

**2006-07 OFFICIAL RULEBOOK & GUIDELINES**



**NATIONAL FANTASY HOCKEY LEAGUE**

---

**U.S Commissioner:** Rob Nekich  
**Canadian Commissioner:** Alan Evertson  
**Date:** September 12, 2006

# National Fantasy Hockey League

---

## Overview

The National Fantasy Hockey League (NFHL) consists of owners who select players from National Hockey League (NHL) rosters. An active roster of 23 players is selected using NHL player salaries and a pre-determined NFHL salary cap. Points are awarded to individual NHL players according to the NFHL scoring system. League Champion is determined by highest accumulated points of selected number of players on Roster at the end of the NHL regular season.

## League Operations

The NFHL has two league commissioners that govern league rules & regulations, statistics, ownership fees and prize distribution. NFHL offices are located in both the United States and Canada with a commissioner residing in each country. The NFHL Commissioners approve all registrations, expansion franchises, team nicknames and policies. The NFHL Commissioners determine the numbers of league owners and have the right to disqualify any application. The league commissioners determine all final decisions on league policies.

## Team Operating Agreement

In order to operate a team in the NFHL each owner must provide the league with an annual registration form along with appropriate Entry Fee. Along with the ownership information each team must submit a North American city and nickname for the franchise. If you were an owner from any previous season the team name must remain the same unless Commissioners give approval of name change. Registrations must be received by **September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006** or when allocated number of franchises has been attained.

## Communication Media

The NFHL provides owners up to date information via several forms of communication. The NFHL official website is available at [www.nfhlnetwork.com](http://www.nfhlnetwork.com). This site provides information on teams, rosters, news, divisional standings and transactions. The league also utilizes detailed statistical information via [www.officepools.com](http://www.officepools.com). Owners will be provided a username and password to gain access to this site which will provide daily statistical information including overall standings, team rosters and individual player points. As well owners will receive weekly updates via email regarding trades or other pertinent information.

## League Entry Fee

The NFHL has the following entry fee policy for the 2006-07 Season:

Upon approval of the registration each team will be required to submit an Entry Fee of \$30 U.S. (\$34 CDN). This fee must be received by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Upon receipt of registration the NFHL will forward an email with payment instructions and further instructions. A franchise is not officially granted or renewed unless Entry Fee has been submitted. Salary List and Roster forms will only be emailed to registered owners. The Commissioners determine the numbers of league owners. Commissioners have the right to disqualify any application.

## Compensation Pool

The Compensation Pool is determined by the number of team owners with funds removed to cover administration, statistic and PayPal fees. The following Compensation Awards will be allocated for the NFHL 2006-07 Season:

Award	Amount
League Champion	65% of Compensation Pool
2nd Place - Overall Standings	15% of Compensation Pool
Division Winners	20% of Compensation Pool/4
NFHL Lottery Winner	Free Entry into 2007/08 Season

## League Structure & Divisional Alignment

The NFHL Champion will be determined by the most points of all participating teams at the end of the NHL season. Points are determined utilizing the NFHL scoring system.

In addition the NFHL consist of a four-division format with Division names of Smythe, Norris, Adams and Patrick. The Division Champions will be determined by the most points of participants in a Division. The league commissioners will determine Divisional alignment; however owners can request a preferred Division to play in. Winners of the respective Divisions from the previous 2005-2006 Season will automatically be placed in the same Division for this season to defend their title.

## Rosters & Salary List

Each franchise must select a total of 23 players from the NFHL Rosters & Salaries List. The NFHL attempts to utilize actual NHL Salaries however alterations may occur. The NFHL Roster **must** be filled with 23 NHL players with minimum 10 Forwards, 6 Defenseman, and 2 Goalies and the total salaries of the 23 players must not exceed the Salary Cap. Since players are not exclusive to teams the same player may be on multiple NFHL Rosters. Initial Roster must be received by **Saturday September 30th, 2006**. Unlimited roster changes may occur prior to the start of the NFHL Season on October 4, 2006.

Players may be selected that are not included on NFHL Salary List for \$1.5 Million. Free agents that have not been signed by time of printing may have been given a salary determined by NHL team offer and player agents salary request or an arbitrated salary may have been given to free agents determined by comparing career average and 05/06 points with newly signed players for the upcoming NHL season.

