

**2007-08 OFFICIAL RULEBOOK & GUIDELINES**



# NATIONAL FANTASY HOCKEY LEAGUE

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**U.S Commissioner:** Rob Nekich  
**Canadian Commissioner:** Alan Evertson  
**Date:** September 7, 2007

# National Fantasy Hockey League

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## 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. Previous owners who have not registered by **September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007** will no longer have the franchise slot held in which time expansion franchise will begin to be granted. Existing owners can still register after this date however franchises at that point will be accepted on a first come first serve basis.

## 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 2007-08 Season:

Upon approval of the registration each team will be required to submit an Entry Fee of \$30 U.S. This fee must be received by **September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2007**. Upon receipt of registration the NFHL will forward an email with payment instructions and further details. 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.

## 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 2006-2007 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 **Wednesday September 26th, 2007**. Unlimited roster changes may occur prior to the start of the NFHL Season on Saturday September 29th, 2007.

Players may be selected that are not included on NFHL Salary List for \$2 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 06/07 points with newly signed players for the upcoming NHL season.

## Team Payroll System

The Salary Cap for the 2007-08 Season does not allow a "Team Salary" to be above **\$50.3 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 \$1.5 million. Redefined, the "Team Salary" may be below \$48.8 million however the club's "Payroll Room" maximum remains at \$1.5 million. "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 \$50.3 Million and if a club's "Team Salary" is \$48.8 Million the "Payroll Room" available to the club for a future transactions would be \$1.5 Million.

### "PAYROLL ROOM" ILLUSTRATION #2

With the Salary Cap of \$50.3 Million and if a club's "Team Salary" is \$48.0 Million the "Payroll Room" available to the club for a future transactions would still be \$1.5 Million.

### "PAYROLL ROOM" ILLUSTRATION #3

With the Salary Cap of \$50.3 Million and if a club's "Team Salary" is \$50.0 Million the "Payroll Room" available to the club for a future transaction would be \$0.3 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 team's 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 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.

### 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 \$50.3 million Salary Limit.

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

Team "A" has requested its first trade and has a Club Salary of \$49.5 million with "Payroll Room" of \$0.8 million. 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 team's new "Team Salary" is \$48 million but the "Payroll Room" remains at \$0.8 million.

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

Team "A" has a Club Salary of \$48.8 million with "Payroll Room" of \$1.5 million. Team "A" has requested to release forward Stoll - EDM (\$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 & Points from top 2 Goalies
- Most Points of top 10 Forwards & 6 Defenseman.
- Most Goals of top 10 Forwards & 6 Defenseman.
- 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.

## 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 2007-08 Season. Commissioner has right to change compensation pool allocations prior to season.

Award	Amount
League Champion	50% of Compensation Pool
Division Winners	24% of Compensation Pool/4
2 <sup>nd</sup> Overall	16% of Compensation Pool
3 <sup>rd</sup> Overall	5% of Compensation Pool
NFHL Compensation Lottery	5% of Compensation Pool
NFHL Draft Lottery Winner	Free Entry into 2008/09 Season

## NFHL Draft and Compensation Lottery

Upon completion of the season a NFHL Draft and Compensation Lottery will be held in June 2008 on the same day as the NHL Draft. The Compensation Lottery is new for the 2008 season.

### NFHL DRAFT LOTTERY

This is the existing Draft Lottery that has taken place since 2002. Each team will be assigned 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 Runner Up will receive the least. The League Champion is excluded in the NFHL Lottery. Using the Pennsylvania 3 digit Daily Nite Number the team's number that matches the number drawn will be deemed the NFHL Lottery winner. Depending on the number of franchises will determine number allocations. The worst team will be given the highest percentage chance while the NFHL Runner Up will be given the least. The winner of the Lottery will receive automatic enrollment into the NFHL following season without having to provide League Entry Fee.

### NFHL COMPENSATION LOTTERY

This is a new Lottery for the 2007-08 Season. Only the top 16 teams will participate in the Compensation Lottery. Each lottery participant will be assigned three digit numbers (000-999) determined by the team's final placement in the standings. The NFHL Champion will receive the most numbers while the 16<sup>th</sup> place finisher will receive the least. Using the Pennsylvania 3 digit Daily Day Number the team's number that matches the number drawn will be deemed the NFHL Compensation Lottery winner. The NFHL Champion will be given the highest percentage chance while the 16<sup>th</sup> place finisher will be given the least.

### Reviewed and approved by:

*Rob G. Nekich*

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## **Frequently Asked Questions**

Below are frequently asked questions about the NFHL and 2007 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.

### **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 15<sup>th</sup> which will allow owners two weeks prior to season starting to finalize Rosters. It is the intention of the NFHL to have the list released as soon as possible but no later than the above mentioned date.

### **WHY DID THE NFHL INSTITUTE THE COMPENSATION LOTTERY?**

The main reason for the "Compensation Lottery" was to keep a competitive interest in the league for more teams. Although late in the season teams may not have hope for the League Championship many teams will be competing to finish in the top 16 in order to be eligible for the Compensation Lottery. This Lottery is weighted meaning the higher ranked teams will have a better chance of additional compensation pool funds. The Compensation Lottery winner will be selected at the same time as the NHL Entry Draft which will occur in June 2008.

### **WHEN IS THE ENTRY FEE DUE AND HOW DO I MAKE PAYMENT?**

The 2007 NFHL Entry Fee is due no later than Wednesday September 26<sup>th</sup>. All potential owners must register first. The league will hold all previous owners franchise slots until September 10<sup>th</sup> at which time all registration forms will then be handled on a first come first serve basis. The preferred payment method of the NFHL is PAYPAL. However other forms of payment can be made by contacting the Commissioner.

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

Absolutely!