

# Continuing League Owners

Fall, 2024:

Now that the regular season is over you CAN start trading again. **Please** do send us a trade notice when you make a trade, as we need the trade notices so that we can keep updated rosters. To report any trades you make, please use the 'trade report' link on your league's home webpage. Also, we need to hear from both owners involved before the trade can go thru. And **please do \*not\* make any trades unless you plan on keeping your team next season!**

Every couple of weeks during the off-season we will update league rosters with all of the trades that have been reported to us. **The 2025 player lists, including player's positions and fielding ranges for 2025, will be posted in late January, 2025.** Protected lists will be due in mid February, about three weeks \*after\* the new year's player lists are posted.

Our default keeper league rules, which all public leagues follow, are: each team has the rights to protect 13 major league players. You can \*not\* just protect 10 players and get the first 3 picks of the draft. However, you can trade away one of your protected spots for other players or draft picks. In other words, team 5 could trade with team 2 for one of team 2's protected spots - meaning team 5 would protect 14 guys, and team 2 would protect 12. If you trade away a protected spot or draft pick you WILL end up with less players - you will NOT have 35 players at the end of drafting if you trade away draft picks!

In addition to your 13 regular players protected every year, you can also protect any '**Scoresheet minor leaguers**' you have on your roster. *Scoresheet* minor leaguers are defined as a player who does not have more than 130 **career** major league at-bats, or does not have more than 50 **career** major league innings pitched. Players who qualify as minor leaguers have an asterisk (\*) or an 'm' next to their name on your league rosters as shown as your league's home web page.

Each minor leaguer you protect costs you one of your pre-season draft picks - you lose a draft pick for every minor leaguer you protect. It is the latest pre-season picks that you own that you lose, so if you have traded for another team's round 35 pick for instance that pick can/will be lost before you lose your own round 34 pick. Basically, if you keep 4 minor leaguers for instance you lose the latest 4 pre-season picks you own, starting backwards from round 35 (the final pre-season round for leagues following our normal rules.) Being able to lose picks you have traded for and not just your own picks is a somewhat **new** rule started a couple of years ago rule! You can also protect as many minor leaguers as you like with your 13 regular protected spots if for some reason you want to do that (though doing so does not make much sense.)

**You will be limited to protecting no more than 3 (three!) regular players that are on the other league's Scoresheet player lists next year (the 2025 player lists.)** But like always, if you protect or draft a guy and he is traded **later** in 2025 to the other league, you can still keep him for the entire 2025 season.

**\*\*NOTE:** If you protect a **minor leaguer** who is listed on the other league's player list he does **NOT count** against this 'three players from the other league limit'.

The protected stage of the draft counts is rounds 1 thru 13, so picks in rounds 1 thru 13 are keeper spots. Then the draft itself starts with round 14 and continues thru round 35. You can also trade draft picks. However, you can only trade draft picks up to one year ahead - you can now trade for any year 2025 draft pick, but not for any 2026 picks. **After** a draft round has been held in 2025 then you can trade for those round's 2026 picks. When trading draft picks please make clear exactly which round you are trading - for instance **round 14 is the first round of real drafting** (since you are keeping 13 players.) Round 36 is the first pick of the first in-season supplemental draft. If you

trade away draft picks you will end up with a smaller number of players on your team at the end of the draft, and the team you traded a pick to will end up with more players. So if you trade away picks you will *\*not\** get extra picks at the end of the draft to get your roster to 35 players.

**NOTE:** The public league keeper rules are also posted on the scoresheet web site at:

<http://www.scoresheet.com/baseball/contlg.php>

There is also a page on our site with all sorts of helpful links at:

[http://www.scoresheet.com/BB\\_map.php](http://www.scoresheet.com/BB_map.php)

**DRAFT NOTE:** For the 2025 baseball season, we will again be having five in-season drafts, one near the end of each month of the season (April thru August). Just as we did in 2024, there will be a **three** round draft in the middle of April (rounds 36, 37 and 38), three rounds in late May (rounds 39-41), three rounds in late June (rounds 42-44), and then two rounds in late July (45-46, held **after** the July MLB draft) and two rounds in late August (rounds 47-48). **NOTE:** The MLB amateur draft is now held in July, so **round 45 will be the first round where the 2025 MLB amateur draftees will be eligible to be taken.**

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Don't forget that **round 14 picks are very valuable.** If you have a high (early) pick in round 14 we strongly suggest that you do not trade it away without getting **a lot** in return! After all, anyone crossing over from the other league will be available in round 14, including generally a couple of star players every season.

**In every round of the 2025 pre-season draft, the draft is held in the reverse order of won-loss record from 2024,** except that the league's playoff winner will pick last, and the other division winner(s) will pick 2nd to last. This coming year (**2025**), **in case of ties, the higher** (larger) numbered team among the tied teams drafts ahead of any lower numbered team they are tied with in all even numbered rounds, including round 14, which is the first round of real drafting in our normal Scoresheet continuing leagues that keep

13 players per team. Then the order among those tied teams keeps reversing in each round thereafter, so in all odd numbered rounds the lower (smaller) numbered team would pick first among tied teams. For example, if team 2 and team 8 are tied for the worst record in the league, then in 2025 team 8 would get the first pick in round 14, then team 2 would get the first pick in round 15, etc. Also, we do flip-flop the tie-breaker every year.

If you have a friend who would like to get into your league, please let us know that also. It does turn out that many leagues have one or two owners drop out during the off-season, and we'd rather fill that spot with someone who is a friend of one of the owners in that league. If more than one person wants to pick up that orphaned team then the first new owner to pay next year's team fee is the one who gets that team - makes sense, eh?

Have a great off-season, and keep thinking baseball. We hope that you had a lot of fun during this past year, and that you are looking forward to the start of the next baseball season as much as we are.

Have Fun, and Play Ball!

**P.S.** Once again - **Please** take a minute and submit a trade report **as soon as** you make a trade. **And please do NOT make any trades if you are not returning for the 2025 season.** In past years we've had to veto a couple of trades because one of the owners did not keep his team, and since players often get traded from team to team in the off-season, one vetoed trade ended up negating about a dozen trades! Thanks for your cooperation!