

League Constitution

Malvern Fantasy Football League - Est. 2001

**MALVERN FANTASY FOOTBALL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION**

(Originally Adopted January 1, 2020)

**Article I**

**FORMATION AND DURATION OF CONSTITUTION**

 This document constitutes an agreement among the Malvern Fantasy Football League (MFFL) members, as identified herein, each of which shall be entitled to the benefits and shall be bound by all terms and provisions set forth by this constitution. These terms shall remain in effect indefinitely, except in the instances set forth in the provisions of Articles III and IV.

**Article II**

**DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**Terms Defined.**

“Buy-In” – shall mean the sum of money submitted by a league member in order to be eligible to participate in the MFFL in a given year. This includes both mandatory and optional payments as defined in Appendix A.

“Commissioner” – shall mean the incumbent of the Office of Commissioner for the MFFL.

“Inactive” – shall refer to a team that is in a neglected state as set forth in the provisions of Article V.

“League” – shall act as a general reference to the entirety of the MFFL.

“League Council” – shall refer to the governing body of the MFFL as established in Article IV.

“Malvern Bowl” – shall mean the championship game between the two finalists in the MFFL playoff bracket.

“Manager” – shall mean a participating player in the MFFL who holds vested authority to make binding decisions with respect to a team.

“Members” – shall mean the collection of fantasy football teams as established pursuant to this Constitution.

“MFFL” – shall be used as an abbreviation of the league name, Malvern Fantasy Football League, and shall mean the fantasy football league to which this Constitution pertains.

“Notice” – shall mean official communication as issued to/by the Commissioner through the league group chat on Facebook. If desired, official communications can be issued to/by the Commissioner in a private, electronic message instead. Communication through technological means is required so that timing cannot be disputed. While informal methods may be effective in advising the Commissioner of actions, no member may dispute a decision of the Commissioner or the League Council that was not directed in this way.

“Payout” – shall mean the sum of money due to a member from proceeds of the Buy-In at the conclusion of the MFFL Playoffs in respect to meeting certain victory conditions as dictated herein.

“Post-Season” – shall mean the competition between qualifying teams through a bracket system as dictated herein.

“Off-Season” – shall mean the period of time between the resolution of the Malvern Bowl and the start of the next season’s MFFL Draft.

“Regular Season” – shall mean the period of time between the day upon which the first game of the NFL season is played in a given year and the resolution of the MFFL Playoffs.

**Pronouns.**

Where the male pronoun is used herein, it shall be taken to apply also to female persons as the situation may warrant.

**Computation of Time.**

Where this constitution refers to a week, it shall have either the meaning assigned to it in common usage (e.g., from 7 AM Monday to 7 AM the following Monday), or, in the context of a head-to-head competition, a “week” shall refer to the period time comprising the head-to-head contest between two opponents, regardless of the number of actual days within that time period.

Where this constitution refers to a period of time measured in days between two events, those days shall be counted by an exact count of 24-hours from the point at which the first event happens and until the completion of the appropriate number of 24-hour time periods to reach the point at which the second event happens. Unless stated otherwise, “days” in every case shall include all weekends and holidays.

All times of day applied herein shall be computed as being in the Eastern Standard Time Zone.

**Article III**

**THE COMMISSIONER**

**Establishment of Office.**

1. The Office of Commissioner of the MFFL is hereby established.

**Powers and Duties.**

1. The functions of the Commissioner shall include:
	1. To serve as the Chief Administrator, Dispute Mediator, and Financial Officer of the MFFL.
	2. To act with consideration into the intent and spirit of the rules, as set forth herein, the fairness to participating members, and the integrity of the MFFL.
	3. To work alongside the League Council to annually evaluate the state of the MFFL and make any changes deemed to be required.
	4. To maintain MFFL records, coordinate league functions, and complete any required administrative tasks related to the general operation of the MFFL during all periods of time; including, but not limited to regular season, post-season, and offseason.
	5. To investigate, either upon complaint or upon the Commissioner’s own initiative, any act, alleged or suspected not to be in the best interest of the game of fantasy football, with authority to compel the Managers therein to respond to such requests as may be necessary to resolve the claim, and upon refusal or failure to comply with such requests, to impose such penalties as hereinafter provided.
	6. To determine, after investigation, what preventative, remedial or punitive actions are appropriate in the circumstances of the act, and to take action against such Managers, as the case may be.
	7. Should circumstances arise for which a remedy is not stated herein, the Commissioner reserves the right to take whatever actions are deemed as necessary in the best interest of the league.
		1. If such actions are taken, an amendment to this Constitution is required.
	8. To record all amendments to this Constitution in Appendix B “Amendment History”.

