

Fantasy Football, Your Either In or Out - It Ain't All Fun Baby!



"Thinking of Sticking Your Hand In and Giving It A Go? Don't!! Not Before You Get the Low-Down First" ...

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#1. A Simple Explanation of the Game

As popular as Fantasy Football has become there are still many who are unaware of its existence. However, the name Fantasy Football piques many individuals' curiosity and the question is asked: What is it? There are so many facets of the game however this article is designed to provide you with the basics of Fantasy Football. First off, Fantasy

Football is played over the Internet. Most of the game's participants have a great appreciation of the NFL. The majority who play Fantasy Football also root for their favorite NFL teams as one of their recreational activities.

In brief, you register as part of a league wherein you become the owner of your own Fantasy Football NFL team. There are various leagues and each have their own set of rules. Also you may acquire the players on your team by way of draft or auction bidding; this aspect is entirely dependent on the league which you join. The players you select to become team members are all NFL players originating from various NFL franchises.

In this article, it is presumed your league engages in drafting players. Your roster, dependent on league, may be comprised of eight, ten, twelve, fourteen or sixteen players. All the members on your team are drafted to be part of your lineup. The owners of the teams are expected by the league to acquire the players within a predefined schedule of time. The attainment of players must be effected within the current season. When selecting players you are going to need to strategize with regard to any of your players becoming injured during the season. When developing the roster it is also important as a team owner that you consider the free agent status of particular players who can be subsequently added onto your team when the timing is appropriate.

The best aspect of the Fantasy Football team is that it is structured similarly to the teams in the NFL. Generally a Fantasy Football team may consist of a) two defenses; b)

two quarterbacks, c) three running backs, d) two tight ends, and e) one kicker. That said, this roster format is apt to change from one league to the next; nevertheless, it provides you with some idea how the team player listing is set up.

During Fantasy Football, a touchdown is generally scored as six points. The points reward may be awarded to the player who was able to make the touchdown and also to the quarterback if he assisted in increasing the score. A field goal can add three points. Lastly, other points are attained or subtracted by means of offensive and defensive plays made by your team's Fantasy Football players.

#2. Become a Fantasy Football Owner Today

Many people have been NFL fans for years. They've observed many of the plays as well as the players and thought: If only I owned a franchise—I'd surely do such and such. Well, now you can and you needn't possess a hefty bank roll in order to achieve it. You can sign up online and easily own your own Fantasy Football team. Further, play is free. In the true NFL sport structurally there is a very prosperous owner who chooses the general manager for the football team as well as the main coach. The owner selects the other members of the staff - and drafts certain prized athletes.

Naturally, with any team the head coach has a great deal of responsibility on his or her shoulders to win games on

a weekly basis. There is an upside, however, to all the stress placed on the main coach, and that is if the team performs well they are headed for the playoffs at the end of the football season. This translates to a generous cash reward. It is little wonder many persons have fantasized about being owner of their own NFL team.

The good news is Fantasy Football from an operational standpoint is nearly the same format, except you take on the positions of owner, and staff management. Also there is a Fantasy Football auction or draft. When you participate in the Fantasy Football Draft, it is up to you to select players for your team from all the teams' players within the NFL. You are to establish a starting lineup weekly, and make use of trades when necessary. You do this in order to attain points for your team, making it your ultimate goal to reach the (final) playoffs. Within some leagues, if you win, there is a nice cash reward offered as an incentive.

People who have a good grasp of how a game is played within the NFL are in a good position to do well participating in Fantasy Football. The next question you may be thinking is: How do I become involved in Fantasy Football? That part is easy: All you need to do is get online and type the keywords (Fantasy Football) into one of the search engine browsers. Also you might specify free since it's advisable at first you get accustomed to how the game is played before parting with any money.

You may consider purchasing a Fantasy Football franchise in the future. These setups provide you with plenty of

opportunity to earn cash particularly at the end of season. In other words, as is the case with most business propositions: it takes money to make money. However you will have a great deal of fun spending it as well as making it.

Regardless of which route you take, make certain you understand the league's points system with whom you sign up. It is best to select a league that has a simple standard scoring system. This will be important if you wish to strategize effectively.

#3. Become Familiar with a League's Point System and Rules before Signing Up

If you are new to the game of Fantasy Football this is probably not going to be the first time you hear this advice: It is vitally important you become acquainted with a league's point system. You are strategically not going to survive if you don't become well aware of the League's system with respect to points as well as its rules.

Some leagues do not set up their points systems with much common sense. For example, certain players are never going to have more yards in total than the quarterback so points need to be awarded accordingly.

