



Premier League Predictor

2022-2023 Welcome Newsletter

July 27, 2022

Welcome to the 2022-23 Premier League Predictor Season

I can't believe we are already back for another Premier League season! The 2022-23 season has really snuck up on me after what seemed to be an extremely short summer break. Regardless, I am extremely excited to be back for another season of the Premier League Predictor game.

The 2022-23 Premier League season kicks off in just 9 DAYS - on Friday, August 5, 2022!

This season will look a little different due to a massive schedule change caused by the 2022 World Cup in Qatar. The World Cup takes place from November 21, 2022 through December 18, 2022. Usually, the Premier League would be in the midst of its hectic "festive fixtures" period during those dates, but instead we are seeing an earlier start and a slightly later finish to the season in May of 2023.

For any new people, I started this Premier League Predictor game five seasons ago, and the game has grown and improved each season. I am always trying to make the game better and more enjoyable for the participants while trying to smooth out any issues before they arise, but I am always open to suggestions on how to make the game better. For example, right now I am hoping to improve the layout of the website for mobile platforms and to increase automation in the scoring process. Hopefully, our fifth season will be our best season ever!

The website is ready to go for the Week 1 picks! If you are interested in participating this year, make sure to let me know, and make sure to fill out the Week 1 "Make Your Picks" form on the PLP website. Remember, the ultimate goal of the game is to accumulate the most "prediction points" over the course of the 380-match season. Players have the opportunity to predict the result of all 380 Premier League matches this year, and the successful players will predict more Premier League matches correctly and score higher points on those correct picks over the course of the season.

Thanks for your interest in the 2022-23 PLP season! Keep reading below for more introductory information about the game and the upcoming season.

-Tyler

PLP Rules Summary

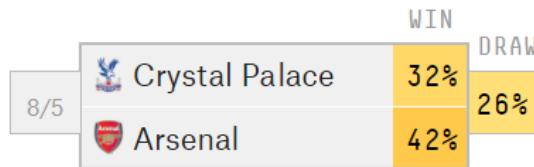
This rules recap will be important for new participants but may be redundant for experienced players. This is a Premier League predictor game. Participants attempt to predict the outcome of every Premier League match over the course of the season.

The goal is to predict the correct outcome of as many matches as possible, while trying to accumulate the most “prediction points” by earning those points for correct picks. Some picks earn more points than others in accordance with the formula described below. The PLP Champion is the participant who earns the most points over the course of the season.

The Premier League consists of 38 matchweeks with each matchweek typically consisting of 10 matches. Each participant will attempt to predict the outcome of all 380 PL matches over the course of the season. The entire PLP game exists on the PLP website: plpredictorus.com. I will send emails to everyone throughout the course of the season but all information for the game can be found on the website at any time.

Each week, participants are presented with the picks for the upcoming week on the “Make Your Picks” page of the website. The “Make Your Picks” page will be updated prior to each week so that the upcoming matches are available to be picked. Each match, participants have the choice to predict one of five potential outcomes:

- (1) Home Win
- (2) Home Win or Draw
- (3) Draw
- (4) Away Win or Draw
- (5) Away Win



Participants choose one outcome for each match with each potential outcome worth a different “prediction points” value. The value of each pick is based off of the official points formula. The formula for determining points is based on the theory that each of the five different outcomes of each match has a different likelihood of occurring in real life. Each potential outcome, therefore, has a different point value based on the likelihood of its occurrence in real life. Outcomes that are more likely to occur will have a lower point value and outcomes that are less likely to occur will have a higher point value. The formula is based on a computer model called the Soccer Power Index from FiveThirtyEight.com that predicts the outcomes of each Premier League match. The official points formula for a correct pick is: ***100 minus the percentage chance the outcome will occur, as determined by the Soccer Power Index.***

Example from the Crystal Palace v Arsenal match above:

Crystal Palace Win:	$100 - 32\% \text{ chance to win} = \mathbf{68 \text{ points}}$
Crystal Palace Win or Draw:	$100 - 32\% \text{ chance to win} - 26\% \text{ draw} = \mathbf{42 \text{ points}}$
Draw:	$100 - 26\% \text{ chance to draw} = \mathbf{74 \text{ points}}$
Arsenal Win or Draw:	$100 - 42\% \text{ chance to win} - 26\% \text{ draw} = \mathbf{32 \text{ points}}$
Arsenal Win:	$100 - 42\% \text{ chance to win} = \mathbf{58 \text{ points}}$

PLP Competitions

The 2022-23 PLP season will consist of three different competitions. Along with the PLP 38-week regular season, there will be two other side tournaments. I may also throw in a short competition over the holiday period and we may do something for the World Cup. Each competition will have different prizes for the winners.