**Prescribed Penalties.**

1. In the case of conduct determined by the Commissioner not to be in the best interests of the MFFL punitive or disciplinary actions against Managers may include any one or more of the following:
	1. A formal warning;
	2. A reprimand;
	3. A reversal, amendment to, or denial of a transaction;
	4. Suspension or banning of a Club or Manager from the MFFL;
	5. Forfeit of potential winnings;
	6. Such other actions as deemed appropriate by the Commissioner and the League Council.
2. Decisions of the Commissioner that include penalties must be provided with formal notice.
3. All decisions as set forth by the Commissioner will be considered as final and cannot be contested.

**Commissioner to not Supersede Authority of the League Council.**

1. The Commissioner shall take no action and shall make no amendment to the Constitution or adjustment to the status quo in retrospect of any matter without a League Council vote as defined in Article IV.

**Procedure to Review and/or Vacate Commissioner’s Decision.**

1. Rulings put forth by the Commissioner relating to the suspension or banning of a Manager from the MFFL will be offered up to the League Council for review, and may be overturned under the following process:
	1. League Council members directly involved in the outcome of the Commissioner’s decisions (i.e. the Manager that would receive the suspension or banning) are deemed as Interested Parties and are not eligible to participate in a vote to overturn that decision.
	2. Any member of the League Council is eligible to cast a vote to overturn a Commissioner ruling must agree to petition for a reconsideration vote by the League Council. That petition must be provided through formal notice to the League Council prior to recruitment date set forth herein.
	3. The decision of the Commissioner may be overturned only upon a majority vote of eligible League Council members.
		1. If such a majority is not achieved the decision of the Commissioner stands.
		2. If such a majority is achieved, the decision of the Commissioner is vacated.
			1. For further clarity, this shall not preclude future action by the Commissioner nor will it vacate such actions as the forfeiture of Buy-In as laid out in Appendix A.
		3. If a League Council member is deemed to be an Interested Party and the deciding vote of the League Council is evenly split, the Commissioner and League Council will determine the outcome of the original ruling with the help of a neutral third-party ruling as agreed upon by League Council members excluding the Interested Party.
	4. Managers who have been suspended or banned by the Commissioner can appeal through formal notice to the Commissioner for reinstatement; however, these requests cannot be made for one (1) year after the original judgement has been issued.
		1. At this point the infractions issued against such parties will be reviewed again by the League Council to determine eligibility to rejoin the MFFL.

Interpretive Note: *For example, the Commissioner may decide pursuant to Article III, Section 3, Subsection d that Manager X is suspended permanently from the MFFL due to behavior against the best interests of fantasy football. That decision is sent to the League Council through formal notice. One of the Council Members (which does not include Manager X, because they are an Interested Party) petition for reconsideration or a re-vote pursuant to Article III, Section 7, Subsection b, and do so before the deadline. Therefore, a vote is held within the League Council (not including the Interested Party). As a result, a majority of the League Council members vote that the decision of the Commissioner should be vacated. At this point, the decision of the Commissioner is no longer enforced; however, future acts by Manager X can still result in penalties as dictated in Article III, Section 3.*

**Terms and Elections.**

1. The Commissioner shall not be subjected to a term limit and may maintain the office indefinitely.
2. In the event that an election is needed in order to appoint a new Commissioner, with the exception of an election pursuant to Article III, Sections 11 and 12, it shall not take place less than sixty (60) days prior to the MFFL draft.
3. The election of a new Commissioner shall be a simple majority, and each League Council member shall have one (1) vote. In the event of a tie, another election shall take place that includes all league members.

**Incapacity.**

1. In the event that the Commissioner s unable or unwilling to continue in his role, a vote shall be held immediately to replace him from among the ranks of the league members following the above process.
2. The League Council maintains the right to designate that an acting Commissioner is incapable of properly performing the tasks required for the operation of the MFFL.
	1. If the League Council determines that an acting Commissioner is incapable of properly performing the required duties, they may decide to cast an immediate vote for replacement or allow the acting Commissioner to maintain his position until the end of the current season.
	2. In this instance, League Council voting shall require a unanimous vote for the immediate removal of a Commissioner. If the vote is not achieved, the point ***must*** be revisited during the MFFL off-season rules discussion.
3. An acting Commissioner can also be given a vote of no confidence by current MFFL members. In this instance, implementation of Commissioner removal will be required that a unanimous vote is achieved.

**Article IV**

**LEAGUE COUNCIL**

**Establishment of the League Council**

1. A League Council, composed of the league Commissioner as well as the four (4) original league members, shall be established in order to act as the primary governing body of the MFFL.
	1. Upon the opening of a seat on the League Council, the remaining League Council members will be required to unanimously approve any nominated replacement.
2. The creation of additional seats on the League Council will be designated only on a unanimous Council vote.

