

# The Official Constitution and Bylaws of the **Fantasy Football League**

2025-2026 Season

“In pursuit of gridiron glory bragging rights, and a little bit of cash”

## 1. Preamble

This constitution (“the Constitution”) hereby establishes and governs the Fantasy Football League (“the League”). The following rules and regulations shall serve as the foundation for fair competition, sporting conduct, and the pursuit of fantasy football excellence. All League members (“Owners”) explicitly agree to abide by these rules upon joining the League and submitting their entry fee.

## 2. League Structure and Governance

### 2.1 League Format

The League shall operate as a redraft-style fantasy football competition, wherein ten (10) dedicated Owners shall compete in a season-long contest of skill, strategy, and football knowledge. The League shall utilize the ESPN Fantasy Football platform as its official site of record, though the Commissioner reserves the right to migrate to an alternative platform should circumstances necessitate such a change, subject to a league-wide vote.

### 2.2 Commissioner Authority

The League Commissioner (“the Commissioner”) shall serve as the primary administrator and arbitrator of League matters. While the Commissioner shall strive to be fair and impartial in all rulings, they retain final authority on all League matters not explicitly covered by this Constitution. The Commissioner may be assisted by a designated Co-Commissioner, who shall assume full Commissioner duties in the event the Commissioner is unavailable or has a conflict of interest in a particular matter.

## 3. Financial Structure and Monetary Considerations

### 3.1 League Entry Fee and Prize Pool

Each Owner shall be required to submit a monetary entry fee (“Buy-in”) of fifteen United States dollars (\$15) to participate in the League. This fee structure results in a total prize pool of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150), which shall be distributed according to the following carefully considered formula:

- **Weekly Performance Bonus:** A sum of five dollars (\$5) shall be awarded to the Owner whose team accumulates the highest point total in each regular season week (Weeks 1-13), amounting to a total distribution of sixty five dollars (\$65) across the regular season, and ten dollars (10\$) across both rounds of the playoffs. This provision ensures continued engagement and competition throughout the season, regardless of playoff positioning.
- **Runner-Up Compensation:** The Owner finishing in second place shall receive a sum equivalent to their initial buy-in, fifteen dollars (\$15), thereby ensuring their season-long efforts are not financially unrewarded.

- **Championship Prize:** The Owner who emerges victorious in the League championship game shall be awarded the remaining prize pool of sixty dollars (\$60), a sum befitting their achievement as League champion.
- **Winnings Distribution:** In alignment with the new penalty procedures, all winnings will be withheld until the end of the season, including the weekly-highest scorer winnings, but a public record, viewable by all owners, shall be kept in a method determined by the commissioner.

### 3.2 Payment Procedures

All entry fees must be submitted through the League's designated payment platform, Venmo, no later than seven (7) calendar days prior to the scheduled draft time. Failure to submit payment by the designated deadline may result in forfeiture of draft position or removal from the League, at the Commissioner's discretion.

## 4. Draft Operations and Procedures

### 4.1 Draft Format and Timing

The League shall conduct its annual player draft ("the Draft") utilizing a snake format, wherein the draft order reverses each round to ensure equitable player distribution. The Draft shall be scheduled no earlier than two (2) weeks prior to the National Football League's first regular season game, with the exact date and time to be determined by majority vote of League Owners.

### 4.2 Draft Order Determination

The draft order shall be randomly generated and announced precisely one (1) hour before the commencement of the Draft, utilizing ESPN's randomization tool or an equivalent third-party randomizer as determined by the Commissioner. This timing ensures all Owners have adequate opportunity to prepare their draft strategy while maintaining the excitement of position uncertainty. The randomization shall be filmed by the Commissioner, and will be available to any all all participating teams upon request.

### 4.3 Draft Time Limitations

Each Owner shall be allotted ninety (90) seconds to make their selection during each round of the Draft. This time limit has been carefully chosen to balance thorough decision-making with the need for Draft efficiency. Should an Owner fail to make their selection within the prescribed time limit, the auto-draft function shall be automatically engaged, selecting the highest-ranked available player according to the platform's default rankings.