Regular Season: The PLP regular season has kept the same rules since I created this game 5 years ago. It is simple - 38 Premier League matchweeks, 380 matches, try to predict as many results as possible to earn the most prediction points over the course of the season. The participant who scores the most points over the course of the entire season wins the PLP Regular Season championship.

Prizes: TBD based on # of participants, usually 1st through 4th/5th earn prizes

Fall Tournament: The Fall Tournament is formerly the Holiday Tournament - however, the dates need to be moved up this year because of the World Cup break. The format stays the same - this is a single-elimination knockout competition, with head-to-head matchups between participants. Each match will span two weeks with the winner advancing to the next round until we have a Fall Tournament champion.

Prizes: TBD based on # of participants, usually 1st and 2nd earn prizes

End-of-Season Playoffs: The PLP Playoffs take place over the last 8 weeks of the season. The format will be a "world cup"-style competition, with the participants drawn into groups. The group stage will take place over 5 weeks, with the top players advancing to the knockout stages until we have a champion. The Playoff finals will take place on the last week of the Premier League season.

Prizes: TBD based on # of participants, usually 1st and 2nd earn prizes

New Year's Competition: With the schedule change this season, we are losing most of the Premier League "festive fixtures" period over the holidays. However, we do have three matchweeks scheduled in the week spanning from Boxing Day through January 2, 2023. I'm thinking, as a holiday gift opportunity and an opportunity to welcome everyone back after the World Cup break, we will award a small prize to the person who has the highest score over those three holiday-period matchweeks.

Prizes: TBD, a small prize (usually a PL book or poster) to the highest scorer

World Cup Competition(?): If this is something people are interested in, we may do a separate and optional World Cup predictor competition. I'm not sure what this might look like, and we will gauge interest closer to the start of the World Cup. This competition would have a separate entry fee and the prizes would be determined later.

How to Get Started

With the season coming up soon, I want to make sure everyone knows how to participate in the game and get started with the 2022-23 season! Here are the easy steps to get started. New participants, you will begin to pick up the game pretty easily as we go along. I plan to release a Season Primer prior to Week 1, so everyone will have some information about the clubs participating this year.

1. **Make sure that I am aware you would like to participate.**

If you haven't contacted me about your interest for the 2022-23, please send me an email or contact me on the website to let me know that you wish to participate. I'd like to confirm interest so that we know we have enough people to make it worth everyone's while to participate, and it helps me so that I can look out for your picks when they come in. I have had some random people submit Week 1 picks in the past without notifying me, and it has caused some confusion.

2. **Make your picks for Week 1 - keep your eyes on emails and the PLP website**

The Week 1 picks are now available on the PLP website! Go to the "Make Your Picks" page to enter your picks for Week 1 - remember, the first match of the season kicks off on Friday, August 5, 2022 so make sure to get your Week 1 picks submitted before then! If you contact me before the season starts, I will make sure you are on the email list so you receive the updates, and always check the website for new announcements and features.

3. **Pay your Entry Fee**

It seems like most people were happy with a \$50 entry fee last year, so I am going to hold it steady for this season and keep it at \$50. Additionally, if there is enough interest in a World Cup competition, there will be a separate and optional entry fee for anyone who wants to participate in that competition. I will announce to the confirmed players how to send in your entry fee once the season has started.

Conclusion

This wraps up the Premier League Predictor 2022-23 season Welcome Newsletter! I am really looking forward to getting started with the new season. As always, if you have any questions or, especially, have some suggestions for the game, please make sure to contact me before we get up and running. To contact me, fill out a form on the “Contact Us” page of the website or email me at ts.plpredictor@gmail.com. Thanks for your interest, and good luck this season!

- Tyler

