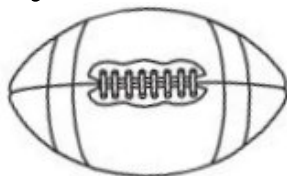


Fantasy Football Terms



compiled by Ron "Modar" Knight

ADP - Short for "Average Draft Position". This is normally utilized in a report or cheat sheet that lists NFL players by the position they are predicted to be drafted in fantasy football drafts on average. ADP can be a useful draft preparation tool.

Auction Draft - A type of fantasy draft in which owners are allotted a certain amount of fantasy cash to fill their roster spots by bidding on NFL players. Owners take turns introducing a player up for bid. Each owner may bid on any player he likes, or choose not to bid on a specific player. However, if an owner introduces a player they are required to bid on them. The highest bidder obtains rights to that player and adds them to his roster. But if an owner overspends on one player, the rest of his roster might suffer because he does not have enough remaining cash to fill other positions with quality players.

Auction Draft League - A fantasy football league that utilizes the Auction Draft system to create the teams that compete in the league.

Basic Scoring - The point system for fantasy football leagues where points are only earned when your starting players score touchdowns, field goals, and extra points. No extra points are gained for yardage, etc.

Bench Players - Players owned by a team but are not in a team's starting lineup. Bench player stats do not count toward a team's final score.

Bust - A player usually drafted in the first three rounds of a fantasy draft who is predicted to have a good season but instead has a poor one.

Bye Week - Each NFL team plays 16 games out of 17 weeks in the NFL schedule. The week that they don't play a game is called their bye week. When selecting players for your fantasy team be sure that each position has some players off on different bye weeks, so that you do not end up with no players for that position on a particular week.

Cheat Sheet - A drafting tool that lists NFL players ranked in terms of their fantasy potential. Cheat Sheets are generally used to assist fantasy football players in their draft decisions by ranking players overall or by position.

Cleared Waivers - Refers to a player who was released by another team and is now available to be selected by another team. See both "Waivers" and "Free Agent".

Commissioner - The person responsible for maintaining the fantasy football league, determining draft order, running the draft, collecting entrance fees (if any), setting up the game schedule, reporting the results of the fantasy games, and generally keeping things running smoothly. It is important for the commissioner to be unbiased, honest and detail oriented.

Constitution - A set of rules used to run a Fantasy Football League.

Cut - Also called "Drop". This is to remove a player from your roster.

Depth Chart - A list of all players on a (NFL or Fantasy) team's roster, with rankings from starter to second-string and third-string players.

D - Short for "Defense" or "Defensive Line"

D/S - Short for "Defense/Special Teams"

DB - Short for “Defensive Back”, used in IDP Leagues.

DL - Short for “Defensive Lineman”, used in IDP Leagues.

Draft - The meeting of the team owners and the league commissioner before the NFL season starts where the owners select the players for their fantasy teams. Team owners take turns selecting players to fill out their roster. (Most leagues only allow one fantasy team to own a particular NFL player.)

Draft, Auction - A type of fantasy draft in which owners are allotted a certain amount of fantasy cash to fill their roster spots by bidding on NFL players. Owners take turns introducing a player up for bid. Each owner may bid on any player he likes, or choose not to bid on a specific player. However, if an owner introduces a player they are required to bid on them. The highest bidder obtains rights to that player and adds them to his roster. But if an owner overspends on one player, the rest of his roster might suffer because he does not have enough remaining cash to fill other positions with quality players.

Draft, Serpentine - Also called a “Snake Draft”. A type of fantasy draft where the draft order of selection is reversed each round. The team that drafts last in the first round drafts first in the second round, the team that drafts next to last in the first round drafts second in the second round and so on..

Draft, Snake - Also called a “Serpentine Draft”. A type of fantasy draft where the draft order of selection is reversed each round. The team that drafts last in the first round drafts first in the second round, the team that drafts next to last in the first round drafts second in the second round and so on..

Draft, Standard - A type of fantasy draft in which owners take turns selecting the players they want on their team. Once a player has been selected, no other team has rights to that player.

