



2018 RULES & REGULATIONS

PROFESSIONAL FIGHTERS LEAGUE

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PROFESSIONAL FIGHTERS LEAGUE

2018 SEASON SPECIFICATIONS

NUMBER OF EVENTS

The Professional Fighters League 2018 season will consist of eleven events spanning from June to December and will be broadcast on NBC Sports Network and Facebook Watch. The regular season will consist of seven events, the playoffs will consist of three events, and all six championships will be contested and awarded at the year-end event. The regular season is from June - August 2018. On those seven nights, there will be 10 - 12 fights per night.

The playoffs will occur over three events in October. There will be 12 fights per event. Fighters who qualify for the playoffs will contest their quarterfinal and, should they win, semifinal bouts during the same event.

Example of playoff night format (see more at 'Postseason Schedule' section):

Quarterfinals: four fights in 145 lbs (two rounds)

four fights in 155 lbs (two rounds)

Semifinals: two fights in 145 lbs (three rounds)

two fights in 155 lbs (three rounds)

Fighters that win their quarterfinal bouts will have at least 30 minutes of rest before returning for their semifinal bout.

The Championship Event will host all six title bouts, each five rounds, in December.

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PFL NBC & FACEBOOK SCHEDULES (All times Eastern)

- Event 1- 6/7 @ 9pm – 11pm; Replay 1am – 3am. Regular Season
- Event 2- 6/21 @ 9pm – 11pm; Replay 11pm – 1am. Regular Season
- Event 3- 7/5 @ 10pm – 12am; Replay 12am – 2am. Regular Season
- Event 4- 7/19 @ 9pm – 11pm; Replay 11:30pm – 1:30am. Regular Season
- Event 5- 8/2 @ 9pm – 11pm; Replay 11pm – 1am. Regular Season
- Event 6- 8/16 @ 10pm – 12am; Replay 12am – 2am. Regular Season
- Event 7- 8/30 @ 9pm – 11pm; Replay 11pm – 1am. Regular Season
- Event 8- 10/6 @ 9pm – 11pm; Replay 11pm – 1am. **Playoffs**
- Event 9- 10/13 @ 9pm – 11pm; Replay 11pm – 1am. **Playoffs**
- Event 10- 10/20 @ 10pm – 12am; Replay 12am – 2am. **Playoffs**
- Event 11- 12/31 @ 7pm – 11pm; Replay 11pm – 3am. **Championship**

Facebook will have exclusive worldwide access to Global Live Programming, including;

- Regular Season: six fights for each of seven live events (42 fights in total)
- Playoffs: 8 fights for each of three live events (24 fights in total)

Facebook will have exclusive access (but only outside of the United States) to the following;

- Regular Season; four fights for each of seven live events (28 fights in total)
- Playoffs: four fights for each of three live events (12 fights in total)
- Championship: one event (six fights)

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GLOVES

All gloves will be supplied by the PFL and will have been previously approved by each State Athletic Commission. Gloves will be between four and six ounces in weight. Larger sized gloves (3XL-4XL) may slightly exceed the six-ounce limit.

APPAREL

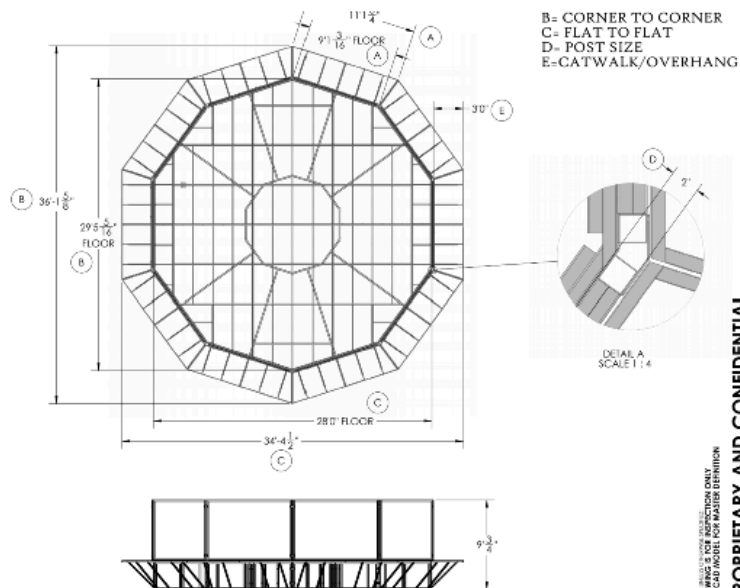
All apparel sponsorships and positioning need to be preapproved by PFL (Including but not limited to: shorts, pants, shirt, sweatshirt and hat).