**Voting in the Offseason.**

1. Each offseason, the League Council will meet in order to discuss the current state as well as the future of the MFFL.
2. At the annual League Council meeting, Council members may be required to cast votes in respect of such matters as would include, but are not limited to:
	1. The amount of member’s annual Buy-In;
	2. The division of Payouts;
	3. The amendment of this Constitution in respect of matters that include, but are not limited to:
		1. The creation of expansion leagues;
		2. Revision to league settings, as defined in Article VII; and
		3. Revisions to the regulations pertaining to the draft;

All of which shall require a simple majority vote by means of a poll during the designated annual League Council meeting. All votes will be counted at that time, and a ruling will be made by the Commissioner pursuant to the authority granted in Article III, Section 2. Items voted upon during the annual League Council meeting become official once the meeting has been concluded. Until that time any League Council member may change a previous vote and topics may be revisited to be further discussed.

* 1. The MFFL Commissioner is required to prepare a list of topics, in conjunction with suggestions from the League Council itself, to be discussed and possibly voted upon at the annual League Council meeting.
1. While any league member may offer up a rule change suggestion to the Commissioner or individual on the League Council, neither the Commissioner nor the League Council is required to provide the suggested change as a topic to be voted upon during the annual meeting.

**Voting in the Regular Season.**

1. During the Regular Season, the League Council may be required to cast votes in respect to such matters as would include, but are not limited to:
	1. Opinion polls as required by the Commissioner for his own guidance;
	2. Trades between Managers; and
	3. Reviews of the Commissioner’s decisions within the Regular Season.
2. Regular Season votes regarding rules changes can only be initiated in a situation deemed by the Commissioner and/or the League Council to be in direct conflict with the state of the league and/or ability of the league to successfully complete the season.

**No Constitutional Amendments During Regular Season.**

1. This Constitution may not be amended during the Regular Season except by unanimous vote of the League Council on discussion points deemed critical to the integrity of the league. All votes will follow the rules as set out in Article IV, Section 4 and a ruling enforced by the Commissioner as granted by the authority in Article III, Section 2.

**Article V**

**INACTIVE MEMBERS**

1. The integrity of the MFFL is based upon the premise of Manager commitment to season-long participation by all members.
2. Should a Manager decide to leave the league, or be removed for whatever reason, their entry into, and ability to further participate in, the MFFL shall be forfeit and the Manager declared as Inactive.
3. The Commissioner reserves the right to assign an Inactive designation to a Manager despite a Buy-In having been paid. The Commissioner will not be responsible for refunding entry fees for any Inactive member, whether made Inactive by choice or Commissioner decision, as dues will be required to ensure that members who are actively participating, in accordance with this Constitution, are not negatively impacted.
4. Reasons for which a Manager may be assigned an Inactive designation include, but are not limited to:
	1. Failure to actively participate in a draft without proper steps being taken for auto drafting;
	2. Failure to submit a starting roster in two consecutive weeks;
	3. Failure to submit a starting roster three times during a season;
	4. Failure to meet set deadlines for Buy-In payment;
	5. Failure to keep contact information current;
	6. Failure to abide by the rules as set forth by this Constitution;
	7. Abuse of the waiver system;
	8. Causing issues within a league in which other players feel seriously threatened, or dissuaded from continuing due to a member’s actions (*All such instances will be subject to Commissioner review*);
	9. Colluding with other owners in order to sabotage another owner through actions such as unfair trades or playing unreasonable starting lineups (*All such instances will be subject to Commissioner review*);
	10. Dismissal requests made by **all** other Managers (*All such instances will be subject to Commissioner review*).

**Article VI**

**MANAGERS**

**Establishment of MFFL Managers.**

1. Upon joining the MFFL an individual is hereby established as a Manager.
2. Managers will be required to take it upon themselves to ensure the Commissioner is aware of the best possible means of communication.
3. Before the start of each year’s draft, Managers are to designate a team name, which cannot be changed during a given season.
	1. Each season has a designated name theme as set forth by the previous Malvern Bowl winner. Managers are to adhere to the given naming convention. Failure to do so may be seen as conduct not in the best interests of the MFFL and subject to league discipline as set forth in Article III Section 3.

**Withdrawal of Managers**

1. Managers may withdrawal from the MFFL at any time between the commencement of the off-season and the following draft date, as established through the guidelines detailed in Article VIII, without penalty.
2. Any league member withdrawing from the MFFL after the draft date shall forfeit any and all Buy-In funds as detailed in Appendix A.

**Article VII**

**LEAGUES SETTINGS**

**Game Service and Format.**

1. The MFFL shall be a 12-team, weekly head-to-head league hosted on Yahoo Fantasy.
	1. Teams shall be divided into three divisions of four teams.
		1. Divisions are decided based upon a captain’s draft system, where the top-3 Managers from the previous years shall be designated as captains of each of the three divisions and will take turns selecting their fellow division members as part of a snaking draft.

