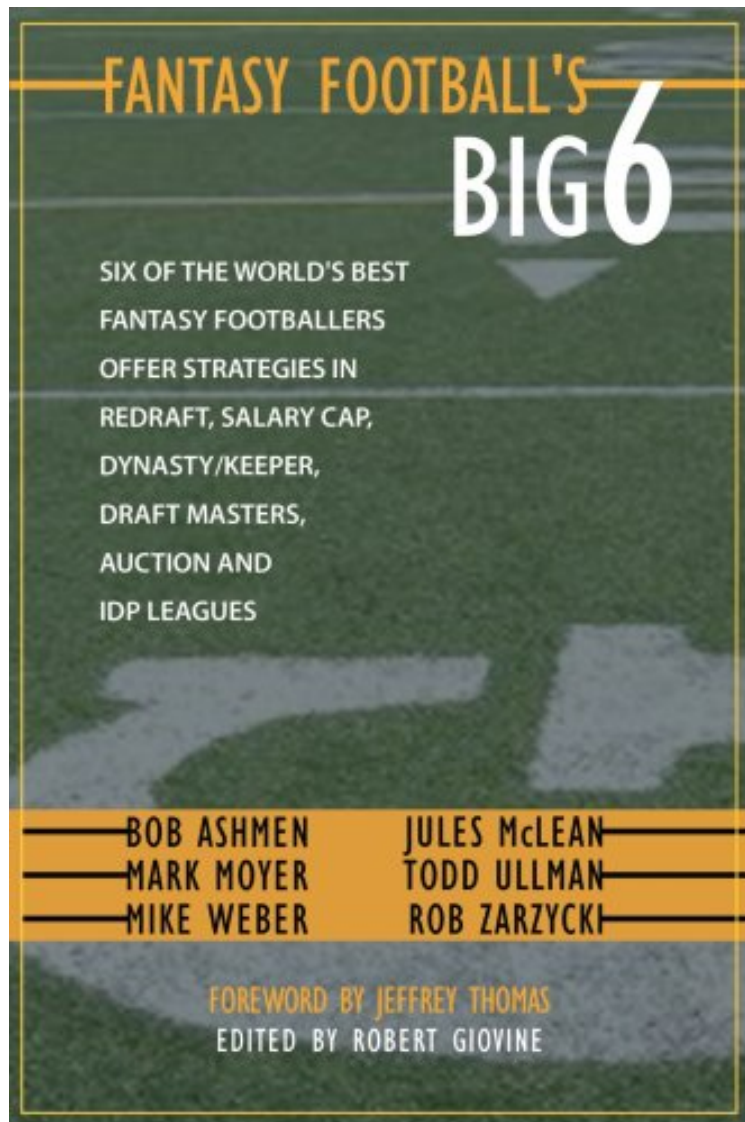


Fantasy Football's Big Six

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From Brand: AuthorHouse : Fantasy Football's Big Six before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fantasy Football's Big Six:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I would say that if you can get ONE good, newBy realreviewWish there was more info. As a very established Fantasy player, I would say that if you can get ONE good, new, idea from a book that it is worth it. So, it;s worth it. You have to read Z mans other books. He knows his stuff although I don't see him on top of the leader boards where I do see myself :)3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Doesn't

deliver on most fronts

By Jeremy Crowhurst

This book basically offers an overview of several varieties of fantasy football formats. As far as "offering strategies" in the various formats, as it promises in its subtitle, the book is a near-complete failure. Several of the chapters remind me of something I heard a blackjack dealer tell a player in Vegas once. "You know, A-2 is one of your best double-downs, because of all those little cards that make your hand." I always wondered if the dealer actually believed that, or if she was intentionally trying to lead the player astray. I suspect that Mr. Zarzycki had in mind something similar to a fantasy football version of Doyle Brunson's "Super System: A Course in Power Poker", where specialists in a variety of fields offered advice that (at the time) was beyond what most players knew, and greatly elevated the level of play of those who read it. Certainly this book comes nowhere achieving that, if indeed that was his goal. Only Zarzycki's contribution offers up anything substantive or useful. The failure of the book I think rests on him for the lack of quality control in respect of the other contributors. Four of the chapters contain so little of value that they sound like the blackjack dealer: maybe they know better, maybe they don't, but you sure can't tell from what they've written.

Chapter one is on Salary Cap Fantasy Football. Only the vaguest description of the format is given - he doesn't even tell the reader the most important element of the game: you can add a player at any time, but his price tag fluctuates during the year depending on his demand. So the format kind of resembles an IPO - players start the year with a set price, then after that the prices rise or fall based on subsequent transactions. The advice he gives tends to be on the obvious side - it's important to know the rules of your game, or quarterbacks who throw the ball a lot are worth more than quarterbacks who hand-off all the time. Thanks. Let me grab a pen and write that down. He maintains that in this format, as in other formats, RB is the most important position. Given that the traditional reason for valuing RBs so highly is the concept of scarcity, which does not exist in this format, his view is a little hard to accept. Similarly, he says you shouldn't spend money on a TE, because (in one year anyway) the top TE scored less than the #12 WR. Huh? This is a chapter that should have been a fairly straightforward description of finding value at the IPO stage and every week thereafter. It should have been heavy on math. As it stands, this chapter is virtually worthless.