Fighters are allowed to wear kick-boxing shorts, MMA board shorts, Muay Thai shorts or compression shorts. For anything different, please contact the State Athletic Commission.

Upper body garments (shirts, gi's, tank tops etc.) as well as shoes of any kind are prohibited during the fight.

COMPETING SPACE

All of the fights will take place inside PFL's Decagon. The Decagon is 28-foot long with a three-foot catwalk.



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WEIGHT CLASSES

The season will feature six weight divisions:

Featherweight - 145 lbs.

Lightweight - 155 lbs.

Welterweight - 170 lbs.

Middleweight - 185 lbs.

Light Heavyweight - 205 lbs.

Heavyweight - 265 lbs.

Note: Fighters will be allowed a one-pound overage for regular season bouts, subject to commission approval. Playoff bout competitors will not be given any allowance and will have to meet the upper limit of the division they are scheduled to compete in.

NUMBER OF FIGHTERS

There will be 12 fighters per division.

Each fighter will compete in two bouts during the regular season.

Note: At least 60 days prior to a fighter's first scheduled bout, competitors will be notified of the date of their first bout, their opponent, and the date of their second regular season bout. Opponents of all second regular season bouts will be determined after all first-round divisional fights have been completed.

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MISSING WEIGHT

If an athlete misses weight for a regular season fight, they will forfeit 20 percent of their purse. The athlete will still be able to compete – contingent up other fighter and commission agreeing – but will earn zero points for that match. If that athlete misses weight a second time during the regular season, they will be removed from the competition for the season. (see glossary)

If the Athletic Commission calls off a fight – for any reason – the fighter who is unable to compete will earn zero points while their opponent, as long as they make weight will be awarded a walkover and will earn their contracted show purse as well as three points in the standings.

Walkover example: Fighter A is facing fighter B in the first round of the regular season. Fighter A becomes ill and is not medically cleared to fight by the state athletic commission. If a suitable replacement opponent is not secured, Fighter B will be awarded three points and their show purse, provided they are able to make their contracted weight on weigh-in day.

A fighter will only be awarded one walkover per regular season. Any fighter that fails to make their contracted weight during the playoff or championship round will be ruled ineligible and removed from the competition. The next seeded alternate (9,10,11 and 12) will be summoned to join the season and take the fight.

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INJURIES AND REPLACEMENTS

PFL will have a pool of alternate fighters to draw from in the event that one of the 12 fighters in each division suffers an injury that prevents him from continuing.

- Alternates will make show/win amounts and their fights will count towards the final playoff totals.
- In the event that one of the 12 fighters is deemed ineligible for his first fight, the 13th fighter will be added as a replacement. The original 12th fighter will still be eligible to fight his second regular season fight contingent upon athletic commission approval. The replacement will be eligible to make the play-off round should they accrue enough points
- In the event that the commission deems fighter A unfit to compete, the PFL will book an alternate fighter to compete against fighter B. In the event that there is no time to book an alternate, fighter B will be awarded a Walkover (three points) as well as his win and show money, provided he makes weight.