Draft Order - The order in which teams will select players for their teams (in a Standard Draft League) or the Order in which they will introduce players up for bid (in an Auction Draft League). This order is randomly determined by the league commissioner (usually by drawing team names from a hat).

Drop - Also called "Cut". This is to remove a player from your roster.

Dynasty League - A fantasy league in which teams keep their entire roster from year to year. Each year after the initial season, a draft is held for rookies only. Usually the draft order is based on the previous year's finish. Dynasty leagues are designed for team owners with a long term commitment to developing a fantasy team.

Fantasy Football - A game played by football fans in which participants draft their own team of NFL players and compete with teams built by others. Scoring is calculated from points earned by a team's players based on their real-life performance in NFL games. The point systems vary among fantasy football leagues, ranging from basic scoring to elaborate point methods.

Fantasy Football League - Also called "Fantasy League" and "League". This is a group of fantasy football teams that compete against one another for a league championship. Fantasy leagues range in size from six to sixteen teams. Each league sets its own rules, thus there are a variety of types of leagues including but not limited to: Auction Draft Leagues, Dynasty Leagues, Full Potential Leagues, IDP Leagues, Keeper Leagues, Standard Draft Leagues and Survivor Leagues. Some leagues will utilize multiple types together, such as an Auction Draft IDP League or a Standard Draft Full Potential Keeper League.

Fantasy General Manager - Also called "Fantasy Owner", "Fantasy Team Owner" and “Owner”. The person who drafts, makes roster changes, and lineup changes for a particular fantasy football team.

Fantasy League - Also called "Fantasy Football League" and "League". This is a group of fantasy football teams that compete against one another for a league championship. Fantasy leagues range in size from six to sixteen teams. Each league sets its own rules, thus there are a variety of types of leagues including but not limited to: Auction Draft Leagues, Dynasty Leagues, Full Potential Leagues, IDP Leagues, Keeper Leagues, Standard Draft Leagues and Survivor Leagues. Some leagues will utilize multiple types together, such as an Auction Draft IDP League or a Standard Draft Full Potential Keeper League.

Fantasy Owner - Also called "Fantasy Team Owner", "Fantasy General Manager" and "Owner". The person who drafts, makes roster changes, and lineup changes for a particular fantasy football team.

Fantasy Team Owner - Also called "Fantasy Owner", "Fantasy General Manager" and "Owner". The person who drafts, makes roster changes, and lineup changes for a particular fantasy football team.

FF - Also called "FFB". Short for "Fantasy Football"

FFB - Also called "FF". Short for "Fantasy Football"

FFL - Short for "Fantasy Football League"

FG - Short for "Field Goal"

Free Agent - A player who was either not drafted or was released by another team (and has cleared waivers). Fantasy owners can contact the league commissioner to obtain Free Agents to replace players on their team. See "Waivers".

Full Potential League - A fantasy league in which the team owners do not submit a weekly line-up of starting players, but instead every player on the team is scored and the top performers are utilized for that week's scoring (i.e. Top 1 QB, Top 2 RBs, Top 2 WRs, Top 1 TE, Top 1 K, Top 1 OL, Top 1 DL). Thus each week the teams score the full potential of points possible.

Gamble - Refers to drafting a player with both high potential and high risk. Players in this category are usually injury-prone, have a high probability for being suspended, or are approaching the end of their career.

IDP - Short for "Individual Defensive Player"

IDP League - A fantasy league in which teams, rather than drafting a complete line of defensive players from a single NFL team, instead draft Individual Defensive Players (defensive linemen <DL>, linebackers <LB> & defensive backs <DB>). The number of defensive player positions starters and scoring systems for these positions varies widely.

Injury Report - A listing of players who will not play for a certain game or games due to injury.

INT - Short for "Interception"

IR - Short for "Injury Report"

K - Short for "Kicker"

Keeper League - A fantasy football league that utilizes the system in which a certain number of players can be retained from the previous season by each team, so that the whole team does not have to be redrafted. The number of players varies from league to league but usually ranges from 1 to 6 players. A team is not required to retain players, but has the option to. Leagues that retain whole team from year to year are called dynasty leagues.

L - Short for "Losses", used on a Standings Report.

LB - Short for "Linebacker", used in IDP Leagues.

