

Ernst Zermelo Football Rankings



Firecracker Bowl proposal!

- A proposal to play IWFL/WFA championship game(s) on the evening of the 4th (or 3rd) of July! -

- 1) The IWFL/WFA limits no more than 32 teams per tier (or as I would say 'Division').
- 2) Each teams plays six (6) regular season games over a 7 week span, with virtually all teams having a bye on the 7th week of the regular season. Only a few teams play on week 7 to fill-out their six game schedule.
- 3) **Everyone** makes the single elimination playoffs -- a maximum of 5 rounds for a maximum field of 32 teams placed in a tier (division). Teams are seeded based on their overall record (six game season) and bracketed based on geography.
- 4) There is a bye week between each round of the playoffs except for the 1st round. However, the commissioner tries to schedule everyone to play all of their regular season games in weeks 1 thru 6. Week 7 is available if needed. As a result, everyone plays six games over the course of 7 consecutive weekends. Most teams get a bye week between the last week of the regular season and the first round of the playoffs.
- 5) Teams that are eliminated in the first round of the playoffs (and only those teams eliminated in the first round) can schedule an optional and final eighth opponent (consolation bowl game) at any time in the time frame starting in week 9 thru week 13, to end up with an eight game season for the year.
- 6) Home field for the playoffs will be determined by a golf-like score system -- each time a team hosts a playoff game they receive a score of +1 (bogey), while the away team receives a score of -1 (birdie). Home field will be awarded to the team that has the better running 'golf score' after each round of play. If there's a tie in the 'golf scores', the higher seeded team shall host the game.

Here's how things would stack up for the 2010 season (16 weeks required):

===== Regular Season =====

Week 1 -- March 20th

Week 2 -- March 27th

Week 3 -- April 3rd

Week 4 -- April 10th

Week 5 -- April 17th

Week 6 -- April 24th

Week 7 -- May 1st (commissioner strives to have all teams scheduled a bye this week, if possible)

===== End of Regular Season =====

===== Playoffs =====

Week 8 -- May 8th -- 1st round of playoffs

Week 9 -- May 15th -- league-wide bye for the 16 teams still alive in the tournament + any consolation games

Week 10 -- May 22nd -- 2nd round of playoffs (sweet 16) + any consolation games

Week 11 -- May 29th -- league-wide bye for the 8 teams still alive in the tournament + any consolation games

Week 12 -- June 5th -- 3rd round of playoffs (elite 8) + any consolation games

Week 13 -- June 12th -- league-wide bye for the 4 teams still alive in the tournament + last week for any consolation games

Week 14 -- June 19th -- 4th round of playoffs (final 4)

Week 15 -- June 26th -- league-wide bye for the two teams still alive in the tournament

Week 16 -- July 3rd -- Firecracker Bowl!!!

===== End of Playoffs =====

The above plan mimics Indiana high school football whereby everyone makes the playoffs. The key here is there has to be a 32 team limit per tier (division) to make this work. That would require the WFA to take on a NCAA-like division format (I hate the word tier!!!).

Teams could play as few as 7 games (or 8 games if they want to go to the trouble of scheduling an eighth opponent), but not more than 11 games for those teams making it to the championship game -- the Firecracker Bowl.

I think most people would find this pretty darn fun to have! Sort of like the excitement of an NCAA basketball tournament!