

Farewell

By Steven Van Tassell ([@SteveVT33](#))

We are officially past the Finale and One and Done/Eliminator phases of Dynasty Owner right now and it's time to say Farewell. This final article is being written a little bit differently. It will still have some information about Week 15 and the first week of the 2023 Dynasty Owner playoffs, but it won't have any information about the rest of the Dynasty Owner playoffs since it's being written prior to the Week 16 games, but published later on.

In place of that information will be a lot of nostalgia, and a great deal of pride and appreciation. While it's sad that Dynasty Owner is ending, I'm trying to keep the sadness out of it. It's going to be difficult to fit all of that in, but I'll do my best and try to keep things fun to read for everyone who decides to take this journey with me.

First and foremost, I appreciate the opportunity that has been afforded to me by Dynasty Owner, the owner and founder of Dynasty Owner Paul Gabrail and Dynasty Owner CEO Tim Pepper. While Dynasty Owner started as a game for the 2019 season, Paul started recruiting writers for Dynasty Owner back in the middle of October 2018. I started my Dynasty Owner journey by answering a job posting on a freelancer website called Upwork for "Fantasy Football Writer Needed - With an understanding of numbers".

I responded with my background of playing fantasy sports for over 20 years including 18 years in my redraft fantasy football league. I added that I analyze survey data and had Top Rated status on Upwork. Somehow, this proposal actually worked! I ended up speaking with Paul and pretty much begged him for an opportunity to write a sample article to prove that I could do it. I must have done a decent enough job that he hired me and two other writers to compose weekly articles of between 500 and 1,000 words on 5-6 performances for the previous week on players at two positions. Each writer ranked their preferred positions, and I ended up with QBs and WRs.

My first paid article (I can't believe that I was getting paid to write about fantasy football) was in Week 9 of the 2018 season. The best QBs were Drew Brees and Jared Goff (\$33,500,000), but Goff was a better value because his rookie salary at the time was \$6,984,418 compared to \$25 million for Brees. At the time, we analyzed salaries on a per game basis for a 12-game Dynasty Owner season. The worst performance was by Sam Darnold (\$4,500,000) who only scored 1.2 points for a salary of over \$7.56 million. No surprise about that, the only difference is that Darnold's salary is lower now.

I also wrote about three QBs who had per point costs of less than \$5,000 per game. This was back in 2018, but all three QBs are actually still active. Can you guess who they were? The answers are in the Conclusion section.

That was the start of my Dynasty Owner journey. Paul emailed the articles to a list of people who were interested in playing Dynasty Owner once the game was built and also had them posted on a WordPress site. Unfortunately, the articles are archived, so everyone will be spared having to see links to my first few articles. If anyone was brave enough to click on those links, they would have seen how bad those first articles were and how different they are than the articles that I've been doing recently. Here a hint. I've gotten a lot wordier, but also better and more informative.

After the 2018 season was finished, I wrote two more articles for Paul and Dynasty Owner. The first one was in January of 2019 that analyzed Patrick Mahomes' (\$45,000,000) 2018 season. The final sentence of that article was pretty spot on.

Mahomes is only 23 years old and likely has many more productive fantasy seasons coming in the future.

After that article, Dynasty Owner started advertising on Facebook and other places in February to recruit people to play in the 2019 beta season. I actually even helped Paul by reaching out to Spotrac about advertising on their website and reviewing story boards with Tim (who joined sometime in April based on my emails) for ads and videos. Things were humming along for the first season of Dynasty Owner. I was in on the ground floor and excited to be helping in any way possible.

In mid-April, I did an article about Russell Wilson's (\$48,517,647) "huge" 4-year/\$140 million contract extension with Seattle. A couple of highlights. The first

one is from the beginning of the article after I explained how Wilson was going to be the highest paid player in the NFL and Dynasty Owner.

While Seahawks' fans are probably overjoyed that Wilson will be their QB through 2023, what should Dynasty Owners think about his new contract and value relative to the other top QBs in the league?

Based on his 2018 production, my answer is: Not much!

