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Hello fantasy football players! Today we will look at the quarterback strength of the schedule. Hopefully these numbers will help us navigate the second half of the season. And with some fantasy playoffs starting as early as Week 13, we're now into the second half of fantasy season. We use ESPN's strength of schedule numbers, as stat guru Mike Clay posted on Tuesday, and you can see here. I have chosen adjusted to schedule fantasy points allowed column for this work. The numbers are quite straight forward, as the higher the number, the harder the schedule of our signal callers. I have also gathered SOS using Football Outsiders DVOA against the pass to give us a different perspective. For this post we will look at quarterbacks. Teams QB (Adjusted) FO AVG Teams QB (Adjusted) FO AVG CHI 2 5 4 CLE 6 1 4 PHI 5 4 5 LAC 10 2 6 SF 4 8 NE 8 10 9 SEA 9 9 9 ARI 17 3 10 WSH 14 7 11 IND 16 6 11 PIT 7 17 12 DAL 1 24 13 TB 13 15 14 NO 11 19 15 CAR 3 29 16 BUF 22 11 17 THE 11 22 17 KC 14 20 20 22 1 8 18 20 BAL 28 13 21 NYJ 27 14 21 JAX 23 21 CIN 18 25 22 MIA 22 21 22 LAR 30 16 23 IT 23 IT 25 22 MIA 22 21 22 LAR 30 16 23 IT 25 22 MIA 22 21 22 2321 27 24 ATL 20 32 26 MIN 25 28 27 HOU 31 26 29 LV 29 30 30 TEN 32 31 32 I'll look at the average between the adjusted fantasy points allowed and the general pass defense DVOA as a way to show teams whose schedules are considered simple or tough based on both calculations. Not the most scientific way to look at it probably, but I like to see correlation where I can. Easy QB planner Nick Foles, Baker Mayfield, Carson Wentz, Justin Herbert and Jimmy Garoppolo have top 5 schedules ahead. If we expand it into the Top 10, we'll get some better fantasy upside names, with Cam Newton, Russell Wilson, Kyler Murray, Kyle Allen and Philip. Some of these quarterbacks may be useful in an extremely good matchup, but I don't want to trade for Kyle Allen just because he has some good matchups. But players like Wentz or Herbert, you can get great deals on them to go along with their strong schedules. I'll take a look at my three favorite trade goals: Justin Herbert, Chargers Schedule: JAX, @DEN, LV, @MIA, NYJ, @BUF, NE, ATL, @LV, THE Since we don't play Week 17 in fantasy, Herbert won't face the Chiefs since they play Week 17. That's good, as they have a strong passing defense. The Broncos and Dolphins have put up the best numbers against the passing game this season, but the Jaguars, Raiders x2, Bills and Falcons are all above average matchups for the rookie. Herbert is currently in seventh place in fantasy points per game for his position, and I wouldn't be surprised if he can keep up that game going forward. Carson Wentz, Eagles Schedule: NYG, DAL, BYE, @NYG, @CLE, SEA, @GB, NO, @ARI, @DAL Playing the NFC East have some positives, as they are not good at many things, including Defense. Wentz hasn't been very good either this season, but has run the ball enough to keep the floor from bottoming out and is slow to get on track. They want to avoid Washington for fantasy in Week 17, and they've been good against the pass this season. Otherwise, this schedule is great, and as long as the Eagles continue to give up points as they have been, Wentz is going to be scrambling and setting up fantasy points until that clock ticks down to: 00. Jimmy Garoppolo, 49ers Schedule: @NE, @SEA, GB, @NO, BYE, @LAR, BUF, WSH, @DAL, @ARI I'm not a big fan of Garoppolo, but I'm of Kyle Shanahan and the guy knows how to get the best out of his players. We saw it last week when they completely avoided Aaron Donald with quick passes to his extremely good yards after the catchers. Give Shanahan an easy schedule against the pass and Garoppolo has the upside. They also play teams with good attacks for the most part, which should help boost Garoppolo's numbers as well. He's not a guy I want to start every game for my fantasy squad, but as a spot starter he can easily be worth grabbing. Tough QB schedules Deshaun Watson has a tough schedule, but he's still not a player I want to trade away, as his rushing ability and overall ability keep his upside high in every matchup. But there are some quarterbacks who will ebb and flow more based on matchups. I'll give you two quarterbacks I wanted to