Interpretive Note: *For example, Managers A, B, and C were the previous year’s top-3 and will be divided as captains amongst Divisions 1, 2, and 3. Manager A will start and choose another player to be part of their division. Then, Manager B shall select a player. Third, Manager C shall select a player. Once all three managers have selected an individual, the selection shall start over again with Manager A, then Manager B, and finally Manager C - this shall continue thusly until all 12 teams are divided amongst the three divisions.*

1. The scheduling of the MFFL, shall be initially set by Yahoo’s internal systems. After Yahoo’s schedule has been set the Commissioner will make the following adjustments:
	1. A rematch of the previous year’s Malvern Bowl game shall take place in the first week of the new season.
	2. During the week designated by Yahoo as a “rivalry week,” matches will be adjusted in order to match Managers with their all-time rival.
		1. An all-time rival is determined by a participant’s win percentage versus each other Manager as shown on the designated “Match-up Records” spreadsheet as found on the league website.
		2. If it should occur that a participant has multiple active rivals, then the Commissioner shall make designations based upon what is determined to be in the league’s best interest.
2. In addition to the head-to-head schedule each member will be awarded a win or loss based upon how their team performed versus the league average. This allows teams to earn 2 wins, 1 win and 1 loss, or 2 losses in any given week.
	1. The Commissioner shall provide all league members with a posted update of league standings every Tuesday during the MFFL Regular Season as the system set forth through Yahoo does not account for the addition of the extra wins/losses.

Interpretive Note: *For example, Manager X wins their weekly head-to-head matchup and is awarded 1 win. Then, Manager X’s weekly score is compared to the points scored by all other teams in that given week. If Manager X’s weekly score does not rank within the top-6 team scores, they will be assigned 1 loss. This would give Manager X a record of 1 win and 1 loss for that week.*

1. All points shall be calculated using Yahoo’s internal system based upon the scoring categories designated below.
	1. The Commissioner shall not be responsible for any reversal of a head-to-head match based on posted stat corrections.
	2. The Commissioner shall not be responsible for any errors made by Yahoo’s internal system as it relates to the proper accounting of points unless it is found to be the result of an error in how scoring categories were originally set.
		1. Errors in the designated scoring categories will be addressed based upon a ruling by the League Council as designated by the rights provided in Article IV, Section 8.
2. The scoring categories and associated points for the MFFL shall be as follows:
	1. Passing categories: Passing Yards (0.04) / Passing TDs (6) / Interceptions Thrown (-2) / Passing 2pt Conversion (2)
	2. Rushing categories: Rushing Yards (0.10) / Rushing TDs (6) / Rushing 2pt Conversion (2)
	3. Receiving categories: Receiving Yards (0.10) / Receptions (1) / Receiving TDs (6) / Receiving 2pt Conversion (2)
	4. Player Kick/Punt Return categories: Kickoff Return Yards (0.03) / Punt Return Yards (0.03) / Kickoff Return TDs (6) / Punt Return TDs (6)
	5. Miscellaneous: Fumble (-1) / Fumble Lost (-1) / Offensive Fumble Return TD (6)
	6. Kicking categories: Each PAT Made (1) / Each PAT Missed (-1) / 0-19 Yd FG (2) / 20-29 Yd FG (3) / 30-39 Yd FG (3) / 40-49 Yd FG (3) / 50+ Yd FG (4) / 0-19 Yd FG Miss (-3) / 20-29 Yd FG Miss (-2) / 30-39 Yd FG Miss (-2) / 40-49 Yd FG Miss (-1) / 50+ Yd FG Miss (-1)
	7. Defense and Special Teams categories: Sack (1) / Interception (2) / Fumble Recovery (2) / All DST Touchdowns (6) / Safety (2) / Blocked Kick (2) / Return Yards (0.029) / Shutout (6) / 1-6 Pts Allowed (3) / 7-13 Pts Allowed (2) / 14-20 Pts Allowed (1) / 21-27 Pts Allowed (0) / 28-34 Pts Allowed (-1) / 35+ Pts Allowed (-2) / 4th Down Stops (2) / Negative Yards Allowed (10) / 0-99 Yds Allowed (7) / 100-199 Yds Allowed (4) / 200-299 Yds Allowed (1) / 300-399 Yds Allowed (0) / 400-499 Yds Allowed (-1) / 500+ Yds Allowed (-4) / Returned PAT (2)
3. The positional composition of MFFL rosters shall be as follows:
	1. 1 starting Quarterback (QB);
	2. 2 starting Wide Receivers (WR);
	3. 2 starting Running Backs (RB);
	4. 1 starting Tight End (TE);
	5. 1 starting Flex (RB/WR/TE);
	6. 1 starting Place Kicker (K);
	7. 1 starting Team Defense/Special Teams (DST);
	8. 6 Benched Players;
	9. 1 optional use Injured Reserve (IR).
		1. Only players with an IR or Out designation, as implemented by the NFL and designated at Yahoo’s discretion, can be placed into a team’s IR position.
		2. Errors related to players who are in the IR position, but not in compliance with the assigned IR rules, will be subject to Yahoo’s internal rule set.
			1. Where the rules set forth by this constitution regarding Article IX, Section 17, conflict with Yahoo’s internal rule set, the latter shall proceed the former.
				1. If any member encounters an issue relating to IR designations formal notice can be given to the Commissioner, who will make a ruling at his discretion.
4. During the Regular Season, a team roster will consist at all times of 15 players unless a roster spot is emptied due to a penalty described by Article VII, Section 6, Subsection ii.
	1. A team that continues to maintain a roster of less than 15 players may be subject to penalties as described by Article III, Section 3.
5. Managers may not purposefully leave a starting roster spot without a player in it.
	1. Managers may choose to start a player who is on a Bye week; however, it must be determined to be a conscious decision as decided by the Commissioner.

