# A SERIOUS SPORTS PAGE

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## NEWS FROM A SERIOUS FOOTBALL LEAGUE

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### FOOTBALL FINALS FIND FRIENDS FLIPPING TO FOES

SUNNY DAY CHUCK DOWNFIELD

There was no shortage of action and emotion in Round 1 of the ASFL Playoffs this week. Some of the best teams in the league faced off for a chance to play in the first ever ASFL Championship. Some other teams also faced off for fun. With Round 1's games concluded, the stage is set for the final matchups of the season. Starting at the bottom, the battle for ninth place will couple of feature a managers rumored to be secretly married. Dawn's Boys and the 69ners will compete for the distinction of not finishing last in the league. Dawn Burney's never Instagram strategy really got her team off the ground, she admits. "I'm thinking about trying Bluesky next year," she said recently. Meanwhile, Kris Burney's team ranked first in the league after draft day, but they failed to meet expectations. "We're looking into other numbers to try next year," he said, holding a phone book. Next, the two teams fighting for 7th place will be Gus and Drop It Like It's Sl(h)ot. These two managers were once close friends, but rumors around the league say the competition this season has driven them apart. In an interview this week, Gus manager Coren Hucke said, "I'm ready for the offseason, because to be honest, I'm sick of what the media has been writing about me." Daniel Tribble will try a total rebrand and revamp of his team after this season's failure, and he might even face calls to step down as league commissioner. In the battle for fifth, Sam Shayer's All Hope Is Lost take on Beth Tribble's Max the Manx in a middle-of-theroad matchup that probably no one would have predicted three months ago. Unlike the other pairs of dueling managers, Sam and Beth remain close pals despite their work rivalry.

#### **NO BOYS ALLOWED**

In the actual playoffs, The Girly Pops upset The Guv'ment in a shocker led by quarterback Josh Allen, affectionately referred to as "Joshy-Poo" by manager Kaitlyn Vasey. Meanwhile, Salute Emoji held off a challenge from Jasmine's Fav, advancing to the final under the leadership of manager Melanie Shayer. The first ever ASFL championship will be between two teams managed by women. Matt Tribble, manager of The Guv'ment, and Alan Tribble, manager of Jasmine's Fav, will compete for 3rd place. In a post on X after his loss, Matt wrote, "It's tough to live in a world where you face so much adversity just because of your gender, but I'll keep fighting the good fight so maybe someday men will have the same opportunities to manage championship ASFL teams." Alan had no comment.



Kaitlyn and Melanie both plan on utilizing a bold lip this week.

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#### Playoff Bracket