At the end after comparing Wilson to a bunch of QBs who are now retired (Ben Rothlisberger, Phillip Rivers, Andrew Luck) as well as Matthew Stafford (\$40,000,000) who was making \$27 million at the time. I concluded the article with this statement.

Congratulations to Russell Wilson for getting paid. He has proven his value to the Seahawks by playing every regular season game since he debuted in 2012, leading them the playoffs in six out of his seven seasons and to a Super Bowl title in 2013. However, what's good for the Seahawks ownership might not be good for you as a Dynasty Owner. Wilson's \$35 million annual contract could put Dynasty Owners in a bind in terms of navigating the league salary cap or paying luxury taxes to have him as your QB. The choice is yours, but I'm staying away and looking for a better value in my Dynasty Owner starting QB in 2019.

That was pretty spot on again. Not sure what happened over the years but at least in 2019 before Dynasty Owner had officially started, I was pretty good with some predictions.

By then, Tim had started running the day-to-day operations of Dynasty Owner and he and Paul were doing videos for YouTube, podcasts, trying to promote Dynasty Owner on other fantasy football podcasts, and getting the game and website up and running for the 2019 beta season. I remember my first interaction with Tim. He called me about writing regular articles for the 2019 season and I spoke with him at length in the lobby of my local Kaiser Permanente office before getting on the elevator to go to an eye doctor appointment. After we spoke, I started doing regular articles that have pretty much continued on to today (with a few breaks). The first

regular article was titled “Which Dynasty Owner QB Do You Want to Own” and it was published in an email in May of 2019.

I also started to recruit for a 10-person league with some friends for the 2019 beta season and ended up losing in the Championship game that season. The funny thing about that league is that none of the friends who I got to join are still playing Dynasty Owner now.

Since most of the Dynasty Owners who are likely to read this article have been active and involved with Dynasty Owner since the 2020 season and some were part of the beta season, I’ll stop giving a month-by-month recap of Dynasty Owner history and just put in a few of my favorite recollections from the past couple of seasons (in no particular order).

- Making Seth Kerechanin, who used to host the Dynasty Owner podcast/Livestream with me, Paul and Tim, laugh back in 2021 when I said the New England Patriots signing Hunter Henry (\$12,500,000) and Jonnu Smith (\$12,500,000) to free agent contracts meant they were trying to recreate Rob Gronkowski and Aaron Hernandez TE combination, but “without the murder.”
- Paul being flabbergasted by the 10-year/\$450 million contract that the Chiefs gave Patrick Mahomes. I wonder what he thinks about the \$700 million contract the Dodgers just gave Shohei Ohtani.
- The debate that we had about what to do about the beta leagues after the first season. The choices were to completely disband them and have all of the active Dynasty Owners redraft into new leagues or have everyone take on teams in other leagues so people could keep the teams they put together in 2019. We did a survey and decided to disband and redraft for the 2020 season, which ended up being the correct decision.
- The 8-10 hours that I spent with Tim, Chris Wolf and Nick Larmore trying to figure out how to handle the unfortunate Damar Hamlin situation from Week 17 of last season. Dynasty Owner ended up being the only fantasy football platform to make the “correct” decision and use Week 18 stats for both Buffalo and Cincinnati players in place of the cancelled Week 17 game. Every other platform made the “easier” or legally permitted decision to give zeros to Bills and Bengals players for Week 17. Dynasty Owner ended up doing

what was fairer and better, even though it took a lot of time to make the decision and plenty of effort (and money) to program the website to make the change. Very proud of being part of Dynasty Owner for that decision!