**Wins and Tiebreakers.**

1. Weekly Head-to-Head matchups are won by the team with the higher point total for that given week after any stat corrections or penalties as described by Article III, Section 3.
2. Matchups that end in a tie during the Regular Season will be left as such. During the Post-Season ties are decided by awarding a win to the Manager with the highest scoring optimal line-up.

**Transactional Restrictions.**

1. Each member is entitled to make an unlimited number of transactions each season.

**Financial Matters.**

1. The Buy-In for participating members in the MFFL shall be set annually each Off-Season by a vote pursuant to Article IV, Section 4 and shall be appended hereto as Appendix A, along with agreed-to details in respect of Buy-In, Payout and financial transaction information.
2. The Buy-In will consist of an optional, as well as a mandatory component.
	1. Optional Buy-In funds shall be used to fund the MFFL Payout as dictated by Article X.
	2. Mandatory Buy-In funds shall be used to fund the Malvern Bowl trophy for each season’s champion.
3. Failure to submit Buy-In funds by the Buy-In date may result in a Manager being replaced or given an Inactive designation as pertains to the Offenses section in Article V and its applicable penalties.

**Article VIII**

**MFFL DRAFT**

**Announcement.**

1. The MFFL Draft shall commence during the NFL Preseason at a previously agreed upon date and time.
2. Each Off-Season the Commissioner will poll active members of the MFFL in order to determine the designated draft day based on member availability.
	1. While efforts will be made to accommodate the availability of all MFFL members it is not always possible to ensure that an agreed upon date will meet the availability of all MFFL members.
		1. If it so happens that a date cannot be found to accommodate all members of the MFFL then the Commissioner shall be required to determine the best possible solution based upon the best available option as dictated by number of available Managers in conjunction with the start of the NFL regular season.
	2. In all instances, the MFFL Draft date shall be held as close to the start of the NFL regular season as is possible in order to provide Managers with the best available player information.

**Draft Rules.**

1. The MFFL Draft shall be governed by the Commissioner as a live, snake-style draft.
2. Draft order will be pre-determined based upon a predetermined randomization system.
3. While no specific pick timer shall be used, the Commissioner shall maintain the right to enforce a pick timer should it be determined that any Manager is inhibiting others through taking an excessive amount of time to make a player selection.
4. As the MFFL Draft is not automated the responsibility falls upon individual Managers to prearrange drafting accommodations with the Commissioner through formal notice prior to the decided upon MFFL Draft date.
	1. If no prior accommodations are made the Commissioner shall maintain the right to self-automate the individual’s draft as he sees fit.
5. Managers are expected to make every effort to participate in the MFFL Draft. Absentee Managers are still responsible for covering the Mandatory Buy-In and must declare their intention to participate in the Optional Buy-In **prior** to seeing draft results.
6. The Commissioner and League Council shall not be held responsible for the results of a draft that has been completed for an absentee Manager.
7. Absentee Managers are still expected to fully participate in the MFFL through the entirety of the season or they shall be subject to penalties as put forth in Article III, Section 3.

**Keepers.**

1. No players are to be kept on any one roster from one season to the next.

**Article IX**

**FREE AGENCY, TRANSACTIONS, AND ROSTER MANAGEMENT**

**Free Agent Acquisition.**

1. Free Agent are designated as those who are not currently subject to waiver rules and can be acquired at any point in time on a first come, first served basis.
2. There is no season acquisition limit.
3. Injured free agents cannot be added directly to a team’s IR position.