Chapter two is supposedly on dynasty keeper leagues, but the author's contribution on keeper leagues is "I can't even imagine playing keeper league football". The article offers an overview of several websites for hosting leagues, sites for info, and useful magazines. If this chapter contains a single tip on how to be a better player in these formats, I couldn't find it.

Chapter three, by Mark Moyer, is on the Draft Master format. The format is explained thoroughly, and there are some tips on how proper drafting strategies in this format will differ from a normal redraft format, though they are fairly unsophisticated. I think the author held a fair bit back, but it's one of only two chapters where I was left with the impression that the author actually had any knowledge that was worth holding back.

Chapter Four is on IDP leagues. This was a little harder for me to evaluate because I don't know anything about IDP formats. But I do know the difference between a cornerback and a safety, so I didn't need two lengthy paragraphs explaining the difference, and I certainly didn't need to see those two paragraphs repeated nearly word for word two pages later. He has some concrete advice on IDP players that sounds good and isn't entirely obvious, but his discussion about integrating the IDP players into the overall draft leaves me thinking that he doesn't know that much about fantasy football overall. (He advocates going RB-WR-WR-RB as an ideal first four picks. You just can't say that - there are too many variables in play in a draft to be that concrete.)

Chapter Five on Auction Drafting is far and away the worst chapter of the book, and contains the worst advice since Custer told his troops "let's split up into three groups". He completely denigrates the idea of finding value, which is the cornerstone of any fantasy football format. He actually goes so far as to say, "valuing the players is not the most important part of auction drafting. Frankly, I believe it's the least important." His approach is actually exactly that, though he doesn't seem to appreciate it. Basically he makes a short-list of players that he wants, and he makes sure he gets those players. Based on what little he describes, it appears that what he's doing is choosing players that he expects to be undervalued. The only worthwhile tip he has to offer is "get some auction software". I'd suggest that anyone interested in advice on auction formats read the chapter in Sam Hendricks' book, and ignore this one entirely.

Chapter Six is Zarzycki's on Redraft Strategy. He offers a good encapsulation of his larger work "Drafting to Win". He and Moyer (chapter three) are the only two of the contributors whose writing demonstrates a command of the subject matter. Zarzycki is a bit of an enigma. He goes to great pains to point out that he knows nothing about NFL or college football itself, or the players. He doesn't do his own projections, but rather relies on pre-season lists compiled by various websites and/or magazines. Yet his "stockpile theory", the cornerstone of his middle-round strategy, requires forming your own opinions about potential sleepers, based on analysis of the players and their teams' situations. I can't reconcile these two positions. It may be that his advice against doing one's own rankings is deliberately provocative, not so much true as "based on a true story", in an effort to make a point. Nonetheless, Zarzycki's contribution is full of suggestions and advice. Had the other authors followed his model, the resulting book would likely have been very valuable indeed. If the science of fantasy football is to advance, it will be via a football equivalent to baseball's SABRmetrics, involving some math, some psychology, and some basic game theory. From the quality of his writing, Zarzycki seems like he's up to the task, should he choose to undertake it. But I think he needs to come clean about how he really goes about ranking his players....

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. There's only one word for Fantasy Football's Big 6.....Amazing!

By S. Hendricks

This book is an easy, fun and enlightening read. Everyone from the beginner to the

seasoned fantasy football veteran can learn from this book. Tapping into areas previously uncovered, Fantasy Football's Big 6 reveals secrets from six of the bigger names in the High Stake Fantasy Football world. Highlighted by Rob Zarzycki (author of Drafting to Win) this 200-page book delves into such topics as IDP leagues, Auction leagues and my favorites Salary Cap and Draft Masters. Bob Ashmen makes a convincing argument for Salary Cap leagues as the fairest Fantasy Football contest ever invented. He then goes on to explain some of his money winning strategies. It is a great glimpse into these previously unknown formats. The same goes for Mark Moyer and his examination of Draft Masters. The skills and strategies for these types of leagues are different than your standard redraft leagues and he takes the reader into his war room and reveals all. Jules "Red Ryder" Mclean excites with her take on Dynasty and Keeper leagues (her forte) and Todd Ullman and Mike Weber finish up with their incredibly gifted advice on Individual Defensive Players and Auctions respectively. And what of "Z-Man"? Rob covers his area of expertise by exploring redraft leagues and the strategies he has used to win at the World Championship of Fantasy Football (WCOFF). Speaking of winning, these six experts have over half a million (\$500,000+) in career Fantasy Football money. Not bad at all for an obsession most of us call a hobby! It is a "Must Have" for every Fantasy Footballer! Sam Hendricks, author of "Fantasy Football Guidebook"

Fantasy Football's Big Six brings you a complete collection of draft tips and strategies from six of the most successful fantasy football players in the world! Content covers all types of fantasy football leagues including redraft, salary cap, auction, IDP, and dynasty/keeper leagues.