewing the data for

Value

A data frame of play by play information

Examples

```
try(phf_pbp(game_id = 268127))
```

`phf_player_box` **PHF Player Boxscore**

Description

phf_player_box: loads the player boxscore

Usage

```
phf_player_box(game_id)
```

Arguments

`game_id`	The unique ID code for the game that you are interested in viewing the data for

Value

A named list of data frames: skaters, goalies

Examples

```
try(phf_player_box(game_id = 420339))
```

`phf_player_stats` **PHF Player Stats**

Description

phf_player_stats: loads the player stats

Usage

```
phf_player_stats(player_id)
```

Arguments

`player_id`	The unique ID code for the player that you are interested in viewing the data for

Value

A named list of data frames: career, game_log

Examples

```
try(phf_player_stats(player_id = 431611))
```

`phf_schedule` **PHF Schedule**

Description

PHF Schedule lookup

Usage

```
phf_schedule(season)
```

Arguments

`season`	Season (YYYY) to pull the schedule from, the concluding year in XXXX-YY format

Value

A data frame with schedule data

Examples

```
try(phf_schedule(season=2022))
```

`phf_standings` **PHF Standings**

Description

phf_standings: pull in the standings data for a game_id from the PHF/NWHL API

Usage

```
phf_standings(season = most_recent_phf_season())
```

Arguments

season	Season (YYYY) to pull the standings from, the concluding year in XXXX-YY format

Value

A data frame of standings data

Examples

```
try(phf_standings(season = most_recent_phf_season()))
```

---

phf_team_box PHF Team Boxscore

Description

phf_team_box: loads the team boxscore and shot/score data for a game into one data frame through just one function

Usage

```
phf_team_box(game_id)
```

Arguments

game_id	The unique ID code for the game that you are interested in viewing the data for

Value

A dataframe of team-level box score information

Examples

```
try(phf_team_box(game_id = 420339))
```

phf_team_roster PHF Team Roster

Description

PHF Team Roster lookup

Usage

```
phf_team_roster(team, season = most_recent_phf_season())
```

Arguments

team	Team name with nickname (e.g. Boston Pride, Buffalo Beauts)
season	Season (YYYY) to pull the team stats from, the concluding year in XXXX-YY format

Value

A named list of data frames: roster, team_staff

Examples

```
try(phf_team_roster(team = "Boston Pride", season = 2022))
```

phf_team_stats PHF Team Stats

Description

PHF Team Stats lookup

Usage

```
phf_team_stats(team, season = most_recent_phf_season())
```

Arguments

team	Team name with nickname (e.g. Boston Pride, Buffalo Beauts)
season	Season (YYYY) to pull the team stats from, the concluding year in XXXX-YY format

Value

A named list of data frames: skaters, goalies

Examples

```
try(phf_team_stats(team = "Boston Pride", season = 2022))
```

`progressively` **Progressively**

Description

This function helps add progress-reporting to any function - given function `f()` and progressr `p()`, it will return a new function that calls `f()` and then (on-exiting) will call `p()` after every iteration.

Usage

```
progressively(f, p = NULL)
```

Arguments

`f`	a function to add progressr functionality to.
`p`	a progressr function as created by `progressr::progressor()`

Details

This is inspired by purrr's `safely`, `quietly`, and `possibly` function decorators.

Value

a function that does the same as `f` but it calls `p()` after iteration.

rds_from_url — Load .rds file from a remote connection

Description

Load .rds file from a remote connection

Usage

```
rds_from_url(url)
```

Arguments

url	a character url

Value

a dataframe as created by `readRDS()`

update_nhl_db — Update or create a fastRhockey NHL play-by-play database

Description

update_nhl_db() updates or creates a database with fastRhockey play by play data of all completed and available games since 2011.

Usage

```
update_nhl_db(
  dbdir = ".",
  dbname = "fastRhockey_db",
  tblname = "fastRhockey_nhl_pbp",
  force_rebuild = FALSE,
  db_connection = NULL
)
```

Arguments

dbdir	Directory in which the database is or shall be located
dbname	File name of an existing or desired SQLite database within dbdir
tblname	The name of the play by play data table within the database
force_rebuild	Hybrid parameter (logical or numeric) to rebuild parts of or the complete play by play data table within the database (please see details for further information)
db_connection	A DBIConnection object, as returned by `DBI::dbConnect()` (please see details for further information)

Details

This function creates and updates a data table with the name `tblname` within a SQLite database (other drivers via `db_connection`) located in `dbdir` and named `dbname`. The data table combines all play by play data for every available game back to the 2010 season and adds the most recent completed games as soon as they are available for `fastRhockey`.

The argument `force_rebuild` is of hybrid type. It can rebuild the play by play data table either for the whole fastRhockey era (with `force_rebuild = TRUE`) or just for specified seasons (e.g. `force_rebuild = c(2019, 2020)`). Please note the following behavior:

- `force_rebuild = TRUE`: The data table with the name `tblname` will be removed completely and rebuilt from scratch. This is helpful when new columns are added during the Off-Season.
- `force_rebuild = c(2019, 2020)`: The data table with the name `tblname` will be preserved and only rows from the 2019 and 2020 seasons will be deleted and re-added. This is intended to be used for ongoing seasons because ESPN's data provider can make changes to the underlying data during the week.

The parameter `db_connection` is intended for advanced users who want to use other DBI drivers, such as MariaDB, Postgres or odbc. Please note that the arguments `dbdir` and `dbname` are dropped in case a `db_connection` is provided but the argument `tblname` will still be used to write the data table into the database.

Value

Logical TRUE/FALSE

`update_phf_db` **Update or create a fastRhockey PHF play-by-play database**

Description

update_phf_db() updates or creates a database with `fastRhockey` play by play data of all completed and available games since 2011.

Usage

```
update_phf_db(
  dbdir = ".",
  dbname = "fastRhockey_db",
  tblname = "fastRhockey_phf_pbp",
  force_rebuild = FALSE,
  db_connection = NULL
)
```

Arguments

dbdir	Directory in which the database is or shall be located
dbname	File name of an existing or desired SQLite database within dbdir
tblname	The name of the play by play data table within the database
force_rebuild	Hybrid parameter (logical or numeric) to rebuild parts of or the complete play by play data table within the database (please see details for further information)
db_connection	A DBIConnection object, as returned by DBI::dbConnect() (please see details for further information)

Details

This function creates and updates a data table with the name tblname within a SQLite database (other drivers via db_connection) located in dbdir and named dbname. The data table combines all play by play data for every available game back to the 2016 season and adds the most recent completed games as soon as they are available for fastRhockey.

The argument force_rebuild is of hybrid type. It can rebuild the play by play data table either for the whole fastRhockey era (with force_rebuild = TRUE) or just for specified seasons (e.g. force_rebuild = c(2019, 2020)). Please note the following behavior:

- force_rebuild = TRUE: The data table with the name tblname will be removed completely and rebuilt from scratch. This is helpful when new columns are added during the Off-Season.
- force_rebuild = c(2019, 2020): The data table with the name tblname will be preserved and only rows from the 2019 and 2020 seasons will be deleted and re-added. This is intended to be used for ongoing seasons because ESPN's data provider can make changes to the underlying data during the week.

The parameter db_connection is intended for advanced users who want to use other DBI drivers, such as MariaDB, Postgres or odbc. Please note that the arguments dbdir and dbname are dropped in case a db_connection is provided but the argument tblname will still be used to write the data table into the database.

Value

Logical TRUE/FALSE

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