## 5. Roster Construction and Management

### 5.1 Starting Lineup Requirements

Each team's weekly starting lineup shall consist of the following positions, carefully selected to ensure balanced competition and strategic depth:

- One (1) Quarterback (QB)
  - No more than three (3) players whose primary position is QB are allowed on the roster at any one time
- Two (2) Running Backs (RB)
- Two (2) Wide Receivers (WR)

- One (1) Tight End (TE)
- One (2) FLEX Position (RB/WR/TE)
- One (1) SuperFlex (QB/RB/WR/TE)

## 5.2 Reserve and Injured Reserve Provisions

Understanding the unpredictable nature of football and the need for roster adaptability, each team shall be allocated:

- Seven (7) Bench Positions: Allowing for depth, strategic stashing of players, and bye week management
- Two (2) Injured Reserve (IR) Slots: Reserved exclusively for players designated as Out (O), Injured Reserve (IR), or COVID-19 by their National Football League teams

# 6. Player Acquisition and Roster Transactions

## 6.1 Free Agent Acquisition Budget System

The League shall employ a Free Agent Acquisition Budget (FAAB) system for waiver wire transactions, promoting fair and strategic player acquisition throughout the season. Each team shall be allocated a virtual budget of one hundred dollars (\$100) for bidding on available players, with the following stipulations:

- Minimum Bid: Zero dollars (\$0), allowing for strategic acquisition of lower-priority targets
- Processing Time: All waiver claims shall be processed every Wednesday at 3:00 AM Eastern Standard Time
- Continuous Free Agency: Following waiver processing, all unacquired players shall be available on a first-come, first-served basis until their respective games commence

# 7. Trading Protocols and Regulations

## 7.1 Trade Parameters

The League encourages fair and strategic trading between Owners, subject to the following regulations:

- **Trade Deadline:** All trades must be completed by 11:59 PM EST on the Sunday of Week 12. If a team has been mathematically eliminated from the playoffs, they are prohibited from trading with any team still in contention.
- **Review Period:** Each completed trade shall be subject to a twenty-four (24) hour review period
- **Veto Process:** Vetos, by rule, will not be available, but non-participating teams may petition the commissioner to investigate any trade for collusion. If a two-thirds (2/3) majority wish for a commissioner's trade to be overturned, the commissioner must respect their wishes, or their buy-in is doubled.
- **Trade Limitations:** The trading of future draft considerations is strictly prohibited

## 8. League Integrity and Anti-Collusion Measures

### 8.1 Definition of Collusion

For the purposes of this Constitution, collusion shall be defined as any cooperative arrangement between two (2) or more Owners that compromises the competitive integrity of the League. Such arrangements include, but are not limited to:

- **Bench Sharing (The Abbey and Nick Rule):** The practice of coordinating starting lineups or bench players to benefit another Owner
- **Tanking:** Intentionally fielding sub-optimal lineups to influence game outcomes or draft position
- **Inequitable Trading:** Engaging in grossly imbalanced trades designed to benefit one team at the expense of League integrity
- **Prize Splitting:** Any arrangement to share winnings outside the prescribed payout structure
- **External Compensation:** Making trades or roster decisions based on promises of compensation outside the League

### 8.2 Investigation Procedures

In the event of suspected collusion, the following protocol shall be observed:

- Any Owner may submit a formal complaint to the Commissioner detailing specific evidence of collusive behavior
- The Commissioner shall conduct a thorough investigation within seventy-two (72) hours, including:
  - Review of all relevant trades and roster moves
  - Collection of statements from involved parties
  - Analysis of team management patterns
  - Examination of private messages or communications if voluntarily provided
- During the investigation period, any pending trades or roster moves involving suspected parties shall be frozen

### 8.3 Penalties and Enforcement

Confirmed instances of collusion shall result in severe consequences, scaled according to the severity and timing of the violation:

- **First Offense:**
  - Immediate reversal of any collusive transactions
  - Forfeiture of all weekly high-score eligibility for the remainder of the season
  - Additional \$15 fine, added to the prize pool
  - Public notice to the League detailing the violation
- **Second Offense:**
  - Immediate expulsion from the League
  - Forfeiture of buy-in and any accumulated winnings
  - Loss of draft position for following season

## **9. Fair Play and Competitive Requirements**

### **9.1 Active Roster Management**

All Owners shall maintain active and competitive rosters throughout the season, including:

- Starting only active players who are scheduled to play
  - Strategic sitting of players when a win is assured, is permitted
- Making reasonable efforts to replace injured or bye week players
- Responding to trade offers within 72 hours, even if to decline
- Maintaining consistent participation in waiver wire activity