## Team Payroll System

The Salary Cap for the 2006-07 Season does not allow a "Team Salary" to be above \$44 million. The "Team Salary" shall mean the accumulated salaries of all 23 players on a Roster.

Any team with a "Team Salary" that is less than Salary Cap has available "Payroll Room" in the amount of the difference between the "Team Salary" and the Salary Cap. If a team has "Payroll Room" a team can utilize the funds in future transactions (Trades). The "Payroll Room" amount may not exceed \$1 million. Redefined, the "Team Salary" may be below \$43M however the club's "Payroll Room" maximum remains at \$1M. "Payroll Room" funds can be used on separate Transactions as long as funds are available. A team can not create "Payroll Room" by reducing "Team Salary" through trades.

**“PAYROLL ROOM” ILLUSTRATION #1**

With the Salary Cap of \$44 Million and if a club’s “Team Salary” is \$43.0 Million the “Payroll Room” available to the club for a future transactions would be \$1 Million.

**“PAYROLL ROOM” ILLUSTRATION #2**

With the Salary Cap of \$44 Million and if a club’s “Team Salary” is \$42.5 Million the “Payroll Room” available to the club for a future transactions would still be \$1 Million.

**“PAYROLL ROOM” ILLUSTRATION #3**

With the Salary Cap of \$44 Million and if a club’s “Team Salary” is \$43.6 Million the “Payroll Room” available to the club for a future transaction would be \$0.4 Million.

“Team Salary” and “Payroll Room” information will be available for all teams on the official NFHL website at [www.nfhlnetwork.com](http://www.nfhlnetwork.com).

**Transactions (Trades)**

Each team will be allowed two (2) Transactions during the season. A Transaction consists of releasing a player from a teams 23 man Roster and acquiring an alternate player utilizing the NFHL Salary List. In the NFHL trading does not occur between teams.

The previous points accumulated by the removed player will be added to the points of the newly acquired player from the transaction point forward. No transactions will be permitted after the NHL trading deadline (TBD).

Transaction requests will be will be activated on a weekly basis and implemented for games beginning on a Monday. The weekly transaction deadline is Saturday upon completion of the last NHL game. All requests must be sent via email to the commissioner utilizing the NFHL trade form.

**UPON COMPLETION OF ANY TRADE THE TEAM MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:**

- The Transaction must occur between players within the same position.
- The newly acquired Player Salary can not exceed that of the released Player Salary unless the Club utilizes its “Payroll Room” to compensate for the differential in Salary.
- Team Salary must not exceed the \$44 million Salary Limit.

**TRANSACTION & PAYROLL ROOM ILLUSTRATION (TRADE 1)**

Team “A” has requested its first trade and has a Club Salary of \$43.5M with “Payroll Room” of \$0.50M. The Team has requested to release goaltender Roloson - EDM (\$4.5M) and acquire goaltender Huet - MTL (\$3.0M). This request meets all the criteria above include same position trade and salary requirements. Going forward the teams new “Team Salary” is \$42M but the “Payroll Room” remains at \$0.5M.

**TRANSACTION & PAYROLL ROOM ILLUSTRATION (TRADE 2)**

Team “A” has a Club Salary of \$42M with “Payroll Room” of \$0.5. Team “A” has requested to release forward Ribeiro - MTL (\$2.0) and acquire forward Pisani - EDM (\$2.5M). Team “A” will utilize its “Payroll Room” funds to cover the player’s salary differential. This request meets all the criteria above include same position trade and salary requirements.

## Scoring System

Forwards and Defenseman awarded 1 point for each Goal and Assist.

Goalies are awarded 2 points for a Win and 1 point for an OT/SO Loss. 1 point awarded for each Goal or Assist. 2 points awarded for a Shutout.

Owner's total points are determined by accumulated points of top 10 Forwards, 6 Defensemen, and 2 goalies (only 18 players) on 23-player roster. Overall leader in points decides league Champion at end of NHL regular season. In case of tie in any position in standings the following format will be used.

### STANDINGS TIE-BREAKER:

- Most Goals of top 10 Forwards & 6 Defenseman (16 players) & Points from top 2 Goalies
- Most Points of top 10 Forwards & 6 Defenseman (16 players).
- Most Goals of top 10 Forwards & 6 Defenseman (16 players).
- Most Points of top 10 Forwards.
- Most Goals of top 10 Forwards.
- Most Points from top 2 Goalies.
- If still tied from all above Tie-Breaker procedures compensation pool to be divided equally.

