

Dead Pool '08 - The Rules of the Game

Start & End Date

The Dead Pool '08 begins 00:00 (GMT) 1st January 2008 and ends 23:59 (GMT) 31st December 2008.

Submitting Entries

Each entrant must submit a team name (preferably something death related) and 2 rosters, active and bench, of team members. Entrants may create as many teams as they wish, paying the entry fee for each team.

Entries must be postmarked by 31st December 2007, or if submitted via email, must be sent on or before that date.

Each entry costs £10.00. Payment must be received by 7th January 2008. An additional charge of will be levied for bounced cheques. Cash by personal delivery is preferred, receipts will be issued.

Entry forms are available online at <http://www.dead-pool.info> or printed versions are available on request.

Rosters

Roster #1 - Active Roster. This roster is your primary list of famous people you think will die during 2008. The active roster can contain no more than twenty-five (25) names.

Roster #2 - Bench Squad. This is a list of five (5) additional famous people. During the course of 2008 as people on your active roster die, you can replace them with those on your bench squad.

Eligibility

To be included on either an active roster or a bench squad, the team members must meet the following criteria:

- They must be human.
- They must be alive as of the start of the game.
- They must be famous or infamous in their own right.
- Persons on death row at the start of the game will score no points if they are executed. Persons held hostage at the start of the game will score no points if they are killed by their captors or in a rescue attempt. Such persons will score points if they die from other causes.
- They cannot be recipients of animal or artificial vital organs as of the start of the game. (Note: Pacemakers and heart valves are NOT vital organs, e.g., Dick Cheney is eligible.)
- No name can appear more than once on a team's rosters. (Players submitting multiple teams can duplicate names among the teams.)

To be considered (in)famous, the person must meet one of two criteria:

1. Their death must be recognized by a major media organisation (e.g., Sky News, Reuters, BBC, Associated Press, New York Times, London Times, Washington Post, CNN, etc.). Local celebrities are not eligible even if their deaths are reported in the local papers, unless out-of-town news organizations also carry the obituary (paid for obituaries do not count).
2. The Rules Committee decides that major media organizations have failed to report a death of a famous person. The Rules Committee will make a judgement of fame comparing that person with others who have died and been reported. (The point of this rule is to cover the occasional case where a famous person is inexplicably ignored by major news organizations.)

Celebrities must have done something (written a book, recorded a song, won an Olympic medal, hosted a TV game show, etc.) to be considered famous in their own right. Their fame cannot derive solely from a relationship to another famous person. Spouses and family members of famous people who receive significant press coverage during their lives are considered famous in their own right (e.g. Prince Philip and any of the Kennedys are eligible; Wayne Rooney's mother, is not).

Simply living to a ripe old age is not sufficient as a claim to fame. Therefore, the oldest person in the world is not eligible unless they happen to have done something else in their life to justify celebrity.

Missing persons are eligible, but if it is determined during the course of the year that they were dead at the start of the game or if their fate is still unknown as of 1st January 2009, they will score no points. (If you want to waste a pick on Osama Bin Laden no one will stop you.)

Entrants are responsible for their own rosters, although they will be sanity checked before being accepted for the game begins if submitted by 15th December 2007. If an Active Roster includes someone who is declared ineligible, already dead at the start of the game, if a name appears more than once, or if a roster is short one or more names, the only remedy is replacing the ineligible name with a Bench Roster member. Errors on Bench Rosters have no remedy. Note: Leniency will be shown if rosters are submitted by 15th December 2007 and a team member dies or is declared ineligible before the game starts. In this instance the team member may be substituted for a new name provided it is done before the game begins.

The Rules Committee is the sole judge of eligibility. Decisions of the Rules Committee are final.

Roster Movement

When someone from the Active Roster dies, they can be replaced by someone on the Bench squad. The empty spot on the bench will remain that way for the rest of the year. No new names will be added to the Bench squad during the year.

Reporting Deaths

When someone from either roster dies, please call me, text me or preferably email Admin@Dead-Pool.info immediately to inform me of the following:

- Team name (Yes, I can cross-reference your email address and figure out who you are, but it is a lot easier if you just remind me)
- Name of the deceased
- Date of the death
- Source of the information (e.g. BBC, CNN)
- If the person was on your Active Roster, which person you intend to move up from the Bench squad.
- Including the text of or link to the obituary is appreciated, but is not required.

