

Madden 26 Tournament - Official Rules & Player Guide

Tournament Overview

This is a single-elimination Madden NFL 26 tournament featuring up to 64 players. All matches will be played on PlayStation 5 consoles, using standard head-to-head mode. Players will compete in a bracket format until a final champion is crowned. Winners advance each round, and there are no second chances.

Gameplay Rules

Game Mode

All matches will be played using the standard Head-to-Head mode on Madden NFL 26.

Quarter Length

Each game will feature 5-minute quarters to keep the tournament progressing smoothly.

Play Clock

The 40-second play clock will be active, with the Accelerated Clock turned ON to ensure consistent pacing.

Game Skill Level

All matches will be played on the All-Madden difficulty setting to provide a true competitive challenge.

Weather

All games will be played in clear weather conditions to eliminate any weather-related gameplay advantages.

Team Selection

Only current NFL teams are allowed. No custom teams, Ultimate Team, or fantasy rosters will be permitted.

Playbooks

Players may choose any official team playbook available within the game.

Roster

The latest EA roster update available on the day of the tournament will be used for all matches.

No Coaching Adjustments or Glitches

Players are prohibited from using coaching adjustments, exploit tactics, or game-breaking glitches. Violation will result in immediate disqualification.

Match Setup & Structure

Match Assignment

Players will be assigned stations and matched based on the tournament bracket. Match locations will be clearly posted.

Side Selection

The player listed at the top of the bracket will have the option to choose their side (home or away).

Controllers

Players may bring their own PS5 controllers, but they must be functioning properly. Both wired and wireless controllers are allowed.

Pausing Rules

Do not pause the game unless approved by a tournament referee. First violation results in a warning; second violation results in disqualification.

Winning & Advancement

Elimination Format

This is a single-elimination tournament. The winner of each game advances to the next round; the loser is eliminated.

Ties & Overtime

If a game ends in a tie, the NFL's official overtime rules will be used to determine the winner.

Disconnections

In the event of a disconnect or system failure, a tournament official will decide whether the match resumes or restarts based on the game state.

Player Conduct & Penalties

Respect & Sportsmanship

All players must conduct themselves with respect. Trash talk is allowed within reason, but personal or offensive comments will not be tolerated.

Cheating & Mods

Use of cheats, glitches, or modded controllers is strictly forbidden. Any violation will result in immediate disqualification.

Physical Altercations

Any physical aggression or threats will result in immediate ejection from the tournament and possible banning from future events.

Tardiness

Players must report to their station within 5 minutes of match call. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.

Prizes & Distribution

Prizes will be awarded to the top three finishers in the tournament. The prize structure is as follows:

- 1st Place: \$1,000
- 2nd Place: \$500
- 3rd Place: \$250

Winners will receive their prizes at the conclusion of the event via Zelle, Venmo, or CashApp.

Tournament Support

Tournament staff and referees will be available throughout the event and can be identified by their STAFF badges. If a player has a dispute, it must be brought to a referee immediately after the game ends. All final decisions will be made by the Tournament Director.