

2014 NCAA FOOTBALL PLAYOFF

NFL CHAMPIONSHIP PLAYOFF REFORM

In the effort to find the PERFECT PLAYOFF PLAN for an NCAA Major College Football Division we examined the other Playoffs, which brought us to the NFL. Yes, we learned some important things that should be used in the NCAA National Championship Playoff.

However there are some major flaws in the core make up of the NFL that would not fit in a Perfect Playoff Plan for the new NCAA FBS. The most important is that the NFL has no responsibility for nor interest in the student athlete nor academics. These teams are businesses and everybody is happy with that arrangement. Furthermore the players have potential careers of 8 to as many as 24 years. While the NCAA is built on Academics, 4 year eligibility and Amateur status.

Then the basic principle underpinning the business model for the NFL is the player draft with selection priority based on each Team's previous season's win-loss record. For the simple minded that means equality of opportunity to have the best players on every team. Nice, but that does not mean there shouldn't be anymore criteria used to determine the Playoff teams for the NFL Championship. Would anyone want an 0-12 Georgia State to get the #1 pick of High School athletes in 2014?

The current system is unfair allowing the 2014 Division Champion 7-8-1 Carolina to oust a 10-6 Philadelphia and the 2010 Seattle team with an equally atrocious 7-9 record to get into the 12 team Playoff excluding a 10-6 NY Giants that year. A crazy 2012 Playoff gave us 3 out of 4 teams from the AFC West, including a 9-7 San Diego, while a second place 10-6 Arizona stayed home. But the outrage that tops all other outrages is the 2011 NFL Super Bowl Champion NY Giants at 9-7 beating out the New England Patriots at 13-3. None of these examples bode well for College Football Playoffs. The answer for the new Major College Football Division is not to allow a team with a 7-4 record into their Playoff.

This Reform Plan for the NFL divides the 2 original Conferences into 3 Divisions of 5 or 6 teams. The Plan requires each team to play its division mates twice for 8 or 10 of their 16 Regular Season games. The top 2 teams with the most wins from the 6 Divisions will make up the 12 team NFL Playoff. There will be a 4 Round Post-Season Championship Playoff. The 2 Division Champions with the most wins from each Conference will receive a Round 1 bye. Then in Round 1 of the Playoff the 3 second place teams from each Conference and the Division Champion without a bye in their Conference will play to advance to Round 2.

NFC			AFC		
EAST	CENTRAL	WEST	EAST	CENTRAL	WEST
Atlanta	Chicago	Arizona	Baltimore	Indianapolis	Denver
Carolina	Detroit	Dallas	Buffalo	Cincinnati	Houston
NY Giants	Green Bay	St. Louis	Miami	Cleveland	Kansas City
Philadelphia	Minnesota	San Francisco	New England	Jacksonville	Oakland
Washington	New Orleans	Seattle	NY Jets	Pittsburgh	San Diego
	Tampa Bay			Tennessee	

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