Responsibility for reporting deaths is on the entrant. (If multiple entrants have picked a name, only one has to report the death for all to get credit, but I'm not responsible for crediting deaths not brought to my attention.) However, the administrator will, in fairness, monitor major sources for possible deaths on a regular basis.

Deaths can be reported any time before 15th January 2009. On 15th January 2009, the results will be declared final. The 15th January 2009 date is for reporting only. Death must have occurred during 2008 to score points. This allows for the fact that obituaries are often delayed several days.

Scoring

Points will be awarded for each death according to the following schedule, deceased appears on;

- | | |
|--|--|
| ● One (1) Active Roster - 20 points | ● Five (5) Active Rosters - 12 points per entrant |
| ● Two (2) Active Rosters - 18 points per entrant | ● Six (6) Active Rosters - 10 points per entrant |
| ● Three (3) Active Rosters - 16 points per entrant | ● Seven (7) Active Rosters - 8 points per entrant |
| ● Four (4) Active Rosters - 14 points per entrant | ● Eight or more (8+) Active Rosters - 5 points per entrant |

If the deceased appears on only one Bench squad, it is worth 5 points. If it is on any other roster (Active or Bench), as well as your Bench squad, it will be worth only 3 points to you. For example, if a name appears on one Active Roster and one Bench Roster, 20 points and 3 points will be awarded, respectively.

Special Awards

- The Old Geezer Award - for the oldest deceased of the year - four (4) points.
- The Dumb Kid Award - for the youngest deceased of the year - four (4) points.
- The Early Bird Award - for the first death of the year - four (4) points.
- The Christmas Special Award - for the last death of the year - four (4) points each.
- The Kurt Cobain Award - for any death that is a confirmed suicide - ten (10) points.
- The Colin McRae Award - for any death that is of unnatural causes (other than suicide) i.e. homicide, natural disaster, car or helicopter accident - ten (10) points.
- The Syd Barrett Under 65 Award - for the death of anyone under the age of 65 - four (4) points.
- The Luther Vandross Under 55 Award - for the death of anyone under the age of 55 - four (4) points (in addition to the 4 points for being under 65, for a total of 8 points).
- The River Phoenix Under 45 Award - for the death of anyone under the age of 45 - four (4) points (in addition to the 4 points for being under 65 and the 4 points for being under 55 for a total of 12 points) .
- The Metabolically Challenged Award - for ending the year with everyone on the list alive - return of entrance fee for any team that fails to score a single point during the year.

So, the maximum number of points that can be awarded for a single death is 50 - for a solo hit by a suicide/homicide under 45 years of age who is either the first or last stiff of the year and also the youngest (20 points for a solo hit; 10 for the suicide/homicide; and 4 points each for being first/last, the youngest, under 65, under 55 and under 45).

Updates

Updates will be posted on the update page of the website as required (usually once every month, although more frequently if necessary). Entrants will be notified via email when updates are posted.

Prize Money

All money will go into the kitty to be split among the winners. The money in the kitty will be distributed according to the following schedule:

Metabolically Challenged Awards will be paid and deducted from the kitty. Then;

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| ● First place will receive 44% of the kitty | ● Sixth place will receive 5% |
| ● Second place will receive 15% | ● Seventh place will receive 4% |
| ● Third place will receive 12.5% | ● Eighth place will receive 3% |
| ● Fourth place will receive 7.5% | ● Ninth place will receive 2% |
| ● Fifth place will receive 6% | ● Tenth place will receive 1% |

In case of ties, entrants will split the cash at that prize level and the next level(s) down. For example, if two players are tied for 2nd place, they will split the 27.5% (13.75% each) that constitutes the second and third place money.

Disqualification

Anyone who causes or contributes to the death of a celebrity on their list, is not eligible for prize money. So, no taking matters into your own hands! And if you must stalk somebody, chose a celebrity who is not on your list.

Disputes

The Rules Committee is the sole judge in any dispute. The decisions of the Rules Committee are final.