

2025 PPOTY Rules & Scoring

PPOTY Players:

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| 1. Bryce Busby | 8. James Klinect (Commissioner) (2021) |
| 2. Tom Graham (2008, 2010, 2011) | 9. Maia Lustgarten |
| 3. Dave Grissom (2014) | 10. Chris McDowell |
| 4. Rob Harrison (2012) | 11. Sammy “The Bull” Smith |
| 5. Mike Heins | 12. James Whited (2013, 2023, 2024) |
| 6. Joe Hernandez (2018, 2022) | |
| 7. Stuart Jones (2015, 2016, 2017, 2019) | PPOTY Emeritus: Alex Tawse (2007, 2009) |
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1. PPOTY (Poker Player of the Year) League

1. A league fee of \$200 must be paid to the Commissioner by the second PPOTN Event of the year.
 - A PPOTN Event needs a 7/5 quorum and includes two games of poker.
 - If the league fee is not paid in full by the second PPOTN Event, the player will automatically become a non-league-playing civilian for the rest of the season.
 - New players can be added after the second game but only at the Commissioner's discretion.
 2. A PPOTY season is official once 10 PPOTN games are played and paid out. If less than 10 games are played by January 1 of the following year, the league fee will be refunded to each member, and no PPOTY will be crowned.
 3. Members with six or fewer PPOTN games played will automatically be dropped from the league at the end of the year and must re-apply for membership.
 4. No more than two PPOTN Events are allowed per month.
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2. PPOTN (Poker Player of The Night) Event Notice

1. A 48-hour notice must be sent to every PPOTY player via email or text to host a PPOTN Event.

- Unless otherwise notified that a PPOTY player cannot attend a proposed PPOTN Event, PPOTY players have reserved seats over civilian players up to 24 hours before the first card is dealt.
2. More than two PPOTY player cancellations within 24 hours of a PPOTN Event will result in an automatic drop from the league in the following year unless the Commissioner successfully protests and overturns.
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3. PPOTN Event and Games

1. Each PPOTN Event must have two \$100 poker games (no more/no less). The starting chip stack for each game is \$25,000.
 2. The prize pool payout for each PPOTN game is:
 - 1st place: 50% of the buy-in pool
 - 2nd place: 30% of the buy-in pool
 - 3rd place: 20% of the buy-in pool
 3. All PPOTN games, except for The Vegas Game and Big Game, must be played by December 31 of the current season.
 4. The 7/5 Quorum Rule - The first game for any given PPOTN Event must contain a quorum of seven players with a minimum of five PPOTY players bought in.
 - If a quorum is met for the first game, the second game is official if at least four PPOTY players are bought in for a seven-player game. Otherwise, the game does not count toward the PPOTY standings.
 5. The maximum number of players per PPOTN game is 12 with one table.
 6. At the discretion of the PPOTN Event host, a side-pot can be established for the PPOTN. To take part, each player that wants to take part must pay \$10 to the host before the first game begins.
 7. A PPOTN is determined by the player with the highest average ranking across two games.
 - If the average ranking is equal, the player with the highest rank in either game is crowned the PPOTN and wins the side pot. The players will split the side pot equally if there is no average rank difference.
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4. PPOTN Cash Game Event

1. A PPOTN Cash Game can be played in place of one PPOTN Event night upon email notice from the Commissioner.
 2. The cash game lasts five hours and all players must play the entire five hours to qualify for the Prize Pool.
 3. Each player will pay \$100 to a Prize Pool and then buy into the game for up to \$200 in chips (\$1 chip = \$1 real money).
 4. Only PPOTY members are eligible to take part in the Cash Game Prize Pool. However, PPOTY members can opt out of the Prize Pool and only play the cash game.
 5. The cash game is "dealer call" but is limited to the following games:
 - Texas Hold'em
 - Titty-Twister
 - Seven Card Stud
 - Five Card Draw
 - Double Board Texas Hold'em
 6. A player can rebuy at any time between games but not during a game. The maximum number of rebuys is \$1000 per player.
 7. At the end of five hours, each player keeps their net winnings and automatically becomes eligible for the Prize Pool.
 8. The payout for the Cash Game Prize Pool is based on a player's net cash winnings after five hours of play:
 - 1st place: 50% of the prize pool
 - 2nd place: 30% of the prize pool
 - 3rd place: 20% of the prize pool
 9. Only the Cash Game Prize Pool winners and their amount won in the Prize Pool will be factored into the PPOTY Champion standings.
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5. The Vegas Game

1. One PPOTN game will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, every year in January (preferably MLK weekend).

