

DDD Trifecta Pool Rules

It's almost our favorite time of the year. And what does that mean? We have to sign up for contests. However, which contest to pick is always tricky. So why not play the game that incorporates all three of the big types? Survivor, Spread and Confidence Pool all in one.

What's that? Such a great contest doesn't exist? Think again, my friend. Because I invented it one year ago today!

Main Tournament

Here's how it works. Each week every player will earn a score, and the scores will be summed through the 18 weeks of the NFL regular season. Those with the most points at the end of the season will win prizes. Each week's score is calculated this way:

Week Score = Survivor Pick [Win=1, Loss/Tie=0] * (Number of points earned from spread picks)

Survivor portion: Pick one team per week to win outright. Doesn't it stink when you lose in Survivor cause you took a chance in Week 6, but it set you up so well for the rest of the season? No more! In this version, getting your Survivor pick wrong hurts (you will get zero points for the week), but you aren't eliminated. Just know that like regular Survivor, you can only use each team once.

Spread portion: Like regular spread contests, you will pick 5 games against the spread. The more you get correct, the higher your score. We will be using Circa's contest lines, which generally are released on Wednesday afternoon. To prevent positive correlation, your weekly Survivor team will be ineligible for one of your 5 picks against the spread. If you want to pick your Survivor team's opponent against the spread, that will be allowed. It is possible to push using Circa's lines. If that happens, half credit will be awarded.

Confidence portion: Ever like a play so much you wished you could get extra credit for your lock of the year of the week? Well, each week, you get to make one of your picks against the spread worth double.

So, if you are calculating at home, the max weekly score is 6 points. Two for your strongest play, and one for the other four plays. But you could also get all five picks against the spread correct and yet score zero points if your Survivor pick doesn't come through. (More on these LOSERS later.)

Buy in will be \$100. \$75 will be towards the final results; the remaining \$25 will go towards the bonus games. Payout table (based on number of participants) is as follows.

0-20: 1st – 75%, 2nd – 25%

21-30: 1st – 65%, 2nd – 25%, 3rd – 10%

31-40: 1st – 60%, 2nd – 25%, 3rd – 10%, 4th – 5%

41-50: 1st – 50%, 2nd – 22%, 3rd – 13%, 4th – 9%, 5th – 6%

51-100: 1st – 40%, 2nd – 18%, 3rd – 11%, 4th – 8%, 5th – 6%, 6th & 7th – 4%, 8th – 10th – 3%

(If we get more than 100, I will come up with a posted schedule of payments.)

Bonus Games

Last year, people wanted some sort of quarterly/booby prizes. Thinking about it long and hard over the summer I came up with two variants that we will play with.

Because 18 doesn't divide well into quarters, we are going to be doing trimester payments. Weeks 1-6 will have a winner. Weeks 7-12 will have a winner. Weeks 13-18 will have a winner. So, if you get screwed by your crappy Survivor picks in the first couple of weeks, you can still get some money (and bragging rights). \$5/entry will go towards each of the trimester winners. (This is the Trifecta, after all. Why do we have to do quarterly payments when we are based on the power of three?)

The final \$10 will go towards the Lucky LOSER pool. What's a Lucky LOSER? It's someone who would have gotten 6 points in a given week, but his survivor pick lost, screwing him over. So he got 0 points. Oh, what could have been. But now! Fear not, excellent spread and unlucky moneyline handicapper! Because if this happens to you, you now have 1 share in the Lucky LOSER pool! Everyone who has such a week will be given one share in the prize pool. And that pool will be divided at the end of the season to the players based on the shares they had. This is not as easy to do as you might think. Last year there were only two players (each with one share) all year who would have won Lucky LOSER money. It's not a traditional booby prize but it's analogous.

Logistics – Payment and Website

Because of the yeoman's work done by Mr_Tuxedo (seriously, I cannot thank him enough), there is no cap for the number of contestants this year. He has put together a website that should be fairly automated for everyone to see things like leaderboards, picks, survivor teams remaining, prize structure (in case you have forgotten to memorize this in-depth digital pamphlet) and many other great features. The one thing we won't have automated is the picks process. Picks will still need to be submitted via email (see below). But it is going to be a massive improvement in how things are done. The website is:

<https://ddd-trifecta.streamlit.app/>

Please use Venmo to send me your entry of \$100. Include your DDD username or the handle you want to go by. My Venmo handle is: @edub1321

If you don't have Venmo, send an email to the OFFICIAL CONTEST EMAIL ADDRESS and we will figure something out, even it's mailing me small unmarked bills via USPS. I don't want anyone to miss out playing just because of an inability to transfer funds.

Submitting Picks

If a player wants to pick a game before Sunday (or an international game that starts early Sunday morning), ALL PICKS for the week must be submitted at least 1 hour before the first game he is picking starts.

If a player is only playing regular Sunday/Monday games, the deadline will be Sunday at 12pm ET.

I will try to send out an email on Saturday evening to refresh people's memories that there are only a few hours remaining to submit picks. That email will come from the OFFICIAL CONTEST EMAIL ADDRESS. Conveniently, this is also the email address to which all picks must be submitted:

DDDTrifecta@gmail.com

If you want to reply to the reminder email, that is fine. If you want to get in a play before Saturday, that is also fine. However, I'm not going to spam people's inboxes with multiple emails each week, one reminder will do. So, if you want a Thursday/Friday/Saturday game, you will need to be responsible enough to get ALL of your picks in early. Either way, when sending the email with your picks, in the body of the email, please include:

- 1) Handle/username
- 2) Survivor pick
- 3) One 2 point pick against the spread
- 4) Four 1 point picks against the spread

Please note this gentle reminder that your Survivor team cannot also be used as an ATS pick. If a player forgets that the Survivor pick cannot be one of the spread picks and tries to do that anyways, I will make that pick the opponent of the Survivor pick (a penalty for making my life harder).

If there are just five picks against the spread with no indication as to which is the 2 pointer, the first selection will be defaulted into the 2 point play.

Good luck to everyone and thank you for your attention to this matter!