avoid moving forward. Ryan Tannehill, Titans Schedule: PIT, @CIN, CHI, IND, @BAL, @IND, CLE, @JAX, DET, @GB Tannehill has been so effective that he has a chance to keep up his strong game, but his upside will probably take a hit. Playing the Steelers, Colts x2 and Ravens over the next five weeks is not a recipe for big fantasy points. Matthew Stafford, Lions Schedule: @ATL, IND, @MIN, WSH, @CAR, HOU, @CHI, GB, @TEN, TB Stafford hasn't shown much this season but has upside with Kenny Golladay, Marvin Jones, T.J. Hockenson and D'Andre Swift to throw to. This week, he'll have a big game with the Falcons, but then he wants the Colts, Washington, Bears and Buccaneers on the agenda. Unless that offense can really get trucking, I expect a lot of inconsistency from Stafford. Our fantasy football strength helps fantasy owners decide which teams and players have favorable (or unfavorable) schedules for the 2020 season. Based on each team's scheduled opponents through Week 16, which is the championship round of most fantasy leagues, we have counted the average fantasy points allowed by each of their opponents to the position. While the strength of the schedule shouldn't be the only factor in deciding who to draw/add, it can help potentially break a tie between two players that you might see as comparable. More jobs: More Resources: Fantasy Football QB Scoring Leaders Fantasy Football Points Allowed NY: Week 8 Football Start'em, Sit'em The complete strength of the quarterbacks schedule is below: [Note: Fantasy SOS above is for weeks 8 through 16. Fantasy playoffs are for weeks 14 to 16.] Check out more of our content: To keep track of our updates: (1) follow us on Twitter and/or (2) LIKE us on Facebook. Fantasy Strength of Schedule Quarterbacks If you're already tired of hearing about the Tompa Bay Buccaneers... Well, I have bad news for you. I'm going to have some more positive things to say about their new old QB at the end of this article. On the other hand, Ryan Tannehill can only be tested by the Titans' early-season schedule. It will be worth considering when sorting through a plethora of volatile fantasy passers in the QB2 series. But before we get glorified Tom Brady or doubt Tannehill again, let's put in some work to get there. First, let me repeat the warning from both WR and RB strength-of-schedule articles: This is not science. The only thing we know for sure is that scoring matchups won't play out exactly as we expect them to. Some defenses will move all the way to the other end of the rankings against their 2019 performance. Some tougher defenses will go easier on QB scoring because of luck more than playing. And some weaker defenses will end up allowing fewer QB fantasy points than you'd expect - for the same reason. There's not much from year to year that exists here. But during each season we can find some connection to Football Outsiders' DVOA. Over the past 5 years, the overall team defense DVOA has correlated quite strongly to passing fantasy points allowed. The higher the DVOA rating, the more likely it is that the defense has limited QB fantasy scoring (and vice versa). Over the past three years, that has also been the case for Football Outsiders' pass-defense DVOA. I can't say for sure why that window has been shorter, but I know that the FO has continuously tweaked its DVOA formulas over the years to sharpen the results. You may have noticed that I mentioned passing fantasy points allowed 2 paragraphs back. There is a worthy distinction for this position. Punishing a defense for rushing points it allowed Lamar Jackson not going to help us assess that matchup effect on Matt Ryan. And we don't want to ding the Falcons' QB defense too much to give rushing scores to Kirk Cousins, Jared Goff, Taysom Hill and Kyle Allen. Separating out passing points from rushing didn't lead to huge variations in the ranking, but it did produce some significant moves. Four defenses moved 5+ pitches up or down the points allowed rankings last season, while another 5 saw 4-spot moves with rushing points removed. So I looked at passing points allowed over the last 5 seasons and compared each ranking spot with the season's median total. Here is the full range of average impact for each ranking slot above the ... We find the 8 weakest