**Waivers.**

1. Waiver order will be assigned in reverse order of standings.
	1. A successful waiver claim will move a Manager to the bottom of the waiver list.
	2. Waiver order will be reset weekly.
2. Each week players will be locked and subject to waivers at the start of their respective games. Weekly waivers will be processed at 11:59 PM on Tuesdays.
	1. Waiver order will be updated by the Commissioner on Tuesdays before weekly waiver processing.
3. Players that have been dropped from any Manager’s team roster will also be subjected to waiver rules.
4. Claims for dropped players will be open for two (2) days’ time and can be made by any league member except for the individual who put the player on waivers in the first place.
5. Waived players with an injury designation cannot be added directly to a team’s IR position.
6. If a participant is found to be actively cycling players within 1-2 days they may be subject to punishments as determined by the League Council. Violators will be provided with ample warning on a standard “three strike” system.

**Authorization to Trade.**

1. Any Manager may engage in any number of transactions with any number of other Managers at any time, provided that the transactions would not be contrary to the best interests of fantasy football.
2. All transactions are subject to review by league-wide vote based upon the following terms:
	1. All trades can be made using Yahoo’s internal system; however, at least one (1) of the Managers involved in the trade must inform the Commissioner of the submitted trade through formal notice.
	2. Once received by the Commissioner trades shall be presented to all league members for a vote of approval.
	3. For a trade to be vetoed it must obtain a negative vote from at least one-third of league members, rounded up.
		1. Any vetoed trade may be taken under review by the League Council and overturned if it is determined that processing the trade is in the best interests of the MFFL.
	4. Trade votes shall be maintained for two (2) days from the point at which it is announced to the league by the Commissioner.
	5. If a posted trade receives an approval vote from two-thirds or more of the league it can be instantly processed by the Commissioner and does not need to be subject to the full two (2) day waiting period.
3. Transactions that would violate the roster requirements of any Manager, as set forth in this Constitution, will be subject to adjustment based upon Yahoo’s internal rule set.
	1. If any member encounters an issue relating to transactions between members, formal notice can be given to the Commissioner, who will make a ruling at his discretion.

**Forbidden Trades.**

1. Draft picks and “players to be named later” are non-transferable and may not form any part of the value of a transaction.
2. Monetary sums and/or any factor outside of the realm of fantasy football may not form any part of the value of a transaction. If it is discovered that any such factor was involved in a transaction, then one or both players may be subject to punishment as designated by Article III, Section 3.
3. If a trade between two Managers has been vetoed through league vote, then that exact trade cannot be resubmitted for two (2) weeks’ time at which point it can be again attempted.
	1. Ownership of players in a vetoed trade will not be considered relevant to the two-week restriction. The resubmission of a vetoed trade remains applicable specific to the player and not the Managers.

Interpretive Note: *For example, if Manager A attempts to trade Player X to Manager B for Player Y and the trade is vetoed through league vote in accordance to Article IX Section 11 then Manager’s A and B must wait for two weeks before they can again submit the same trade offer of Player X for Player Y. If a trade is resubmitted after the two weeks’ waiting period, it will still be subject to approval through the league voting system in accordance to Article IX Section 11. If Player X and Player Y become owned by Managers other than Managers A and B, they will still be subjected to the two-week waiting period for trade resubmission.*

**Trade Deadline.**

1. The deadline for making trades will be set every season based upon the start of NFL Week 10.

**Manager Responsibilities and Roster Management.**

1. Managers must field a complete team at all times as directed in Article VII Section 8.
	1. This rule shall be considered voided in the event that a participant is unable to field a complete team due to an illegal use of the IR spot as defined in Article VII Section 1 Subsection ii.
2. The Commissioner shall not be held responsible for any problem or technical malfunction which impedes or interferes with the transaction or receipt of any team transaction, including but not limited to free agency, drafting, and starting lineups.
	1. It is strongly recommended that participants double check their lineups and free agent moves as the Commissioner cannot be held responsible for errors.
	2. No interventions will be made by the Commissioner to alter a transaction after it has been completed unless immediately notified through formal notification so that timing can be provided as verification for the actions taken.
3. Managers may not permit players to stay in their IR position, if they are not properly designated for that position, for more than one (1) week.
4. Failure to abide by the responsibilities laid out in this Constitution, will subject the Manager to penalties at the Commissioner’s discretion pursuant to Article III, Section 3, and will be reviewable pursuant to Article III, Section7.
5. In addition to the foregoing, if a Manager is deemed as Inactive, as designated in Article V, that neglect will constitute an offence under Article III, Section 3.
6. If a Manager is unable to complete roster management during any given week and for any reason, they are responsible for making appropriate accommodations to address the problem. This may include, but is not limited to, notifying the Commissioner through formal notification of desired actions so that the Commissioner can enforce the changes.
	1. Managers who require Commissioner intervention for such actions as roster management or player transactions must provide him with a list of these actions at least an hour before kickoff as it pertains to the specific players.
	2. If Commissioner intervention is requested, he will be required to provide proof of the formal notice regarding these actions to the League Council and all current league members.
7. If a Manager deems it necessary to withdraw from participation during the MFFL Regular Season, they will be responsible for providing the Commissioner with formal notice about their intention to abandon their team.
	1. If a Manager cannot complete a season the League Council shall rule as to what is to be done regarding maintenance of the unmanaged team during the MFFL season.
	2. If it should occur that a Manager is inhibited from participation during a season due to significant injury, physical or mental harm, and/or death, they will not be subject to punishments as stated in Article III, Section 3.
		1. Managers may prearrange for a team to be inherited by any designated party through formal notice to the Commissioner.
			1. The Commissioner and League council shall be obligated to allow the designated replacement Manager to complete the current season; however, a decision will be made during the annual League Council meeting regarding the continued participation of the designated replacement in future seasons.
			2. An individual who becomes a Manager through this means shall be granted all the rights and responsibilities as set forth by this Constitution.
8. The Commissioner shall not take it upon himself to make adjustments to the roster of any Manager without having been properly notified through the system as established herein.
	1. Failure to abide by this shall result in replacement as established in Article III, Section 11.