League - Also called "Fantasy Football League" and "Fantasy League". This is a group of fantasy football teams that compete against one another for a league championship. Fantasy leagues range in size from six to sixteen teams. Each league sets its own rules, thus there are a variety of types of leagues including but not limited to: Auction Draft Leagues, Dynasty Leagues, Full Potential Leagues, IDP Leagues, Keeper Leagues, Standard Draft Leagues and Survivor Leagues. Some leagues will utilize multiple types together, such as an Auction Draft IDP League or a Standard Draft Full Potential Keeper League.

League, Auction Draft - A fantasy football league that utilizes the Auction Draft system to create the teams that compete in the league.

League, Dynasty - A fantasy league in which teams keep their entire roster from year to year. Each year after the initial season, a draft is held for rookies only. Usually the draft order is based on the previous year's finish. Dynasty leagues are designed for team owners with a long term commitment to developing a fantasy team.

League, Full Potential - A fantasy league in which the team owners do not submit a weekly line-up of starting players, but instead every player on the team is scored and the top performers are utilized for that week's scoring (i.e. Top 1 QB, Top 2 RBs, Top 2 WRs, Top 1 TE, Top 1 K, Top 1 OL, Top 1 DL). Thus each week the teams score the full potential of points possible.

League, IDP - A fantasy league in which teams, rather than drafting a complete line of defensive players from a single NFL team, instead draft Individual Defensive Players (defensive linemen <DL>, linebackers <LB> & defensive backs <DB>). The number of defensive player positions starters and scoring systems for these positions varies widely.

League, Keeper - A fantasy football league that utilizes the system in which a certain number of players can be retained from the previous season by each team, so that the whole team does not have to be redrafted. The number of players varies from league to league but usually ranges from 1 to 6 players. A team is not required to retain players, but has the option to. Leagues that retain whole team from year to year are called dynasty leagues.

League, Performance Scoring - A fantasy football league that utilizes a Performance Scoring System to determine team points.

League, Re-Draft - Also called "Standard League". A fantasy football league that utilizes the most basic (and most popular) system which has the fantasy teams release all of their players at the end of each season and re-draft new players each new season.

League, Salary Cap - A fantasy football league that utilizes a system where team owners pick players from a pool of players available and each player has a dollar value assigned to them. Each team is allotted so much money that it can spend to build a team. (Each team gets the same amount of money.) Players are not restricted to just one team, but can be on as many teams as want them. Each week up until a specified deadline, owners can change players by selling them first, to get their value put back onto their salary cap, then go and pick (and pay for) another player to add to their team. The limit to how many times this is allowed per season is up to the individual league. Many folks feel this is one of the most difficult leagues to participate in due to limitations of the salary cap.

League, Standard - Also called "Re-Draft League". A fantasy football league that utilizes the most basic (and most popular) system which has the fantasy teams release all of their players at the end of each season and re-draft new players each new season.

League, Standard Draft - A fantasy football league that utilizes the Standard Draft system to create the teams that compete in the league.

League, Survivor - A fantasy football league that utilizes a system where each week the team scoring the least amount of points in a particular week is eliminated for the remainder of the season. These leagues can utilize any type of draft and point scoring method, but usually utilize a higher number of teams (16) in the league. The last surviving team is crowned as league champion.

League, Team Position - A fantasy league in which the team owners do not draft a specific player for a position but an NFL team for that position. For example, if an Owner drafts St. Louis for a QB position, they get points for any (and all) St. Louis players that played the QB position in the game.

League, Total Points - A fantasy football league that utilizes a system where they do not track wins and losses but rather teams accumulate points on an ongoing basis with standings being determined by the teams' total points. The teams that build the highest total points at the end of the regular season advance to the playoffs.

League, True Fantasy - A fantasy league in which players are not restricted to just one team, but can be on as many teams as want them. There is no draft or auction for players; instead each team owner submits a roster of the players they want on their team. The advantage of this style of league is that each owner gets their ideal (true fantasy) team. The disadvantage is that many people feel it takes the strategy out of developing a team. Additionally, it is possible to have identical teams, thus eliminating some of the competitive fun.