defenses add about 10+ percentage points to QB passing scores. The average effect of this group: +15.2 percentage points. At the other end, the 8 weakest defenses have dropped more than 10 percentage points from QB scoring. This group has an average of 17.4 percentage points in negative impact. We'll get back to these numbers later, when we consider the entire slate of matchups. For now, let's get to the defense most likely to help or prevent QB scoring. Positive MatchupsDete defenses look like potential bright spots for your fantasy passers-by... Share this! comments powered by Disqus What is fantasy Strength of Schedule? Each team's Strength of Schedule (SOS) shows the relative ease or difficulty of their games for the season. SOS is based on each opponent's Fantasy points allowed to a position, adjusted for schedule strength. Favorable matchups get better matchup star ratings. You can learn more about the methodology here. Summary QB RB WR TE K DST TeamRatingQB1QB2 ARIThis is a 3-star matchup. ARI has a neutral schedule where QBs perform near average. Kyler Murray ATLThis is a 4-star matchup. ATL has a neutral schedule where QBs perform near average. Matt Ryan BALThis is a 2-star matchup. BAL has a neutral schedule where QBs perform close to average. Lamar Jackson BUFThis is a 2-star matchup. BUF has a neutral schedule where QBs perform near average. Josh Allen CARThis is a 2-star matchup. CAR has a neutral schedule where QBs perform near average. Teddy Bridgewater CHIThis is a 5-star matchup. CHI has a simple schedule where QBs perform better than average. Nick FolesMitchell Trubisky CINThis is a 3-star matchup. CIN has a neutral schedule where QBs perform near average. Joe Burrow CLEThis is a 5-star matchup. CLE has a simple schedule where QBs perform better than average. Baker Mayfield DALThis is a 5-star matchup. DAL has a simple schedule where QBs perform better than average. Drew Lock DETThis is a 0-star matchup. IT has a tough schedule where QBs perform worse than average. Matthew Stafford GBThis is a 2-star matchup. GB has a tough schedule where QBs perform worse than average. Aaron Rodgers HOUThis is a 1-star matchup. HOU has a tough schedule where QBs perform worse than average. Deshaun Watson INDDDDDdette is a 4-star matchup. IND has a simple schedule where QBs perform better than average. Philip JACThis is a 3-star matchup. KC has a neutral schedule where QBs perform near average. Gardner Minshew II KCThis is a 3-star matchup. KC has a neutral schedule where QBs perform near average. schedule where QBs perform near Patrick Mahomes II MIADette MIADette a 4-star matchup. MIA has a neutral schedule where QBs perform near average. Tua TagovailoaRyan Fitzpatrick MINThis is a 1-star matchup. MIN has a tough schedule where QBs perform worse than average. Kirk Cousins NEThis is a 4-star matchup. NE has a simple schedule where QBs perform better than average. Cam NewtonJarrett Stidham NOThis is a 3-star matchup. NO has a neutral schedule where QBs perform close to average. Drew BreesJameis Winston NYGThis is a 5-star matchup. NYG has a simple schedule where QBs perform better than average. Daniel Jones NYJThis is a 3-star matchup. NYJ has a neutral schedule where QBs perform near average. Daniel Jones NYJThis is a 5-star matchup. PHI has a simple schedule where QBs perform better than average. Carson WentzJalen Hurts PITThis is a 5-star matchup. PIT has a simple schedule where QBs perform better than average. Ben Roethlisberger LACDette is a 4-star matchup. LAC has a neutral schedule where QBs perform near average. Justin HerbertTyrod Taylor SEAThis is a 3-star matchup. SEA has a neutral schedule where QBs perform near average. Russell Wilson SFThis is a 5-star matchup. SF has a simple schedule where QBs perform better than average. Jimmy Garoppolo LARThis is a 2-star matchup. LAR has a tough schedule where QBs perform worse than average. Jared Goff TBThis is a 3-star matchup. TB has a neutral schedule where QBs perform near average. Tom Brady TENThis is a 2-star matchup. TEN has a tough schedule where QBs perform worse than average. Ryan Tannehill VARThis is a 3-star matchup. WAS has a neutral schedule where QBs perform near average. Kyle AllenAlex Smith Smith

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