## **10. Communication and Dispute Resolution**

### **10.1 League Communication**

To ensure transparency and fair play:

- All League-wide announcements shall be made through the official League chat
- Trade negotiations must be documented through the platform's trade system
- Owners must maintain active participation in League discussions
- Any private agreements affecting League matters must be disclosed to the Commissioner

### **10.2 Dispute Resolution Process**

In the event of disputes not covered by explicit rules:

- The Commissioner shall issue an initial ruling within 24 hours
- Affected parties may appeal within 48 hours of the ruling
- Appeals require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of uninvolved Owners to overturn
- All rulings and appeals must be documented and shared with the League

## **11. Commissioner Accountability**

### **11.1 Commissioner Oversight**

To ensure fair governance:

- The Commissioner must recuse themselves from voting on matters involving their own team
- Commissioner decisions may be overturned by a three-quarters (3/4) majority vote
- The Commissioner must provide written explanation for all major decisions
- A Commissioner found to be abusing their power shall face an immediate League vote for removal

## 12. Scoring System

### 12.1 Passing Statistics

The following point values shall be awarded for passing achievements:

- **Passing Touchdowns:** Six (6) points per touchdown
- **Passing Yards:** 0.04 points per yard (1 point per 25 yards)
- **Interceptions Thrown:** Negative two (-2) points per interception
- **Two-Point Conversion Pass:** Two (2) points per successful conversion
- **Pass Completions:** One-half (0.5) point per completion
- **Pass Incompletions:** Negative one (-1) point per incompleting

#### 12.1.1 Quarterback Accuracy Explanation

The completion/incompletion scoring system has been carefully calibrated to reward quarterback efficiency in alignment with NFL standards:

- At a 66.7% completion percentage (NFL standard for efficient quarterback play):
  - Example: Of 30 attempts, 20 completions and 10 incompletions
  - Completions:  $20 \times 0.5 = +10$  points
  - Incompletions:  $10 \times (-1) = -10$  points
  - Net accuracy points: 0
- Above 66.7% completion percentage generates positive points:
  - Example: 75% completion (24 of 32)
  - Completions:  $24 \times 0.5 = +12$  points
  - Incompletions:  $8 \times (-1) = -8$  points
  - Net accuracy points: +4 points
- Below 66.7% completion percentage results in negative points:
  - Example: 60% completion (18 of 30)
  - Completions:  $18 \times 0.5 = +9$  points
  - Incompletions:  $12 \times (-1) = -12$  points
  - Net accuracy points: -3 points

### 12.2 Rushing Statistics

Ground game achievements shall be rewarded as follows:

- **Rushing Touchdowns:** Six (6) points per touchdown
- **Rushing Yards:** 0.1 points per yard (1 point per 10 yards)
- **Two-Point Conversion Rush:** Two (2) points per successful conversion

## 12.3 Receiving Statistics

Reception-based scoring shall be awarded according to the following structure:

- **Receiving Touchdowns:** Six (6) points per touchdown
- **Receiving Yards:** 0.1 points per yard (1 point per 10 yards)
- **Two-Point Conversion Reception:** Two (2) points per successful conversion
- **Standard Receptions:** 0.5 points per reception for Running Backs and Wide Receivers
- **Tight End Receptions:** 0.75 points per reception, providing additional value to the Tight End position

## 12.4 Scoring Corrections

In the event of NFL statistical corrections:

- All scoring adjustments will be automatically applied by the ESPN platform
- Statistical corrections affecting weekly high score bonuses must be processed before the following Wednesday at 3:00 AM EST
- The Commissioner shall have the authority to manually correct any scoring errors not automatically adjusted by the platform

# 13. Constitutional Amendments

## 13.1 Amendment Proposal Process

Any League Owner may propose amendments to this Constitution according to the following procedure:

- **Submission Requirements:**
  - Proposals must be submitted in writing to the Commissioner
  - Proposals must clearly state the current rule and proposed change
  - Proposals must include a rationale for the amendment
  - Proposals must specify whether the change is intended for immediate implementation or the following season
- **Timing Restrictions:**
  - In-season amendments may only be proposed between Weeks 4 and 8
  - Off-season amendments must be submitted at least 30 days before the draft
  - Emergency amendments may be proposed at any time for issues threatening league integrity

## 13.2 Voting Procedures

The following process shall govern the ratification of proposed amendments:

- **Discussion Period:**
  - Seven (7) day mandatory discussion period following proposal
  - All Owners may submit written comments or concerns
  - Commissioner must facilitate at least one league-wide discussion

- **Voting Requirements:**

- Voting period of three (3) days following discussion period
- All votes must be submitted privately to the Commissioner
- Non-votes count as "No" votes
- Seven (7) affirmative votes required for ratification

- **Emergency Amendments:**

- Require eight (8) affirmative votes for immediate implementation
- Discussion period may be shortened to 24 hours
- Must address an urgent issue affecting league integrity or fairness

### 13.3 Implementation

Upon ratification, amendments shall be implemented according to the following guidelines:

- **Regular Amendments:**

- Changes affecting scoring or roster construction activate next season
- Procedural changes may take effect immediately if specified
- Commissioner must update Constitution within 48 hours of ratification

- **Emergency Amendments:**

- Take effect immediately upon ratification
- Must be documented with timestamp of implementation
- Require Commissioner notification to all Owners upon activation

### 13.4 Amendment History

All ratified amendments shall be recorded in an appendix to this Constitution, including:

- Date of ratification
- Original rule language
- Amended rule language
- Vote tally
- Implementation date

## 14. Playoff Structure and Tiebreaker Procedures

### 14.1 Regular Season Schedule

The regular season shall consist of Weeks 1-13 of the NFL season, with each team playing one head-to-head matchup per week.



## 14.2 Playoff Format

The League playoffs shall be structured as follows:

- Four (4) teams qualify for playoffs
- Playoff matches span two weeks each:
  - Semifinals: Weeks 14-15
  - Championship: Weeks 16-17
- Playoff seeding determined by regular season standings (1 vs 4, 2 vs 3)
- Higher seed receives choice of which weeks' score to double in each round
- Two-week total points determine winner of each playoff matchup

## 14.3 Tiebreaker Procedures

### 14.3.1 Regular Season Standings Tiebreakers

In order of application:

- Overall Win-Loss Record
- Total Points For
- Head-to-Head Record (if applicable)
- Total Points Against
- Coin Flip administered by Commissioner

### 14.3.2 Weekly High Score Ties

In the event of a tie for weekly high score:

- Both teams receive \$2.50 each (half of standard \$5 payout)
- If three or more teams tie, payout is split equally

### 14.3.3 Playoff Match Ties

In the unlikely event of a tie in total points after a two-week playoff match:

- Higher seed advances in Semifinals
- Championship would be split equally between finalists

## 15. League Expansion and Contraction

### 15.1 Optimal League Size

The League's optimal size is established as ten (10) teams. Any modification to this number requires a formal amendment to the Constitution.

### 15.2 Expansion Procedures

Should the League vote to expand:

- Requires unanimous approval from existing Owners
- New Owners must be approved by 8/10 current Owners

### 15.3 Contraction Procedures

In the event of necessary contraction:

- Voluntary withdrawal deadline: July 1st
- Involuntary removal requires 8/10 Owner vote
- Teams will be contracted in following order:
  - Voluntary withdrawals
  - Teams with rule violations
  - Teams with poorest 3-year performance

### 15.4 Owner Waitlist

- Commissioner maintains official waitlist
- Priority based on:
  - Date of application
  - League connection/referral
  - Fantasy football experience
- Waitlist expires annually on July 1st

## 16. Ratification

By signing below, each Owner acknowledges that they have read, understand, and agree to abide by all rules, regulations, and procedures set forth in this Constitution for the 2025-2026 season.

### 16.1 League Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

## 16.2 League Members

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Team Owner 1 Signature

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Date

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Print Name

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Team Owner 2 Signature

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Date

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Print Name

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Team Owner 3 Signature

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Date

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Print Name

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Team Owner 4 Signature

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Print Name

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Team Owner 5 Signature

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Print Name

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Team Owner 6 Signature

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Print Name

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Team Owner 7 Signature

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Print Name

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Team Owner 8 Signature

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Date

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Print Name

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Team Owner 9 Signature

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Date

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Print Name

League Constitution ratified on \_\_\_\_\_, 2024

*This constitution stands as the governing document of our League,  
crafted in the spirit of competition and camaraderie.*

### 16.3 Historical Amendment Log

Date	Amendment	Result
Initial	Constitution Ratified	Approved 10/10

## 17. Amendments

*Any ratified amendments will be added here*