Lineup - Also called “Starters” and “Starting Lineup”. For fantasy leagues other than Full Potential Leagues, this is the list of players that you select for a particular week that you will receive points for. A typical starting lineup would include one quarterback, two running backs, two wide receivers, one tight end, one kicker, one team offensive line and one team defensive line. Some leagues include individual defensive players (IDPs) in lieu of a team defensive line.

Mock Draft - A fake draft that some fantasy leagues use so that fantasy team owners can practice drafting strategy and project where players will be drafted in their actual fantasy football drafts.

OL - Short for “Offensive Line”

Owner - Also called "Fantasy Owner", "Fantasy Team Owner" and "Fantasy General Manager". The person who drafts, makes roster changes, and lineup changes for a particular fantasy football team.

PA - Short for “Points Against”, used on a Standings Report.

Pct - Short for “Percent (of success)”, used on a Standings Report.

Performance Scoring - A system where a team’s players receive points for yardage in addition to the points scored in a basic scoring system.

Performance Scoring League - A fantasy football league that utilizes a Performance Scoring System to determine team points.

PF - Short for “Points For”, used on a Standings Report.

Pick - The selection of a player for a fantasy team.

QB – Short for “Quarterback”

QBBC - Short for “Quarterback by Committee”

Quarterback by Committee Drafting - A strategy in fantasy football that suggests owners pass on drafting the big name QBs in the early rounds of the draft and instead draft QBs consecutively in the 7th, 8th and 9th rounds. In the early rounds the owners fill their rosters with RBs and WRs.

RB - Short for “Running Back”

RBBC - Short for “Running Back by Committee”

Re-Draft League - Also called “Standard League”. A fantasy football league that utilizes the most basic (and most popular) system which has the fantasy teams release all of their players at the end of each season and re-draft new players each new season.

Report, Standings – a report that lists how fantasy teams are doing in comparison to one another. Generally there is a column listing the team names with their number of wins, number of losses, number of ties, percentage of success, total of points scored for (by) the team and total of points scored against the team by other teams. This is usually updated each week following the conclusion of that week’s competitions.

Report, Team - a weekly report that lists how each player on a fantasy team did for that week and what points the team earned. Usually it also reports the team’s total score vs their opponent’s total score for that week.

Roster - A list of all players on a particular fantasy football team.

Running Back by Committee – The term to describe the strategy used by NFL teams where instead of using one major running back, they incorporate the skills of several running backs, rotating the players throughout the game. This can cause difficulties for fantasy owners if their league awards points for both yardage as well as touchdowns, since one RB might get yards while another is getting TDs.

Salary Cap League - A fantasy football league that utilizes a system where team owners pick players from a pool of players available and each player has a dollar value assigned to them. Each team is allotted so much money that it can spend to build a team. (Each team gets the same amount of money.) Players are not restricted to just one team, but can be on as many teams as want them. Each week up until a specified deadline, owners can change players by selling them first, to get their value put back onto their salary cap, then go and pick (and pay for) another player to add to their team. The limit to how many times this is allowed per season is up to the individual league. Many folks feel this is one of the most difficult leagues to participate in due to limitations of the salary cap.

Scoring - The points given to a fantasy team based on the real-life performance of the team's players in their actual NFL games.

Scoring, Basic - The point system for fantasy football leagues where points are only earned when your starting players score touchdowns, field goals, and extra points. No extra points are gained for yardage, etc.

Scoring, Performance - A system where a team's players receive points for yardage in addition to the points scored in a basic scoring system.

Scoring System - The pre-determined formula for converting a player's real-life statistics into fantasy points.

Serpentine Draft - Also called a "Snake Draft". A type of fantasy draft where the draft order of selection is reversed each round. The team that drafts last in the first round drafts first in the second round, the team that drafts next to last in the first round drafts second in the second round and so on..

Sleeper - A player who is projected to exceed previous year's performances, making him a good value if he is drafted based on those prior year performances. Sleepers are usually middle to late rounds picks.

Snake Draft - Also called a "Serpentine Draft". A type of fantasy draft where the draft order of selection is reversed each round. The team that drafts last in the first round drafts first in the second round, the team that drafts next to last in the first round drafts second in the second round and so on..