- Getting to attend the 2022 Fantasy Football expo in Canton and meeting Tim and Chris in person for the first time. I didn't meet Nick in person until the 2023 expo. I also met the 2021 Chase for the Ring Champion Jeff Rachlin (SKOL Vikings), Joshua Reilly (Jet Chip Wasp), Rollin Sommers (Bull Dawgs) and a few other people who I honestly can't remember right now. It was great to meet everyone there and get to know all of those guys. I've still never met the other three Champs in person, but am hoping that it happens one day.
- It was also great fun meeting other people who attended the expo in both 2022 and 2023 and trying to explain Dynasty Owner to them and get some of them to actually join the platform.
- Being able to do the Dynasty Owner podcast with [Jay Pounds](#) and getting to know him. Jay is a great guy and if you don't follow him on Twitter/X, then you really should. Hopefully we keep in touch and have a chance to collaborate on something fantasy football related in the future.
- Being called the Dynasty Owner "intrepid reporter" by Seth and recalling that he envisions me with an old school reporter hat, like [Max Mercy in The Natural](#).
- Chatting with numerous Dynasty Owner on Twitter/X over the years, answering their questions as best as I could and explaining a lot of times that I don't make "those decisions" and don't really know the inner workings of what's going on at Dynasty Owner.
- Relaying some of those conversations on Twitter/X with Tim and Nick and finding out that they already knew everything that I was telling them already. They always knew!
- Last, but certainly not least, was conducting surveys with Dynasty Owners and being part of the Owners' meetings after the season to find out everyone's ideas for improvements. It was great to find out that there are a bunch of Dynasty Owners who love the game just as much as me.

With that, we'll get to the information part of this Farewell article with the naming of the final Dynasty Owner Player of the Week and Value Player of the Week, a

recap of my Week 15 recommendations, and the final look at our undefeated teams and the top teams on the 2023 Chase for the Ring Leaderboard. All stats cited are based on the Standard Dynasty Owner scoring system as outlined in the [Dynasty Owner Constitution](#). Standard Dynasty Owner scoring gives you .1 points for every yard rushing or receiving, .1 point for every 2 yards passing, 1 point per reception, 6 points for a rushing, receiving or passing touchdown and 2 points for a successful 2-point conversion (rushing, receiving, or passing). Interceptions or fumbles lost cost you 3 points, while a fumble that is recovered by the player's team is a loss of only 1 point. Bonus points are available for 100-199 yards rushing (2 points), 200 yards rushing or receiving (6 points), 300-399 yards passing (1 point) and 400 yards passing (4 points). There is also a 3 point bonus for clutch scoring, which is a score that results in a lead change in the final two minutes of the 4th quarter or overtime. Kickoff and punt return touchdowns are worth 6 points for the player and kickoff and punt returns are worth 1 point for every 40 yards.

Any salaries, ADPs and roster percentages listed were current as of the morning of December 22nd. All 2023 contract information is currently what is listed on the Dynasty Owner platform (number of years and salaries) and has been taken from Spotrac (<https://www.spotrac.com/>).

Dynasty Owner Player of the Week

For the last time, let's announce the Dynasty Owner Player of the Week. Dynasty Owner has definitely come full circle with this player being named Player of the Week. He was in my first article, but by the 2020 season, he was one of the most maligned players on the platform as his production was nowhere near the level of his (at the time) exorbitant salary. Well, his salary is the same as in 2020, but he's improved his performance after getting traded and now has a mid-level salary to go along with above average performance at the QB position. The Dynasty Owner Player of the Week is **Jared Goff**.

After his rookie contract ended following the 2019 Dynasty Owner season, rostering Jared Goff in Dynasty Owner wasn't seen as a great idea. In 2020, he was only drafted in 14.74% of Dynasty Owner startup leagues as his current \$33.5 million salary was the third highest of the platform. When he ended the season as QB18 and followed that up as QB23 in 2021, few Dynasty Owners had him on their

rosters. In 2022, he was QB7 and won the Player of the Week award for the first time in Week 4. Now, he's back as QB7 for the 2023 season and leading one of the top offenses in the NFL, but his salary is the same and he's "only" the 13th highest paid player. And to top it off, he was the Player of the Week and scored 43.9 Dynasty Owner fantasy points (278 passing yards, 5 TDs).

Week 15 Points: 43.9

2023 Salary: \$33,500,000

Cost per Point: \$763,098

Dynasty Owner Value Player of the Week

Because this is Dynasty Owner and we're all looking for value from the players on our roster, we also have the Value Player of the Week. We have a very fitting winner of this award as it's the player who will end up as the best value in Dynasty Owner history since he's won this award the most times. For the record-setting fifth time this season and sixth time overall, the Dynasty Owner Value Player of the Week is **Brock Purdy**.