FIGHT NIGHT FORMAT

REGULAR SEASON

Each regular season bout will be contested over the course of three rounds. Each round will be of five minutes in length. The rest period between each round will be one minute.

June 7, 2018 – PFL 1.1- six featherweight fights and six heavyweight fights (1st round)

June 21, 2018 – PFL 1.2- six lightweight fights, six light heavyweight fights (1st round)

July 5, 2018 – PFL 1.3- six Welterweight fights, six middleweight fights (1st round)

July 19, 2018 – PFL 1.4- six featherweight fights, six heavyweight fights (2nd round)

August 2, 2018 – PFL 1.5- six lightweight fights, six light heavyweight fights (2nd round)

August 16, 2018 – PFL 1.6- six welterweight fights, six Middleweight fights (2nd round)

August 30, 2018 – PFL 1.7- As needed for possible commission compliance

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POSTSEASON

POSTSEASON SCHEDULE

October 6, 2018 – PFL 1.8 - Four featherweight quarterfinal and four heavyweight quarterfinal fights. Two featherweight semifinal and two heavyweight semifinal fights.

October 13, 2018 – PFL 1.9 - Four lightweight quarterfinal and four light heavyweight quarterfinal fights. Two lightweight semifinal and two light heavyweight semifinal fights.

October 20, 2018 – PFL 1.10 - Four welterweight quarterfinal and four middleweight semifinal fights. Two welterweight semifinal and two middleweight semifinal fights.

December 31, 2018 – PFL 1.11 - Six \$1 million championship fights.

PLAYOFFS

PLAYOFF SEEDS

Fighters with the top eight point totals in each weight class will advance to the Playoffs. In the event of a tie, the League will follow the tie-breaker protocol listed in this rulebook.

Playoffs are seeded by points and the matchup is as follows:

Fight 1: Seed 1 vs. Seed 8

Fight 2: Seed 2 vs. Seed 7

Fight 3: Seed 3 vs. Seed 6

Fight 4: Seed 4 vs. Seed 5

Fight 5: Seed 9 vs. Seed 10 (alternate fight)

Fight 5 scenario: In the event that the winner of Fight 1, 2, 3 or 4 cannot go on, and the loser of that fight is ruled unfit to go on and fight the semifinal, then the winner of Fight 5 will step in and take their spot on the semifinal.

Semifinals will be as follows:

Winner of Fight 1 vs Winner of Fight 4

Winner of Fight 2 vs Winner of Fight 3

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PLAYOFF ALTERNATES

In the event that a fighter is injured and/or unable to compete in the playoffs, the next highest-seeded fighter (seeds 9-12) who is fit and available to participate will be awarded the open slot in the playoff bracket. If this change occurs before the playoff bracket is seeded, then the seeds will be altered in a way that the #1 gets the lowest seed and so forth. If the change occurs after the playoff bracket has been seeded and fighters have received their opponents, the replacement fighter will take the slot of the unavailable fighter.

In the event of a quarterfinal winner being unable to continue, the fighter who lost to the fighter who can't continue will be the first in line to replace them. If they cannot continue, the next highest-seeded losing fighter who is able to compete will be selected to move on. If there are no losing fighters available, the alternate fight winner will move into the semifinal bout. The final alternate will be last in line to enter the semifinal round should a fighter be unable to compete.

PLAYOFF PAYOUTS

Quarterfinal loss: \$50,000

Semifinal loss: \$100,000

Runner-up: \$200,000

Champion: \$1,000,000

In the event that a winning fighter is injured in the quarterfinals and cannot continue to the semifinals, they will be paid \$50,000 and, in addition, be awarded \$25,000.

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The \$25,000 will be drawn from second round payout of the alternate who replaces them. The alternate will be paid \$50,000 for their quarterfinal loss and a minimum of \$25,000 for competing in the semifinal round.