Snoozer - A player who is projected to have a drop-off in production as compared to previous years, making him a bad value if he is drafted based on those prior year performances.

Standard Draft - A type of fantasy draft in which owners take turns selecting the players they want on their team. Once a player has been selected, no other team has rights to that player.

Standard Draft League - A fantasy football league that utilizes the Standard Draft system to create the teams that compete in the league.

Standard League - Also called "Re-Draft League". A fantasy football league that utilizes the most basic (and most popular) system which has the fantasy teams release all of their players at the end of each season and re-draft new players each new season.

Standings Report – a report that lists how fantasy teams are doing in comparison to one another. Generally there is a column listing the team names with their number of wins, number of losses, number of ties, percentage of success, total of points scored for (by) the team and total of points scored against the team by other teams. This is usually updated each week following the conclusion of that week's competitions.

Starters - Also called “Starting Lineup” and “Lineup”. For fantasy leagues other than Full Potential Leagues, this is the list of players that you select for a particular week that you will receive points for. A typical starting lineup would include one quarterback, two running backs, two wide receivers, one tight end, one kicker, one team offensive line and one team defensive line. Some leagues include individual defensive players (IDPs) in lieu of a team defensive line.

Starting Lineup - Also called “Starters” and “Lineup”. For fantasy leagues other than Full Potential Leagues, this is the list of players that you select for a particular week that you will receive points for. A typical starting lineup would include one quarterback, two running backs, two wide receivers, one tight end, one kicker, one team offensive line and one team defensive line. Some leagues include individual defensive players (IDPs) in lieu of a team defensive line.

Stats - Short for “Statistics”. A player's numerical accomplishments for a given period of time.

Stud - A player who has proved himself to be consistently a top scoring player at his position.

Survivor League - A fantasy football league that utilizes a system where each week the team scoring the least amount of points in a particular week is eliminated for the remainder of the season. These leagues can utilize any type of draft and point scoring method, but usually utilize a higher number of teams (16) in the league. The last surviving team is crowned as league champion.

T - Short for “Ties”, used on a Standings Report.

TD - Short for “Touchdown”

TE - Short for “Tight End”

Team - The collection of players (including line positions) that a fantasy owner has.

Team Position League - A fantasy league in which the team owners do not draft a specific player for a position but an NFL team for that position. For example, if an Owner drafts St. Louis for a QB position, they get points for any (and all) St. Louis players that played the QB position in that game.

Team Report - a weekly report that lists how each player on a fantasy team did for that week and what points the team earned. Usually it also reports the team’s total score vs their opponent’s total score for that week.

Third Year WR Rule - Name for the common belief among fantasy football players that most NFL wide receivers do not "break out" until their third year in the league.

Total Points League - A fantasy football league that utilizes a system where they do not track wins and losses but rather teams accumulate points on an ongoing basis with standings being determined by the teams' total points. The teams that build the highest total points at the end of the regular season advance to the playoffs.

Trade - The action of two or more team owners exchanging players.

Transaction - A roster change.

True Fantasy League - A fantasy league in which players are not restricted to just one team, but can be on as many teams as want them. There is no draft or auction for players; instead each team owner submits a roster of the players they want on their team. The advantage of this style of league is that each owner gets their ideal (true fantasy) team. The disadvantage is that many people feel it takes the strategy out of developing a team. Additionally, it is possible to have identical teams, thus eliminating some of the competitive fun.

W - Short for “Wins”, used on a Standings Report.

Waive - The act of releasing a player from a team roster.

Waivers - A list of players who were recently waived (released) by the team they played for. In many leagues, rather than these players becoming immediately available, after being waived, a player is placed “on waivers” for a pre-determined period of time (usually 1 to 3 days). While on waivers, a team wanting that player must submit a waiver claim (a request to pick up the player). If multiple teams request the player while he is on waivers, the team with the worst record gets first claim, then the team with the second least wins, etc. Once a player has “cleared waivers” (no longer on waivers), he is considered a free agent and may be claimed by any team on a first ask, first get basis.

WR - Short for “Wide Receiver”

XP - Short for “Extra Point”