Another week, another game with 30.0 or more Dynasty Owner fantasy points for Brock Purdy (\$934,252). He's done it five times this season and won Value Player of the Week four times. He was the Player of the Week in Week 13 when he scored 41.6 Dynasty Owner fantasy points and also won a Value Player of the Week award in Week 3 with "just" 27.4 Dynasty Owner fantasy points. This week, he scored 36.1 Dynasty Owner fantasy points (242 passing yards, 4 TDs) for his extremely fortunate Dynasty Owners. Everyone who was fortunate enough to grab Purdy off the Free Agent Auction last year after he became the 49ers' starting QB or in the seventh or eighth round (ADP 87.0) of 2023 Dynasty Owner startup drafts.

Few had the foresight to draft him in the 2022 rookie draft or a 2022 startup draft and they were way ahead of their time. I can only find the first five completed 2022 rookie drafts and the first five 2022 startup drafts, but only one team (named Murder Boners in League #120532) drafted Purdy at all. They took him with the 196th pick in a startup draft. Now, he's probably the starting QB for a lot of

remaining Dynasty Owner playoff teams as the QB4 for the current season at a salary of less than \$1 million.

Week 15 Points: 36.1

2023 Salary: \$934,252

Cost per Point: \$25,880

These Guys Should be Starters This Week

The weekly recommendations have been getting posted on Twitter/X so I can keep track for the rest of the year (and in case anybody wanted to know who I was recommending). Back in Week 15, I had four recommendations of players to have in your Dynasty Owner Starting lineup for the first round of the playoffs. Let's look at how they did (Good, Bad or Just Ok).

QB: Drew Lock (\$4,000,000) – 19.2 (Just Ok recommendation)

RB: Chuba Hubbard (\$1,048,294) – 12.3 (Good recommendation)

WR: Demarcus Robinson (\$1,165,000) – 14.7 (Good recommendation)

TE: Chigoziem Okonkwo (\$1,041,085) – 6.6 (Bad recommendation)

We'll go from worst to best this time, so starting with Chigoziem Okonkwo who only had 6.6 Dynasty Owner fantasy points (3 receptions for 36 receiving yards). That was about half of the usual TE average against the Texans who held the Titans to under 200 yards passing in total. As a result, recommending Okonkwo for your Starting lineup was Bad.

The QB selection was whoever started for Seattle against Philadelphia on Monday Night Football and that ended up being Drew Lock. At first, it looked like there was no way that Lock even had a chance to be a Just Ok recommendation, but he led the Seahawks on a game-winning 92 yard drive that cumulated in a 29-yard TD pass from Lock to Jaxon Smith-Njigba (\$3,604,327) that gave both of them a 3.0 point clutch scoring bonus. Lock finished with 19.2 Dynasty Owner fantasy points (208 passing yards, -2 rushing yards, 1 TD) overall and 13.6 Dynasty Owner fantasy points of them on that final drive. Without that drive, the recommendation would have

been Bad, but the final drive push it to a Just Ok recommendation as Lock finished only a couple of points behind several top ranked QBs.

There were also two Good recommendations. First was Chuba Hubbard who carried the load for the Panthers and didn't need a TD to be a Good recommendation since he had 87 rushing yards, 2 receptions and 16 receiving yards, good for 12.3 Dynasty Owner fantasy points and a top 24 RB performance for Week 15. He needed 24 touches to earn those yards and points, but he did it as predicted. Things also turned out well for a player who I said was a stretch as Demarcus Robinson corralled another TD pass from Matthew Stafford and had 14.7 Dynasty Owner fantasy points (2 receptions, 44 receiving yards, 23 rushing yards, 1 TD). It was Robinson's third consecutive week with a TD reception and helped him finish as a low-end WR2 or high-end FLEX starter, so the recommendation was Good.