Also certain leagues will not make matters even-Steven at

all. You need to consider this type of situation because if you have a weak quarterback, you are going to get nowhere. It is important you find a league with a point system where points are allocated according to player. The point system needs to be harmonious in order that the teams may exist on an equal level with regard to competition. You don't want the point system so uneven that the same team wins week after week.

Therefore, the recommendation is that you find a league with a fair point system or the adverse effect will be you are not going to continue with them anyway. You'll burn out with respect to participation a little after a month. Make absolutely sure you are signed up with a league whose point system seems fair.

Also join leagues which have fifteen spots within their roster (on average). Each week you need to begin or start with a quarterback, two running backs, three wide receivers, one tight end, a kicker, and Defense. This setup will provide you with the best opportunity of winning. The team shown here will work for you especially if the quarterback you select is out early in the season.

You may end up selecting a host of various quarterbacks whose performances are totally lacking. However do not despair; you may have other players that are heavy duty allowing you to remain a contender until end of season. It is best to find a league that has fifteen spots within the roster.

Check out a league's system for trades and waivers. Certain leagues will give you a certain number of players which you may add or drop. Additionally, they'll limit the total number of times you can trade. It may be you don't like the restriction with respect to the numbers; therefore make sure you are okay with their rules regarding trades and waivers before signing up.

#4. Don't Select Your Tight End too Early

Certainly you understand team spirit however when putting together your Fantasy Football roster, you must remember as team owner a bit of individualized thinking is clearly in order. One area where your fellow team members will often blunder is selecting a tight end too early. This happens every season without fail. The way around this line of thought is not to get caught up in what the other team owners are erroneously doing; selecting certain positions too early.

You might want to converse favorably about tight ends with the other team owners. This will add value in the other guy's and girl's minds with regard to the position and they may make a mad rush in selecting their starting tight end. You may feel the urge to select a tight end within round four of the draft too. If you have already chosen two top tier running backs and wide receiver then you are allowed to take on a top flight tight end during the fourth round. If you can get a great tight end during round four who statistically had a great deal of yardage during the prior

season this is great.

However, if you can't pull in a top-tier tight end player during the fourth round, then it is advisable you wait it out. Any tight end you select after the fourth round is probably going to play about the same as the next guy. Don't pout if you are placed in the position of receiving a tight end within the later rounds of the Fantasy Football draft. Let's say you've attained your quarterback, two running backs, two or three wide receivers (pertinent to league) and begin looking about for a premier tight end at this point. The recommendation is: Don't take a tight end if there are better performers in the way of a running back or wide receiver. It is important you remember to select the best performer available with regard to position. This is after you have attained your top five or six starters. In other words, do not select the lesser position too early especially when stronger top-tier players within certain positions are still available.

Neither should you become skittish about approaching another team manager/owner about trading your premier starting tight end for their best running back. This sounds nervy but it will be worth it if you pull it off. Suggest a trade after the draft: Your exceptional tight end for the other team's starting running back. Don't hang back: Approach the other manager and effect the one on one trade. Do this if it will enhance your roster with respect to your top-tier wide receivers and running back talent.

The reason the tight end is someone you'll want to not consider too strongly is based from a historical Fantasy

Football perspective. If you ask certain Fantasy Football participants who are their league's winners to talk about their championships, they'll never mention the tight end position; they will talk about their running backs and wide receivers. However, the tight end's role in their team's win just does not come up. This is information you may wish to keep in the back of your mind prior to draft day. And, lastly, it is always important you review statistics prior to the Fantasy Football draft. Good sources include: the NFL website as well as Fantasy Football periodicals available at newsstands and larger book retailers.

#5. Draft Tips

Many people new to the game of Fantasy Football will read time and again the importance of preparing for draft day. Probably the reason that the subject cannot be stressed enough is because the draft is pretty much the ground work you lay in order to create a winning team. It is especially important to prepare if this is your first Fantasy Football draft. Here is where you make a first impression: and if you come off too clueless, people looking for the advantage are going to home in on you with a lousy deal later. In order to steer you on the right course, here are some tips about what to do on and before Draft day.

First on the agenda is to attain a copy of the rulebook for your league. Become familiar with your league's method of scoring, draft procedures and cash prizes. Also, many sites will offer Fantasy Football terms. It is necessary

to read through the terms just so there is no confusion later on. Read who the experts believe will be the sleeper players. A sleeper player is an athlete not well-recognized within the NFL but with a great deal of upside potential, generally based on his collegiate experience and who has filled in for a primary NFL player during that player's injury. One example of a prime sleeper this year is Matt Leinhardt who plays for the Arizona Cardinals.