## NFHL Lottery

Upon completion of the season a NFHL Lottery will be held in June 2007 on the same day as the NHL Draft. Each team will be assigned a three digit numbers (000-999) determined by the team's final placement in the standings. The worst team will receive the most numbers while the NFHL Champion will receive the least. Using the Pennsylvania 3 digit Daily Number the team's number that matches the three digit Daily Number will be deemed the NFHL Lottery winner. Depending on the number of franchises will determine number allocations. The worst team will be given no more than 5% chance while the NFHL Champion will be given at least a 0.1% chance. The winner of the Lottery will receive automatic enrollment into the NFHL without having to provide League Entry Fee.

### Reviewed and approved by:

*Rob G. Nekich*

Rob G. Nekich  
U.S Commissioner  
Office: Allentown, PA

*Alan Norman Evertson*

Alan Norman Evertson  
Canadian Commissioner  
Office: Edmonton, AB



© NATIONAL FANTASY HOCKEY LEAGUE 2006

## Frequently Asked Questions

Below are frequently asked questions about the NFHL and 2006 Rule Changes.

### **WHY IS A REGISTRATION FORM REQUIRED EVEN THOUGH I AM AN EXISTING OWNER IN THE NFHL?**

Primarily this gives us official notification that an owner is participating in the league. As well it confirms information regarding address, email and is used to confirm divisional requests. The registration form is a requirement for participation.

### **WHY DID THE NFHL CHANGE THE ENTRY FEE TO 30 U.S. WHEN IT WAS ALWAYS 30 CDN?**

The NFHL wants the primary payment format to be PAYPAL. Since the PAYPAL account is U.S funds based it makes it easier to have this as the primary currency. Canadian residents can pay \$30 U.S using PayPal and will be charged the going rate for currency conversion. Non PayPal users in Canada can pay \$34 CDN to cover exchange and processing fees.

### **WHY DID THE NFHL ADD A POINT FOR A GOALTENDER WHO LOSES IN OT OR THE SHOOTOUT?**

The NHL provides a separate statistic for goaltenders with an OT loss or Shootout since the team is credited a point for the loss as well. Therefore, the NFHL credits the goaltenders in the same manner.

### **WHY DID THE NFHL INCREASE TRADES FROM LAST SEASON?**

The rule last year was overwhelmingly popular and owners felt the rule improved interest in the league as the season progressed. Owners responded with an overwhelming approval to increase the option to three trades. However, there were many varying opinions on how to accommodate the three trades including utilizing funds below the cap, minimum salary cap and fees for trades. With the varying opinions and also the consideration of those who did not want an increase we felt that changes made were a fair compromise. The only way to see if something will work is to try it. If it is not successful we will go back to the drawing board but we are confident this will be another challenging aspect to our league.

### **WHY DID THE NFHL IMPLEMENT PAYROLL ROOM?**

The main reason for the "Payroll Room" addition was to allow owners some flexibility to utilize some of the funds below the cap. Some owners wanted only the Salary Cap as a reference to limitation after trades were done. The approach of "as long as you are under the cap your okay" scenario was not a workable solution. Most owners usually create a Roster near the cap in most cases and we expect that trend to continue. For that reason the maximum any club's "Payroll Room" can be is \$1M. In addition the "Payroll Room" can not increase due to "Team Salary" decreasing. The "Payroll Room" funds can be used in whole or in part for the two transactions if the owner so chooses.

### **WHEN WILL THE PLAYER ROSTERS AND SALARY LIST WILL BE AVAILABLE?**

Creation and compilation of this list is a difficult task. The target date for release is Sept 20<sup>th</sup> which will allow owners two weeks prior to season starting to finalize Rosters. Since the majority of the list is based on actual NHL Players Salaries much of the information is available via contract press releases provided by NHL teams. Owners should have a some information available via the internet to get a general start on their Rosters. There will be cases where some NFHL Salary's are different since in special cases previous year's bonus award money may be instituted into the NFHL Salaries (as they would in the NHL). The primary example of this is players such as Ovechkin and Crosby who are on NHL rookie salaries but due to there success last season reached all rookie bonuses. Will you be getting these players for \$900,000 this upcoming season the answer is a definitely a NO.

### **WILL THE NFHL BE CHALLENGING AND EXCITING?**

Absolutely!