24 March 2016

Tanner,

This memo is to describe a scenario for an NBA-like simulation. I am not sure that your software can choose random games for such a situation. Please let me know if it can or cannot handle the description below.

We have 16 teams; eight in the Eastern Division and eight in the Western Division.

Each team will play each team in the other division once. Four of these games will be on the team’s home court and four on the opponents home court. Which team is at home will be chosen randomly.

Each team will play each of the seven other teams in their division twice; one on the home court and one on the away court.

This leads to 22 games played by each team resulting in 176 total games.

We have 11 ‘weeks.’ Each team plays 2 games a week. Which games they play is chosen randomly. Do not try to predict the outcome of games until at least 2 weeks have passed.

Below are the strengths of the 16 teams.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Eastern | Western |
| 0.235 | 2.324 |
| 0.313 | 1.917 |
| 0.537 | 1.740 |
| 0.681 | 0.355 |
| 2.017 | 0.165 |
| 0.366 | 1.683 |
| 0.849 | 0.817 |
| 0.070 | 0.420 |

Again, I do not know if your randomization can be done with the above constraints.

For completeness, the above strengths were generated randomly from gamma distributions. The shape parameter for the Eastern teams is 1.0 The shape parameter for the Western teams is 2.0.

I have put a copy of this e-mail in the google docs folder entitled Wayne’s comments.

Please let me know if this description makes sense.

Wayne Larsen

Copy: Ross Larsen