Secondly, find out what the league's entry fees happen to be and bring your money. Also bring your cheat sheet (player rankings sheet); a Fantasy Football publication for those who wish to attain information; pencils and a hard surface on which to write. You might try bringing one of those hardback spiral notebooks. You can't realistically just bring sheets of writing papers and work off your knees. Also bring a folder set up to house your draft information and a roster grid.

Third, it is important you carefully observe and keep quiet. Here is a word to the wise: If the other teams already have three or four of a certain significant position and you have half that amount you are falling behind and in deep water. Also, keep your comments brief since you don't, want to give out the wrong first impression. In fact, the less said the better. The idea here is that by watching the other draft participants, you can attain a fairly good idea what is and is not appropriate.

Fourth, use discernment during your Fantasy Football tenure with respect to bye weeks. A bye week is when your NFL

player takes a break. Since your positions are spread across more than one NFL team it is important you do not have two positions which have identical bye weeks or weeks where each position is out of the game in the same week.

Fifth many newbies will make the mistake of filling up their roster in progressive order. Don't do this: For example, you want to attain your third running back before drafting for the kicker. A good rule of thumb to follow with respect to positions value is this: A player's value is not relative to the points he accumulates but how much he prevails with regard to scoring over his peer group players. It will be critical to review the scoring system of the league in order to make the proper decisions as to the player's worth.

Sixth, your cheat sheet is your business. In other words, don't share information on your cheat sheet with other team Fantasy owners. If you do so, you might as well hand over bonus points to the vying league member.

Seventh, while you are in between selections consider making a trade. If you believe your next pick is going to be chosen before you are up, then attempt to make a trade - your next two choices for a higher-ranked selection.

Eighth, when you are wrapping up your Fantasy Football draft your remaining choices should be the guys least likely to play or score substantially. Don't pick an older consistent player who manages to come up with several points each game. Save remaining positions for rookies or backup

players with some serious upside potential.

Ninth, Make certain you pay all the necessary fees. Come to an agreement with the Fantasy Football commissioner pertinent to your lineup and know the deadline date of your starting lineup.

Tenth, even though it is good as a newbie you prepare well for your Fantasy Football draft, you should also enjoy yourself while so doing. The main reason to participate in the game is to appreciate the camaraderie you share with other league players.

#6. Fantasy Football Draft Rules

Many persons are attending their league's Fantasy Football draft totally unprepared. Regardless of how good-natured other team participants may appear, this gets under the skin of many. In order to avoid contempt from other league members remember the following rules

A: Be prepared for your league's draft. Individuals who show up late or are not certain who it is they wish to pick make it difficult for everyone else. In other words, review players' stats well before and just prior to draft day.

B: Stick with drafting your own team only. Do not allow anyone to recruit you to draft their team as well: Talk about conflict of interest—however it has been known to happen. Also consider this same scenario within the NFL: An NFL GM is unlikely to expect one of his sidekicks to draft for him or her.

C: If your league has opted to use an automatic draft option, then make certain you take the time to rank your Fantasy Football league players beforehand. This is pertinent since it is best for your team as well as your league. If you do not rank your draft order, you may end up with zero of one position and too many of another type of position. If this happens any trading you perform will appear questionable.

D: Do not rush the selection process. This doesn't infer you want to linger too long as far as your decision, however, you want to be careful and discerning enough so you don't accidentally draft a player with a similar name to the athlete you want, from the wrong team. It has been known to happen. Make certain you have the right guy before you press the button to draft them.

E: Do not take players too early causing panic within your league. If someone else chooses a player too early do not start to panic yourself. Make certain you do your homework as to where Fantasy athletes and respective positions belong within your league's Fantasy draft. By doing so, you will not turn anyone in your league against you, and you have a better shot at winning the playoffs.

Conclusively, by doing your homework and sticking with your own personal plan of action you'll be much better off. The point is to do your best and make your decisions based on your understanding of how player rankings affect your team's overall success.

#7. Fantasy Football is Preferable to the Live Sport

Many people are finding they prefer Fantasy Football over hanging out at the sports bar and watching live games, but don't think for one minute that the NFL game is taking a back seat to it. Individuals may truly be enamored with the process of Fantasy Football, however they are still totally reliant on NFL stats and real live players' performances in order to win league championships. This means more viewing time is required since Fantasy Football players are drafted from varying NFL franchises.

There are many reasons individuals enjoy the game of Fantasy Football. For one thing, you are manager and owner of your own Fantasy Football team. It is up to you to strategize as far as the Fantasy Football draft and your starting lineup. This requires your time in studying player stats, and players listed as injured. For those wishing to win the cash prize at the end, the whole process can be very motivating. In this way, many Fantasy Football participants catch the fever of the game.

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