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New Professional Football League Announced; Shreveport Joins League

Former NFL Players Run New League for Current Players

Shreveport, LA – Professional football is coming to Shreveport, Louisiana. In October, the World Professional Football Association announced the launch of a new professional league, the American Patriot League (APL). One of the first cities in the league is Shreveport – joining Daytona Beach, Florida; Mobile, Alabama; and Sacramento, California. The team will play its inaugural season in 2019 at Independence Stadium. A news conference announcing the Shreveport team's General Manager and Head Coach is expected soon. Local and state dignitaries are expected to be in attendance.

The APL is a league run by former NFL players for current football players. "It's a chance for guys to play professionally and improve their skills, whether they want to continue on to the NFL or not," said Marques Ogden, Managing Director of World Professional Football Association. Ogden is a former NFL player for the Titans, Bills, Ravens and Jaguars.

The APL is a springtime league, with a 14-game regular season running from March through early July. It will begin its inaugural season in 2019 with eight teams playing throughout the country. Those teams will play in two divisions – Freedom and Liberty. At the end of the regular season, there will be a total of five playoff games, including the APL Championship played during the week of July 4.

The rules in the APL will combine the best of both the NFL and college football, with less time between plays and waiting for replay decisions. These changes are meant to stay true to the game while helping enhance the fans' experience, making the games especially fun and interactive. The players will also meet with fans, sign autographs and take pictures.

"We want a fan-friendly league that's fun to watch. The goal is getting people to make a family day centered around coming to the games," said Ogden. "It's that commitment to our fans and their communities that is inspiring them to put their support behind this league."

The first two rounds of league tryouts were held in Houston, Texas in November and earlier this month. Players hoping to make it in the APL will be invited for another chance to try out in Daytona Beach, Florida and again in Houston in January. Team selections will be made the week of January 21, 2019.

Ogden says team cities and names are being finalized and will be announced at a later date. Each team city has the opportunity to "Name Their Team". The three Managing Directors for the APL are Ogden; Keon Lattimore, former NFL player for the Cowboys, 49ers and Jaguars; and Bob Golic, who played in the NFL from 1979-1992 for the Patriots, Browns and Los Angeles Raiders. David Holloway, a former NFL player for the Cardinals, Browns and Redskins, is the league's Director of Football Operations. For more information about APL, please visit aplfootball.us. #APL #SpringFootball