**Auction Advice**

*Make sure you get at least one player that you have ranked that will be a #1 RB and a #1 WR (using a traditional 1-12 ranking system). For instance, although the variance in points between the #1 RB and #12 RB was over 200 points last year (and is consistently in that range) only one owner will get the guy who goes off and no one can predict who that may be accurately. The drop-off in points from RB12 to RB24 is such that it is critical to recognize that a #1 at each of those positions is crucial in building a team that can score a consistent amount of points.*

*If you totally kill a strategy at a position like Redneck did in his auction with WRs, don’t spend a single pick on building depth at that same position. BYE weeks are not a consideration that you should worry about at auction. If you have a particular position with strength and you take injuries, there is a good chance that there is no late round player that will backfill those points so look to find ways to increase points at other positions.*

*Perhaps the best overall auction comes from TD2ME. Plenty of stud RBs, excellent upside RBs, and a QB pair that will score week over week. But the key play for TD2Me was his pickup of Adoree’ Jackson as his IDP. Any time a player can get you points on special teams it is a rare find indeed. Don’t forget that there are 3 other points that you must work to maximize your points. DST, K, and IDP all represent easy points for a team at low cost. The issue is that they are mostly random but there are conditions on when there is opportunity that can be spotted. Use all the positions on your team to Live the Tropical Life!*

*Do you know what the difference between the #1 Defense and the #5 Defense YTD? 34 points. Do you know the difference between the #1 TE and the #5 TE YTD? 17 points. Learn to stream Ds, TEs, Ks, and STs. There are points out there at other positions. Not every week will you get a 300 yd, 1TD game from your receiver for 54 points! (Mostly because you don’t have Julio Jones, I do). But anyone can grab a Mike Nugent and get 19 points! Or a Ravens ST for 9 points! Look for points in other places if you are too lazy, chicken, or egotistical to make a fair trade*

*Any given WR is more likely to go over 100 yds than any given RB. Redneck has parlayed his WRs (AJ, TY, and Marvin Jones) into the potential of 100 yard bonuses happening any week from 1 or more of his WRs. This is a safer play than trying to find RBs that can get the work and can stay healthy. Three #1 WRs on pass heavy teams is what I call smart.*

*Ultimately it takes a blend of health, expected performance, and over performance to win the EFL. Whether it’s a strategy of heavy RB, heavy QB, top end WRs, or even 4TEs, it does not matter. But my one caution is that if the path you choose puts you at a greater than standard injury risk and you take an injury, it is very difficult to recover unless you have a “handcuff”* ***and*** *the handcuff can perform to 85% of the player they are replacing. Think carefully before getting that super mobile QB we all covet…. That unfortunately is the way of the NFL.*

*There is value at every point in the auction. Don’t let yourself believe that just because a player goes early that he cannot deliver the points you want. Project the players to a particular point value and expect to pay the amount required to get those points. If you love that player, be prepared to pay a little more. If you get a good player for less $ than you expect, good for you. If you pay a little more, it’s OK. Find some value later on.*

*We have been there and done that with mobile QBs. The defensive players are bigger and faster than ever before. It is only a matter of time until the “all the rage” mobile QB you have gets injured and is out several games.*

 *Occasionally there are instances where the handcuff to an RB can be just a little less effective that the RB they are replacing due to injury. Gordon/Eckler and Mixon/Gio might be two of them. I think Hunt/Ware and Bell/Connors are also another set of good” handcuffable” RBs. Freeman/Booker could be close as is Cook/Murray. Identifying those types of RBs is next level opportunity at the auction. If you don’t get your handcuff in the auction, go get them now in the early weeks when they don’t have value to the current owner. When they do have value you won’t be able to get them. Strike now and Live Tropically!*

*I say this each year, but once again the #1 or #2 seed won the league. Since 2010 when the Wild Card was implemented (11 years for those counting at home) only once* *has a seed other than #1 or #2 won the league. Even then, it was FPK in 2019 who was the #3 seed. The key to a being successful in the EFL is understanding the history on what it takes to win. Your goal should be to win your division and score the 1st or 2nd highest amount of points amongst the division leaders. Getting a BYE is crucial to taking home the championship. \* The Reel theoretically agrees, but recent evidence is to the contrary.*