These Guys Should Be on the Bench (or Practice Squad) This Week

Now let's look at how each of my individual Bench recommendations from Week 15 fared (Good, Bad or Just Ok).

QB: Tua Tagovailoa (\$7,568,859) – 17.2 (Good recommendation)

RB: James Cook (\$1,458,014) – 38.1 (Bad recommendation)

WR: Drake London (\$5,383,617) – 4.4 (Good recommendation)

TE: George Kittle (\$15,000,000) – 7.4 (Good recommendation)

Three Good recommendations and just one Bad one is a pretty good week to wrap up a pretty good year of Bench predictions. I have just under half (48%) Good recommendations, one-third (32%) Bad and the remaining one-fifth (20%) so far.

The only Bad recommendation though was a doozy as I had James Cook as someone to leave on your Dynasty Owner Bench and he exploded for over 200 yards of total offense when I predicted that he would break a streak of 100+ yard games. He scored 38.1 Dynasty Owner fantasy points (179 rushing yards, 2 receptions, 42 receiving yards, 2 TDs) which made the recommendation Bad since Cook was the overall #4 scorer in Dynasty Owner for Week 15.

The rest of the recommendations were Good with the Bench recommendation of Drake London being the best one. London only had 4.4 Dynasty Owner fantasy points (2 receptions for 24 receiving yards) the week after a career-best 29.2 Dynasty Owner fantasy points in Week 14. The Arizona Cardinals stymied George Kittle for the second time this season and held him to just 7.4 Dynasty Owner fantasy points (2 receptions for 54 receiving yards). He was barely a Bench player for your Dynasty Owner team this week so that was a Good recommendation. Finally, I had my third Good recommendation to Bench Tua Tagovailoa this season. He had more Dynasty Owner fantasy points than the other two times, but still only scored 17.2 Dynasty Owner fantasy points (224 passing yards, 1 TD) so he ended up being a mid-range Bench option.

Undefeated Dynasty Owner Teams and Chase for the Ring Leaderboard

With only three teams remaining undefeated for the 2023 Dynasty Owner season and all three of them occupying the top three spots on the Championship Contenders leaderboard, it just makes sense to combine the two here. Because the points from Week 15 still count in the Chase for the Ring, we did see a little movement even as all three teams had a bye and thus, remained undefeated.

Team Name	League	Chase Position
The Road Warriors	27449	1st
WANNABEES	36564	2nd
Komodo Dragons	174404	3rd

The Road Warriors in League #27449 remained on top after Week 15 and expanded their points lead. The lead increased to 154.0 points over WANNABEES from League #36564, even though WANNABEES scored more points in Week 15. The lead went up as WANNABEES took over second place from Komodo Dragons in League #174404 who had the fewest points out of the undefeated teams and dropped into third place in the Chase for the Ring.

If you want to check out the Chase for the Ring Leaderboard, it can be accessed at any time by going to <https://app.dynastyowner.com/chase-for-the-ring>. Only the

Championship Contenders tab changes now and will continue to update until the end of the final Dynasty Owner playoff games.

Good luck to all three teams in Week 16 and (hopefully) Week 17. Finishing the entire season with an undefeated record would be quite an accomplishment and I'm sure that the winner will be a worthy Chase for the Ring Champion regardless of whether it is one of those teams or someone else.

Conclusion

In case anyone made it here and wants to know who the answers for the three currently active QBs who had per point costs of less than \$5,000 per game back in my first published Dynasty Owner article in Week 9 of the 2018 season, here they are:

- Dak Prescott (\$40,000,000)
- Nick Mullens (\$2,000,000)
- Nathan Peterman (\$1,080,000)

Both Prescott and Mullens are starting for teams in Week 16, while Peterman is somehow still hanging around on the Chicago Bears roster as their emergency third QB. Pretty impressive that all three of them are still active now.

That's it. We're finished. Cue the confetti cannons and turn the lights out. Thank you to everyone who joined a Dynasty Owner league, read an article, listened to a podcast, watched a Livestream and played this awesome game. It's been a great ride, and I was happy to be aboard it.

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