

Hockey Depth Chart & Free Agent Instructions

1) Please do not forget that depth charts/free agent lists must be sent in (postmarked, faxed, e-mailed or sent from your league's web page) by/before Monday afternoon, before the week's NHL games begin play, to take effect for the upcoming week's *Scoresheet Hockey* games and free agent draft. Please list players on the depth charts/free agent lists by both player number and last name. **WEEK 1 DEADLINE: The first NHL game begins Thursday morning, October 7th, and our first week's Scoresheet games will use NHL stats of games Oct 7th thru Sunday Oct 10th. So your week 1 depth chart needs to be postmarked, faxed, sent from your league's web site or e-mailed by/before NOON Eastern time/9 AM Pacific time Thursday morning, October 7th,** before that first NHL game of the regular season begins. (If you use postal mail to send in your charts you should send in your chart a couple of days before the 7th so that the Post Office has time to get it here before we play the week 1 games.) Then the week 2 deadline for new charts will be 7 PM Eastern time/4 PM Pacific time on Monday October 11th.

2) **Offensive Lines:** In this section you will list the 3 centers, 3 right wings, and 3 left wings you want to start each game. (**Players can ONLY be listed on your depth chart at the same position they were listed at on the original player lists that you drafted by.**) Each game you will play 3 offensive lines. When part of the first line a player's point values are worth their full amount as shown in the scoring table included in the draft packet. While on the second line the points scored are worth only 80% (0.8) of the normal value, and when on the third line the point values are worth only 60% of full value. This means you should definitely list your players in order of who you think will score the most - your top center should be on line 1, your second best on line 2, etc. If a player cannot play in a game then we will move other players (who play that position) up on the depth chart to take their place. In other words, if your 1st line LW misses a game then we will move your 2nd line LW to the first line, your 3rd line LW to the second line, and your top backup LW to the 3rd line. The point values are figured depending on which line your guy is actually playing on in that game! We will automatically do some juggling so that your players do not all miss the same game. **NOTE:** You **can** list players as starters even if they are injured; the backups will automatically be used while the starter is out, and then when the starter is back playing in the NHL he will start for you.

3) **Defensive Lines:** Each game you will play 2 defensive lines (the first line is made up of players listed at D1 and D2, the second line is players D3 and D4). When part of the first line a player's point values are worth the full amount, and while on the second line the point values are worth 80% of full value. Just as in offense, you should list whomever you would like to start if healthy - in case a player is out the backup will automatically move into the D4 spot, with starters moved up as necessary.

4) **Starting Goalie:** List your starting goalie here. Please include both player number and last name. As explained in the draft packet, the number of games your goalie will play in each week for your Scoresheet team is based on his games (and minutes) played that week in the NHL. A goalie needs 45 minutes of NHL game time to play each Scoresheet game. (If your starting goalie has more than 135 minutes and played in 3 games that week in the NHL he'll play all 3 games for you. If he has 90 to 134 minutes or only played in 2 NHL games he'll play in 2 games for your Scoresheet team, and 45 to 89 minutes will have him playing in 1 Scoresheet game that week.) Your backup goalies will be used in the order they are listed. If you are out of goalies a goalie with less than 45 minutes will be used in a game if necessary. **** Note:** You can list up to 3 teams you want your starting goalie to face (they'll only face that team if you are scheduled to play that team that week). If your starting goalie can play in all 3 games then he'll do so. But if he has to miss a game, at least he won't miss it against a team that you've listed him as 'preferring to face'.

5) **Top Backups:** In this section you can list up to 15 players, including: any players you have rights to but are not using as a starter; and also any players you think you might get this week in the draft (you could even list those potential free agent pickups as a starter). Backups will play in case a listed starter did not play in 3 NHL games that week. Backups do not go straight into the starters spot - instead, everyone at that position moves up to the next line and the backup goes to either line 3 for offense or to line 2 on defense. To determine which backup is used we go thru the backups in the order listed, picking the first guy listed that plays the necessary position, as long as he played that week in the NHL. If you have players on your team that you did not list as a backup

(maybe a recent free agent pickup, or a player that later in the season when your roster has grown and you do not have room to put him in your top 15 backups listed) they will be automatically used if necessary, appearing in order of player number.

6) **Free Agents Wanted: NEW THIS YEAR!** Beginning this season *all* teams will get a free agent weeks 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18 and 21 of the season. If you turn in a new depth chart/free agent wanted list for that week's games then the new list will be used - if no new list is sent in for that week (sent in by the Monday at the beginning of the week) then the latest list you had sent in will be used. In the other weeks there will be no free agent draft (no one will get a free agent in the other weeks.)

Teams will pick in reverse order of the standings. Ties will be broken by team number. **In the first week, since every team is 0-0, the draft will simply be in reverse order of team number - meaning team 12 will get the first pick.** In the second week, ties will be broken with the lowest numbered team going first. In each week after that the tie breaking will reverse. You should rank up to 10 players - that should be **more** than enough. If somehow all the players you list are already taken, then we'll draft for you automatically, giving you the player with the highest season's total points through games one week earlier. And you can certainly list less than 10 players on your free agent wanted list - almost all owners get their free agent from the first 2 or 3 they list. If you list a free agent and you do not yet know his player number, please give us his NHL team, position and full name so that we can assign him a number. Players not on our draft list may have already been put by us at a different position than the one you are looking to fill. If you want that 'un-numbered' player no matter what position he is assigned then do **not** put a position by his name.

On your free agent wanted list, along with writing actual player names, you can also just write a position. What that tells us is to give you the available player at that position who has the most points thru games the previous week, if everyone above that on your list is already taken. For instance, if on the free agent wanted list you turn in for week 4 you list a couple of players, and then say LW, if the players you've listed are already gone, the computer will draft the LW for you that had the most points thru the third week's games.

We hold the free agent draft before we play that week's games, and then add the new player to your roster. This means a new player will automatically be used as soon as you get him if needed (meaning they will be used if you have no other players available at that position.) In addition, you can even list players as starters or backups on the same week's depth chart that you try and draft them (meaning you are listing them before you know for sure if you got them.) If you list a player and you did not get him then he will just be skipped over - but by listing a player you hope to acquire then if you do get him you will have him where you want him on your chart. ****Along with listing the name of a player you think you may be drafting, you can also simply write in the words 'Free Agent' on your depth chart. What this does is tell the computer to put whomever you got in that week's free agent draft in that spot on your depth chart. (Of course, if you put the word free agent in the starter section, and if the new player does not play that position, then he will not go there, and we will just move your top listed backup at that position into the starting role.)** Sorry, but the only thing the computer program can do is to place that week's free agent pickup in wherever you've written the words 'free agent' - notes such as 'put last week's free agent here' do get ignored by the computer. Also, **if you are listing a guy you are trying to draft as either a starter or backup on your chart you must still list him on your free agent wanted list so we know to draft him for you!**

Trades: Please, if you make a trade, report it by the very first Monday following the trade! The way to report a trade is to include a brief note with your new depth chart that lists the players traded away, received, and the number of the team you traded with. Make sure both you and the owner you trade with are turning in a new chart and trade notice by Monday, as a trade can not go thru unless we hear from all owners involved in your leagues' trades that week.

There are an awful lot of rules mentioned in these explanations, and we have probably made this sound a lot more complicated than our hockey game really is. **In general, all you have to remember is:** turn in new depth charts/free agent lists by Monday to have them take effect that week; list players by number and name in the order you want them eligible to play if healthy; and report trades by the very first Monday following the trade. **And Have Fun!!**