

FANTASY FOOTBALL

ALMANAC

2022

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UPDATE 1



Updated Player Writeups:

Sam Darnold: 25 Years Old

2019: 13 Games, 3024 Yards, 19 TDs, 13 INTs, 33 Rushes, 62 Yards, 2 TDs

2020: 12 Games, 2208 Yards, 9 TDs, 11 INTs, 37 Rushes, 217 Yards, 2 TDs

2021: 12 Games, 2527 Yards, 9 TDs, 13 INTs, 48 Rushes, 222 Yards, 5 TDs

I thought a change of scenery with decent skill weapons would help Darnold get his career back on track, but it didn't happen. Between the trade for Mayfield and drafting of Matt Corral, I think Darnold's days as a starter are numbered.

Baker Mayfield: 27 Years Old

2019: 16 Games, 3827 Yards, 22 TDs, 21 INTs, 28 Rushes, 141 Yards, 3 TDs

2020: 16 Games, 3563 Yards, 26 TDs, 8 INTs, 54 Rushes, 165 Yards, 1 TD

2021: 14 Games, 3010 Yards, 17 TDs, 13 INTs, 37 Rushes, 134 Yards, 1 TD

Baker Mayfield, the #1 pick in the 2018 NFL Draft will be competing with Sam Darnold, the #3 pick in the 2018 NFL Draft.

The popular consensus is that Mayfield will win this starting job, but for now, I'm going to approach this as such:

Darnold, the incumbent will probably open training camp as the starter. Mayfield, Darnold and Corral will probably all see the field this season. Because I think all will see snaps, I'm just going to stay away from everyone.

Darrel Williams: 27 Years Old

2019: 12 Games, 41 Att, 141 Yards, 3 TDs, 19 Targets, 15 Rec, 167 Yards, 1 TD

2020: 16 Games, 39 Att, 169 Yards, 1 TD, 26 Targets, 18 Rec, 116 Yards, 0 TDs

2021: 17 Games, 144 Att, 558 Yards, 6 TDs, 57 Targets, 47 Rec, 452 Yards, 2 TDs

I had to double check to make sure his 2021 stats were correct. He put up 1,000 yards and 8 TDs! Williams has improved incrementally throughout the years and proved he can move the ball if given a chance. I don't know how he'll fit in with Arizona, but he'll be nice complement. I just hope this stays a 2-headed RB team.

Cameron Brate: 31 Years Old

2019: 16 Games, 55 Targets, 36 Rec, 311 Yards, 4 TDs

2020: 16 Games, 34 Targets, 28 Rec, 282 Yards, 2 TDs

2021: 17 Games, 57 Targets, 30 Rec, 245 Yards, 4 TDs

I've always felt Brate was underrated. When the previous Bucs regime invested heavily in O.J. Howard, Brate found his way onto the field. Even with Gronkowski in the lineup the past few seasons, Brate still managed to keep his production numbers consistent. With Gronk retired, the Buccaneers added veteran Kyle Rudolph for depth and competition. I have always been a fan of Rudolph, but don't underestimate Brate.

Kyle Rudolph: 33 Years Old

2019: 16 Games, 48 Targets, 39 Rec, 367 Yards, 6 TDs

2020: 12 Games, 37 Targets, 28 Rec, 334 Yards, 1 TD

2021: 16 Games, 39 Targets, 26 Rec, 257 Yards, 1 TD

Kyle Rudolph slides right onto the field in Tampa Bay. I like this move for a Super Bowl hungry team. Rudolph gives the Buccaneers a veteran presence and gives Tom Brady another strong pass catcher. I will begin training camp with Brate ranked higher than Rudolph, but let's wait and see how this develops.

Summary of Rankings Changes

QB:

- I moved Russell Wilson above Deshaun Watson. With Jeudy likely to avoid missing any real time due to an offseason incident and Deshaun Watson reportedly likely to miss at least 8 weeks, this was a no brainer for me.
- Jameis Winston was moved above Tua Tagovailoa. I expect this second tier of QBs to move around quite a bit once I can see them in preseason action. Winston gets Mike Thomas back this year and the Saints have their best group of wide receivers in years. No disrespect to Tua, who is definitely a breakout candidate with his weapons in Miami.
- I've moved Trey Lance up, but he's still behind Justin Fields. Lance will move up considerably if he can secure the starting job, but I will feel better about his 2022 projections if Garoppolo succeeds in finding someone to trade for him.
- I'm moving Marcus Mariota above Carson Wentz. When I was reviewing my rankings, I thought "Arthur Smith calls a good game." I can't say the same for Scott Turner, unfortunately. I think Wentz will have more TD passes, but Mariota will have more rushing yardage and TDs.
- I've moved Baker Mayfield and Sam Darnold next to each other. Matt Carrol isn't far behind. My advice is to just steer clear of Panther QBs.
- I'm not moving Trevor Lawrence up yet. As I write in the book, I think Doug Pederson will be good for Lawrence. I just want to see him in action a bit first.

RB:

- I've moved Rashaad Penny above Josh Jacobs. The news on Carson's neck recovery is a bit more grim than I expected at this point. As someone who is going through weird neck/nerve issues of my own, I can relate. There is no real time table with this stuff. Because of this, I think it'll be a Penny/Walker III backfield for at least the first part of the 2022 season. Training camp will tell us much more.
- I'm moving James White just ahead of Raheem Mostert in all formats. Both missed the vast majority of 2022. Both are aging. For me, this comes down to White's role on the Patriots being defined (yes, even without McDaniels). Mostert still has to out-compete a few solid backs in Miami for carries.

WR:

- I've moved Terry McLaurin ahead Tee Higgins in all formats. I think this only impacted the PPR rankings.
- I'm moving Adam Thielen (who continues to get dogged in fantasy mock drafts) ahead of DeAndre Hopkins (who will be suspended to start the year).
- I'm looking closely at Jerry Jeudy and Courtland Sutton. Both should get a significant boost this year, but I think I'll leave rankings where they are for now as we look to camp production.

TE:

- I added Kyle Rudolph to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. He will compete with Cameron Brate. I don't love the signing for either Tight End. I think it makes the Bucs a better offensively but dilutes the value of both in my opinion.

DST

- No rankings updates

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- No rankings updates

Updated Draft Strategy Guide (this version was published on 7/22).