



Player Participation Newsletter: 2011 Preview

-- August 2011 --

The NFL would like to welcome back all of the Player Participation crews, as well as any new crew members, for another year of the Player Participation Program. It has been a frenzied offseason for the entire National Football League, and we could not be more excited for the start of another great season.

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2010 Review

We would like to start off by thanking each crew and crew member for their fantastic effort, great communication, and commitment to the program last season. With your help, it was of the most successful and accurate seasons in the 5-year history of the program, even with changes in some identification procedures. With another year of experience, 2011 should be the best season yet. For a little extra motivation, here are the top crews and identifiers from last season:

2010 Most Accurate Crews

Rank	Team	Players ID'd	Total Errors	Accuracy
1	Oakland Raiders	30814	3	99.990%
2	Detroit Lions	29962	5	99.983%
3	Arizona Cardinals	29387	6	99.980%
4	Buffalo Bills	28769	7	99.976%
5	Baltimore Ravens	28593	8	99.972%
6	Houston Texans	28417	9	99.968%
7	Jacksonville Jaguars	27959	11	99.961%
8	New York Jets	29010	12	99.959%
9	New England Patriots	28837	14	99.951%
10	St. Louis Rams	29848	15	99.950%



2010 Top 20 Identifiers

Rank	Name	Team	PPM
1	Joseph Cirri	Baltimore Ravens	9,785.0
2	David Leshner	Arizona Cardinals	8,475.5
3	Spenser Ayres	Oakland Raiders	8,196.5
4	Keely Boren	Detroit Lions	5,554.3
5	Scott Dietz	New England Patriots	5,124.0
6	Bob Hyldburg	New England Patriots	4,811.0
7	Eric DeCrosta	New York Giants	4,641.0
8	Michael Kridler	Pittsburgh Steelers	4,383.3
9	Adam Sanda	Oakland Raiders	4,235.3
10	John Paler	Buffalo Bills	3,628.7
11	Kelly Guzik	Detroit Lions	3,324.8
12	Marc Sands	Chicago Bears	3,058.7
13	Connie Pollington	Cincinnati Bengals	3,012.0
14	Matt Mcgee	Houston Texans	2,858.0
15	Kevin Jenkins	Arizona Cardinals	2,757.5
16	Vic DeNardi	New York Jets	2,740.4
17	Brad Kennington	Jacksonville Jaguars	2,710.5
18	Art Kliszak	Buffalo Bills	2,688.5
19	Mitch Thies	Denver Broncos	2,684.0
20	Alec Leventis	Baltimore Ravens	2,656.3

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2011 Season Update


Starters Report

In addition to the normal setup and identification procedures, we wanted to make sure every crew completes the "Starters Report" by halftime of your game.

After the first offensive play for each team, the Starters Report can be printed and delivered to the stats crew for cross checking. This report helps to ensure that the starters listed on the printed game book are accurate and players are given credit for starting a game.



The details can be found on page 53 of the Player Participation User Guide, and here:

19. After the first offensive play of each team has been identified, generate the "Starters Report" and save it in PDF format to the USB drive. Select **Reports, Starters** from the menu-bar or press CTRL+S. When the report shows in the window, click the  button to export the report to a PDF document. Insert the USB drive into the laptop and save the Starters.pdf file on the USB drive. Choose **Window, Play List** from the menu-bar to resume identifying players. Take the USB drive to the stats crew so they can print the report and verify the starters.

Each head statistician has been given a heads-up to expect this report by halftime. Please work with him to ensure that it gets done.

Note: you may be able to print directly to the GSIS printer. Please work with your GSIS stadium technician to setup the printer on the Player Participation laptops if it is not already setup.

New Laptop

We are sending 2 new laptops to each stadium crew. The GSIS and Player Participation crews will each be receiving a new laptop. The computer is an HP EliteBook 8560p that contains a built in numeric keypad as well as an SD card reader. The SD card reader will allow you insert your memory cards directly into the computer without having to use the USB reader. Let us know if you have any questions or comments regarding the new laptops.

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Preseason Housekeeping

****This should be completed at least 1 week prior to your first preseason game.****

1. Gain access to your Player Participation equipment and test the cameras and laptops to ensure they are in proper working order. This is also a good time to give the batteries a fresh charge and format all Compact Flash cards. Also, confirm with your GSIS stadium technician that the updates to GSIS and Player Participation have been applied to your Player Participation laptops. If you don't have contact information for your GSIS stadium technician please contact John Cave (email: john.cave@nfl.com, 212.450.2441).



2. Obtain game credentials and parking arrangements for each of your crew members
3. Scout out the camera locations to ensure everything is ready to go

Send an email to John Cave notifying him that you've completed these steps.

-If you or any member of your crew has moved, changed email addresses or phone numbers, please email those changes to PlayerParticipation@nfl.com so we can update our records.

-Laura Brady is in the process of shopping for new uniform shirts for each member of your crew. We'll let you know as soon as we're ready to accept orders.

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Player Participation Quality Assurance Auditors

We will send out info on the new in-house Player Participation Crew shortly.

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Please feel free to contact us if you have questions regarding anything. Best of luck to everyone in the 2011 season!

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John Cave
Director, Information Technology
National Football League

**BACK TO
FOOTBALL**