2. Seating at the Vegas Game is filled in the following order: current PPOTY league members, PPOTY Emeritus members, and civilians.
 - To hold a seat at the Vegas Game, PPOTY players must notify the Commissioner via email at least one month before the game, or their seat will be offered to a civilian player.
 3. The maximum number of players for the Vegas Game is 12 players with one table.
 4. At least five PPOTY players, including those with Emeritus status, must buy-in for the game to count towards the official PPOTY standings.
 5. The buy-in for the Vegas Game is \$200.
 6. The payout for The Vegas Game is:
 - 1st place: 50% of the buy-in pool
 - 2nd place: 30% of the buy-in pool
 - 3rd place: 20% of the buy-in pool.
 7. The Commissioner will decide the starting chip stack based on host casino requirements. If no special conditions are needed, the starting chip stack will be \$30,000.
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6. The Big Game

1. The Big Game is scheduled for the weekend before the NFL Super Bowl in Austin, Texas.
2. A minimum of eight PPOTY league players must play in The Big Game, or it will be rescheduled for each weekend until the minimum is met.
3. The buy-in for The Big Game is \$250. Each player's starting chip stack will be \$30,000.
4. No civilians can play in The Big Game.
5. Players with "PPOTY Emeritus" status can play in the Big Game but will not be eligible to win the PPOTY championship. Vacant seat preference is given to current PPOTY members before PPOTY Emeritus players.
6. The payout for The Big Game is:
 - 1st place: 50% of the buy-in pool
 - 2nd place: 30% of the buy-in pool

- 3rd place: 20% of the buy-in pool.
7. All players must play to the finish with the proper places awarded. There are no chopped pots.
 8. If a player clinches the PPOTY Championship after the Vegas Game, the Big Game will not be played, and the next PPOTY season can begin.
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7. PPOTY Champion

1. The player with the highest TOTAL CASH WINNINGS at the end of the season will be awarded the PPOTY prize pool and all due recognition.
 - If there is a tie in TOTAL WINNINGS for the year, the player with the highest rank in The Big Game will be crowned PPOTY.
 2. The PPOTY Champion will be awarded the PPOTY Cup at the second PPOTN Event of the following year as long as they maintain league membership.
 3. The PPOTY Cup must be brought to every PPOTN Event of the season, or the PPOTY Champion will incur a \$20 penalty that will go to a food/beverage fund for the Big Game.
 - Each penalty must be paid to the Commissioner upon occurrence, or it is automatically subtracted from the next game the PPOTY Champion places in during the season.
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8. PPOTY Rule Changes

1. A majority vote of PPOTY members is needed for any rule change in this document before the first PPOTN game of a new season.
 2. The voting window for any rule change will be five days from the Commissioner's notice calling for a vote. No votes will be accepted outside of the five-day voting window.
 3. Once a new PPOTY season is underway, the Commissioner may enact a rule change that must be ratified with a majority vote of PPOTY members.
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9. PPOTY Gameplay or Rule Interpretation Disputes

1. The Commissioner is the arbitrator in all gameplay and rule interpretation disputes.
2. A majority vote of PPOTY members is needed to overturn a Commissioner's decision and must be called by someone other than the Commissioner.

3. If the Commissioner's decision is voted down, the most recent PPOTY will propose a solution that a majority vote must ratify.
 4. In case of deadlock, a coin toss will be the final arbiter in all disputes.
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10. New PPOTY League Members

1. All potential PPOTY members must have played in at least one PPOTN Event before they can apply for candidacy.
 2. Once a potential member is admitted to candidacy, the Commissioner will call for a private vote from all existing PPOTY members. Admission is based on "blackball" voting (i.e., One "No" vote is a "No" vote for admission).
 3. If a candidate is "blackballed" for league admission, the player can re-apply the following year.
 - There is no limit on the number of times a player can be nominated or apply for candidacy.
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11. Emergency Contacts

PPOTY Player	Emergency Contact Names	Phone
Bryce Busby	Evelyn Busby	512-775-2293
Tom Graham		
Dave Grisson		
Rob Harrison	Lynae Harrison	512-470-6635
Mike Heins		
Joe Hernandez	Teresa Hernandez Joshua Hernandez	512-673-3096 512-673-3092
Stuart Jones		
James Klinect	Stephanie Klinect	512-771-0042
Maia Lustgarten		
Chris McDowell		
James Whited		