

GOLDEN BRACKET POOL – WORLD CUP 2018 – RULES

The World Cup has multiple stages of play, so there are multiple stages to the pool.

Stage 1 – Group Stage

The tournament begins with 32 teams placed in eight 4-team Groups, where they each play 3 matches. Teams earn 3 points for each win, and 1 point for each draw.

1. Before the Group Stage begins, you will pick 6 teams.
2. You must pick 1 team from each of 4 Pots. (Pot 1 = best teams, Pot 2/3 = middle, Pot 4 = worst)
3. You may then pick a second team from either Pots 1 & 4 OR Pots 2 & 3. (for 6 total)

****You earn the amount of pts (0-9 each) your 6 teams earn during their 3 Group Stage matches.**

Stage 2 – Knockout Round

After the Group Stage, the top 16 teams advance to a single-elimination tournament.

1. Before the Knockout Round begins, you will fill out a tournament bracket.
2. You will earn points based on your accuracy in predicting the winners of this tournament.

1st Round – 3 pts, 2nd Round – 5 pts, Semifinals – 7 pts, Winner – 10 pts.

****These points will be added to your score from the Group Stage.**

Stage 3 – Last Chance

1. Before the Semifinals & Finals, all players will make three predictions regarding these matches:
 - A. The winner of the match.
 - B. The exact final score of the match.
 - C. The minute in which the FIRST GOAL of the match is scored.
2. Players that guess correctly will earn the following Last Chance points:

SEMIFINALS

- A. Winner – 2 pts.
- B. Exact Score (w/ Correct Winner) – 4 pts.
- C. Minute of First Goal – EXACT: 8 pts. WITHIN TWO: 4 pts.

FINALS

- A. Winner – 3 pts.
- B. Exact Score (w/ Correct Winner) – 6 pts.
- C. Minute of First Goal – EXACT: 10 pts. WITHIN TWO: 7 pts.

****Last Chance points will be added to Group and Knockout points to comprise your final score.**

GOLDEN BRACKET POOL – WORLD CUP 2018 – MONEY & POTS

Money

The pool costs \$20 per entry. One person may enter up to 4 times.

Accepted payment methods: PayPal (goldenbracketpool@gmail.com) or Venmo (brian-golden-3).

The payment deadline is June 14th, 10AM CDT. This is non-negotiable. No exceptions.

2-9 players: 1st – 100%

10-19 players: 1st – 70%, 2nd – 30%

20-39 players: 1st – 60%, 2nd – 25%, 3rd – 15%

40+ players: 1st – 50%, 2nd – 25%, 3rd – 15%, 4th – 10%

100% of the prize pot will be paid out to winners. In the event you win, I do not expect a tip.

Deadlines

Payment: June 14th, 10AM CDT

Group Stage: June 14th, 10AM CDT

Knockout Round: June 30th, 9AM CDT

Last Chance Picks (Semifinals): July 10th, 1PM CDT

Last Chance Picks (Finals): July 15th, 10AM CDT

*For each round of picks, you will receive an email reminder and Google Form in which to input picks.

Pots – Team Selection

Pot 1

Argentina
Belgium
Brazil
France
Germany
Poland
Portugal
Russia

Pot 2

Colombia
Croatia
England
Mexico
Peru
Spain
Switzerland
Uruguay

Pot 3

Costa Rica
Denmark
Egypt
Iceland
Iran
Senegal
Sweden
Tunisia

Pot 4

Australia
Japan
Morocco
Nigeria
Panama
Saudi Arabia
Serbia
South Korea

*Remember – your entry is either:

A. 2 each from Pots 1 & 4, 1 each from Pots 2 & 3

B. 2 each from Pots 2 & 3, 1 each from Pots 1 & 4

Group Stage Draw

Group A: Egypt, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Uruguay

Group B: Iran, Morocco, Portugal, Spain

Group C: Australia, Denmark, France, Peru

Group D: Argentina, Croatia, Iceland, Nigeria

Group E: Brazil, Costa Rica, Switzerland, Serbia

Group F: Germany, S. Korea, Mexico, Sweden

Group G: Belgium, England, Panama, Tunisia

Group H: Colombia, Japan, Poland, Senegal