**Article X**

**POST-SEASON**

**Timing.**

1. The MFFL Post-Season shall begin on Week 14 of the NFL Regular Season.
2. The MFFL Post-Season shall last three (3) weeks and therefore each bracket shall have three (3) rounds.
	1. Each round shall be one (1) week in length.

**Participation.**

1. All teams in the MFFL shall be assigned to one of two Post-Season brackets herein referred to as the Malvern Bowl bracket and the Toilet Bowl bracket.
2. Members shall be granted participation in the Malvern Bowl bracket if they meet the following criteria:
	1. Best record within their division;
	2. Top-3 team, based upon overall rankings, that did not win their division.
	3. The two (2) teams with the best overall ranking shall be granted a bye in the first round of the Malvern Bowl bracket.
3. Members shall be granted participation in the Toilet Bowl bracket if they meet the following criteria:
	1. All of the remaining six (6) league members who did not earn a spot in the Malvern Bowl bracket.
	2. The two (2) teams with the worst overall ranking shall be granted a bye in the first round of the Toilet Bowl bracket.
4. Managers in the Toilet Bowl bracket will progress when a round is lost in contrast to Managers in the Malvern Bowl bracket who progress when a round is won.

**Seeding.**

1. Participants in both the Malvern Bowl and Toilet Bowl brackets will be reseeded based upon overall record.
2. During the MFFL Post-Season the higher seeded teams will always face the lowest seeded opponent that is available.
3. Members who have been awarded a bye week in the first round of either bracket will be assigned an opponent in the second round appropriate to their seeding.

Interpretive Note: *For example, in the first round of the Post-Season the #3 seeded team will face the #6 seeded team. If the #6 seeded team progresses to the second round, they will face the #1 seeded team. If the #3 seeded team wins in the first round, then the #1 seeded team will face the winner of the match between the #4 seeded team and the #5 seeded team.*

1. If it should occur that the bracket set forth through Yahoo’s internal system do not match the rules as set herein, the Commissioner shall manually maintain the brackets so that they do indeed work as designated by this Constitution.
	1. The Commissioner shall be required to provide updated brackets on Tuesday following a Playoff match so that there is no confusion regarding upcoming matches. If it should occur that any match is close enough to possibly be affected for future stat corrections the Commissioner shall notify all Managers as of the final results on Thursday following the release of all stat corrections as dictated by Yahoo’s internal system.

**Tiebreakers.**

1. In the event that any Post-Season match ends in a tie it will be broken based upon the tiebreakers set forth in Article VII, Section 10.

**Awards.**

1. Payouts are to be made by the Commissioner at the request of the members who have qualified for such winnings.
	1. If a league member has qualified for the acquisition of a Payout, they may provide the Commissioner with a request, via formal notice, for an immediate provision of their winnings.
	2. If no formal notice is received by the Commissioner, then Payouts will be granted at the following year’s draft. In the instance that a Payout is earned by an individual who is no longer a league Manager then they will be required to come to appropriate terms with the Commissioner in order to obtain their Payout.
2. Payouts shall be made as follows:
	1. Malvern Bowl Champion – Approximately 60% of the total Optional Buy-In
	2. Malvern Bowl Runner-up – Approximately 40% of the total Optional Buy-In
	3. Third Place Team – Refund of their Optional Buy-In
3. The Commissioner shall be required to announce to all Managers participating in the Optional Buy-In, the exact amounts that will be paid out at the end of the MFFL Post-Season. This number will be determined at the MFFL Draft based upon the number of participants.
	1. Additional funds may be rounded off the Payout total and used as an additional prize based upon a weekly survivor contest that includes all participating members of the Optional Buy-In at the MFFL draft.
4. Additional prizes will be offered for individuals interested in the Prop Pool Buy-In. Payouts shall be awarded evenly amongst the following categories:
	1. Most Total Points Scored;
	2. Most Points Scored in a Single Week;
	3. Biggest Margin of Victory (*tie goes to highest scoring team*);
	4. Smallest Margin of Victory (*tie goes to highest scoring team*);
	5. Most Points Scored Against.
5. In the event that the Prop Pool Buy-In total does not evenly divide amongst the assigned categories the total shall be rounded off and extra funds will be awarded based on the league’s weekly survivor contest.