2018 SEASON SCORING

OUTCOME BASED SCORING

Outcome-based Scoring is calculated as follows (Points awarded is first number):

WIN:

Knockout/Submission.....3 Points

Unanimous Decision.....3 Points

Split Decision.....3 Points

Walkover.....3 Points

Draw.....1 Point

LOSS:

Decision.....0 Points

Other than Decision.....0 Points

Bonus for early finish (Points awarded is first number):

Three Round Fights:

Round 1.....3 Points

Round 2.....2 Points

Round 3.....1 Points

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Bonuses: If a fighter wins his first fight by a KO in round 1, he will be awarded a total of six points.

*A walkover will be awarded only in the event a fighter is unable to compete and a suitable replacement cannot be found in a timely manner.

JUDGES

In the event that a bout goes the distance, three judges' scorecards will be consulted, in order to define who the winner is. The referee inside the cage is not one of those three external

judges. The three judges will be seated in different locations around the Decagon, allowing them different angles and perspectives of the same fight. Each round is individually scored under the 10-point must system. Under such, a score of 10 is awarded to the winner of the round while the loser will be awarded a score of nine or less.

In the event that a quarterfinal, semifinal or championship fight ends as a draw, the winner of the first round will advance. If the first round is a draw, this rule will apply to the second round and so forth. For record purposes, the fight will still be recorded as a draw.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

NO ELBOWS

There will be no elbows allowed anywhere anytime (on the ground, standing, clinch) during the 2018 regular season, playoffs and championship. Fighters who violate this rule, will be subject to a point deduction at the commission appointed referee's discretion.

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ILLEGAL STRIKES

In the event that a fight is called off for an illegal strike, it will be scored as a finish favoring the injured fighter. Example: Fighter A eye gouges fighter B in round two and the referee/ringside physician decide the fight cannot proceed. The PFL will then score this fight as a round two finish for fighter B, awarding him five points (three for the win and two for the second round “finish”), as well as disqualify fighter A. In the event that this happens in a quarterfinal and fighter B is not capable of competing, the next seeded lucky loser comes in.

REGULAR SEASON TO PLAYOFF TIEBREAKERS

In the event that two or more fighters are tied in number of points after their two regular season bouts, we will go to the following tie breakers in order to set the playoff seeding accordingly.

1. Head to Head (Did you already beat your tied opponent?)
2. Number of Wins and Losses
3. Number of finishes
4. Least amount of time spent in the cage (when winning)
5. Most amount of time spent in the cage (when losing)
6. Combined scores on judges' scorecards (for both fights)

PLAYOFF TIEBREAKERS

* As previously stated: In the event that a Quarterfinal, semifinal or championship fight ends as a draw, the winner of the first round will advance. If the first round is a draw, this rule will apply to the second round and so forth. For record purposes, the fight will still be recorded as a draw.

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GLOSSARY

A

Alternates & Lucky Losers - During the regular season, alternates ranked 13th, 14th, 15th, etc will respectively slide into the open spot if and when it is made available. In terms of the playoffs, the pool would initially be drawn from the group of four fighters who didn't make it to the top 8, then overflowing to alternates, if need be. Lucky Losers (and eventually alternates), would be slated to fight whichever fighter is opponent-less, regardless of their ranking within the top 8.

P

Purse - A purse is the fighter's contracted show and win earnings

W

Walkover - A walkover happens when the Athletic Commission calls off a fight for whatever reason and the PFL does not have the appropriate amount of time to slate an alternate or lucky loser into that particular spot. Walkovers are only allowed in the event that the fighter who is "walking over" makes weight.

Wins and Losses - The second tiebreaker looks at who has the best record. Who won more and loss less.

Example: If fighter A and fighter B are both tied in points and have not faced each other during the regular season, they go to the second tie breaker; Number of Wins and Losses. Fighter A has 6 points, he is 1-1 and won his 1st fight by 1st round KO. Fighter B has the same 6 points but is 2-0, having won both his fights by unanimous decision. With that, fighter B advances, since he has a better record.

CONTACT INFO

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