

2008-09 OFFICIAL RULEBOOK & GUIDELINES (TENTATIVE)



NATIONAL FANTASY HOCKEY LEAGUE

U.S Commissioner: Rob Nekich
Canadian Commissioner: Alan Evertson
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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. In addition 7 eligible players would be selected to a "Farm Team". 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 player's on the active 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. Owners 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 1st, 2008** 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. This site provides information on teams, rosters, news, divisional standings and transactions. The league also utilizes detailed statistical information via 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 2008-09 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 28th, 2008**. 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 2007-2008 Season will automatically be placed in the same Division for this season to defend their title.

Active Rosters & Salary List

Each franchise must select a total of 23 players from the NFHL Rosters & Salaries List to be placed on the "Active Roster". The NFHL Active Roster **must** be filled with 23 NHL players with a minimum of 10 Forwards, 6 Defenseman, and 2 Goalies and the total salaries of the 23 players must not exceed the NFHL Salary Cap. Since players are not exclusive to teams the same player may be on multiple NFHL Rosters.

Initial Roster must be received by **TBD**. Unlimited roster changes may occur prior to the start of the NFHL Season. Players may be selected that are not included on NFHL Salary List for \$2.0 Million.

NFHL Farm Team

In addition to the 23 player active roster 7 eligible players can be selected to the Farm Team. Eligible players will be identified on the NFHL Salary List highlighted in **Green** and only those players can be placed on the Farm Team anytime prior or during the season. The NFHL team must submit a minimum of 3 players (one from each position of Forward, Defense and Goaltender) to be placed on the Farm Team prior to the start of the season. The remaining 4 players can be added to the farm team anytime prior to **November 3rd, 2008**. Players initially placed on farm team after the season starts and before the November 3rd deadline can not be activated until November 10th, 2008. The maximum number of skaters to be placed on any position (forward or defensemen) is four (4) and for goaltenders two (2).

Team Payroll System

The Salary Cap for the 2008-09 Season does not allow a “Team Payroll” to be above **TBD**. The “Team Payroll” shall mean the accumulated salaries of all 23 players on the Active Roster. Players on the Farm Team do not count towards a Teams Payroll. At no point during the season can a Teams Payroll exceed the NFHL Salary Cap.

“Team Payroll” information will be available for all teams on the official NFHL website at www.nfhlnetwork.com.

Transactions

Each team will be allowed five (5) Transactions during the season. A Transaction consists of a Trade, Recall or an Injury Reserve placement. The number of Trades will be capped at two (2) and will still count as a Transaction.

Transaction requests will be will be activated on a weekly basis and implemented for games beginning on a Monday. The weekly transaction deadline is Sunday at 2 PM (EST). All requests must be sent via email to the commissioner.

Trades

A team that makes a trade will be utilizing one of the team’s five transactions. A trade consists of replacing a player from the teams “Active Roster” with another player from the NFHL Salary List.

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

- The Transaction must occur between players within the same position.
- The acquired player salary can not exceed that of the released player salary by more than \$1.0 Million.
- Team Salary must not exceed the NFHL Salary Cap.
- The player can not be on the NHL Injury Reserve List.

The previous points accumulated by the traded player will be added to the points of the newly acquired player from the transaction point forward.

Recall

An NFHL team can “Recall” a player from the “Farm Team” and replace a player from the same position on the “Active Roster”. **Only “eligible” players can be sent to the Farm Team.**

The NFHL team would be utilizing one of the teams five Transactions for the season. Once a player is Recalled the players entire NFHL Salary would be applied to the Teams Payroll. Reversely, any player “sent down” his Salary would be removed from the Teams Payroll.

The previous points accumulated by the “Active” player being sent to the Farm Team will be added to the points of the “Recalled” player from the transaction point forward. Upon completion of the “Recall” the NFHL team must be under the NFHL Salary Cap. Players can be recalled throughout the entire season.

Injury Reserve (IR)

A NFHL team may place a player on Injury Reserve (IR) with a replacement in the same position from the Farm Team. Only players that have been placed on IR or listed as injured by an NHL team are eligible. ("The Hockey News" website injury report list will be used as reference). The NFHL team would be utilizing one of the teams five Transactions for the season. The higher of either the injured or replacement player salary would apply towards the Team Salary Cap. Upon completion of the injury replacement the NFHL team must be under the NFHL Salary Cap. The previous points accumulated by the injured player will be added to the points of the replacement player from the transaction point forward

The injured player would remain on the NFHL IR until he is removed from the NHL injury reserve list. The injured player and the replacement player can not be traded or returned to the Farm Team during this time period. Once the player is removed from the NHL injury reserve list the player will return to the NFHL team's active roster and the replacement player will return to the farm team. This will occur the earliest Monday after being removed from the NHL injury reserve list. The IR feature can be utilized throughout the entire season.

The placement of the injured player to the NFHL IR list and his eventual return to the active roster will only be deemed "one transaction".

If the replacement player is injured he can be replaced with another farm team player if required. However, the NFHL team will be utilizing a second transaction for this replacement. The second replacement player must stay on the active roster until the original (first) injured player returns.

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.

Team's total points are determined by accumulated points of top 10 Forwards, 6 Defensemen, and 2 goalies (**only 18 players**) on 23-player active 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 2008-09 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 nd Overall | 16% of Compensation Pool |
| 3 rd Overall | 5% of Compensation Pool |
| NFHL Compensation Lottery | 5% of Compensation Pool |
| NFHL Draft Lottery Winner | Free Entry into 2009/10 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 16th 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 16th place finisher will be given the least.

Reviewed and approved by:

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