**Article XI**

**OFFENCES**

**Nature of Offenses.**

1. This Article deals with activities that are deemed to go beyond the scope of irregularities or minor contraventions of the Constitution and constitute wrongful conduct worthy of more severe action.

**Commencement of Offence Proceedings.**

1. The Commissioner, on his own initiative or following the receipt of a complaint, whether anonymous or public, may, after satisfying himself that the complaint has merit, announces that a Manager has committed an offence, and the penalty for that offence.
2. The Commissioner is authorized to investigate alleged offences if he deems it necessary to do so, and Managers are required to assist in such investigations by providing truthful statements to the Commissioner if requested to do so.

**Offences.**

1. Everyone commits an offence who:
	1. Bribery: Provides another party with value other than in-game value in exchange for in-game value.
	2. Collusion: Agrees with another party to limit open competition in the game by deceiving, misleading or defrauding others in order for a party, who may or may not be a party to the collusion, to obtain an unfair market advantage.
		1. Collusion shall be assumed in any case where one Manager acts for more than one Manager at the same time.
	3. Disrespect: Makes insulting, aggressive, discomforting or derogatory comments to another party that a reasonable person would consider in excess of friendly ‘trash talk’.
	4. Harassment: Repeatedly contacts another party or contacts another party through a specific means of communication, despite that party’s request that they not do so.
		1. It shall be a defense to a harassment charge that the contacts were objectively reasonable and respectful in tone, content and frequency.
	5. Non-Competitive Behavior: Demonstrates an intention not to compete that goes beyond mere negligence.
		1. Under extreme circumstances, a recurring refusal to engage in reasonable transactions may be considered non-competitive behavior.
	6. Nuisance: Repeatedly complains about the operation of the MFFL to the extent that it amounts to harassment of the Commissioner or markedly decreases the enjoyment of others.
	7. General Anti-Avoidance Provision (GAAP): Engages in conduct not otherwise prohibited by this Constitution but is generally acknowledged to be detrimental to league integrity.

**Penalties.**

1. Any Manager found guilty of an offence is susceptible to the most extreme penalties provided for in Article III, Section 3, including permanent suspension without refund.
2. The Commissioner may, at his discretion, punish a Manager for their actions.
3. Decisions concerning an offence and its penalty are reviewable pursuant to Article III Section 7.

**Arbitrators and Juries.**

1. The League Council is specifically empowered under Article IV to act as an arbitrator or a jury if the Commissioner, in his exclusive discretion, deems it necessary; and must do so if the Commissioner is deemed to be an Interested Party in an alleged offence. Despite Article III, Section 7, the decision to appoint the League Council as an arbitrator or jury is not reviewable.
2. In the instances where the League Council has cast a vote in the role of arbitrator the votes may not be secret.
3. Votes set forth by the League Council in the role of arbitrator will herein be fully binding.

Interpretive Note: *While the Commissioner is the dispute resolution officer of the MFFL, in extremely rare cases the Commissioner may deem it necessary to appoint the League Council to resolve disputes. This will be particularly – and perhaps exclusively – useful where the Commissioner is charged with, or the victim of, an offence; or where the nature of the offence is subjective. For example, a Commissioner may appoint the League Council as an arbitrator to determine what penalty, if any, a Manager should suffer for harassing him; or to determine whether or not someone’s ‘trash talk’ is offensive enough to count as abusive.*

1. These arbitrator votes are not permitted to be secret, so that the Commissioner cannot be accused of lying about their results.

AGREED TO this 1st day of January, 2020.

Dave Fiorella

MFFL Commissioner

**APPENDIX “A”**

**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**2020**

Buy-In

The current Optional Buy-In is $10. \*

The current Prop Pool Buy-In is $5.

The current Mandatory Buy-In is $5.

Buy-Ins and Payouts are to be made via Venmo, PayPal, check, money order, or cash to or from the Commissioner.

The Current Commissioner is:

Dave Fiorella

610-212-4195

**Venmo:** @dfiorella85

**PayPal:** gwentaro@yahoo.com

\* All funds are in U.S. Dollars

**APPENDIX “B”**

**Amendment History**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Amendment*** | ***Amendment Description*** | ***Initiator*** | ***Date*** |
|  |  |  |  |
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