

Pro Tour Los Angeles Information

Jeff Donais

I have some information and clarifications for those players invited to Pro Tour Los Angeles and for those who will be watching the live coverage at Sideboard.com throughout the weekend.



Format

The format will be *Invasion* Rochester Draft. Although the prerelease for Planeshift will already have been held, Planeshift will not yet be officially on sale and therefore will not be used at Pro Tour Los Angeles. Had the tournament been scheduled for one week later, Planeshift would have used, following DCI policy for new expansion usage at Limited-format Pro Tour events.

Round Length

Although the DCI recommend time limit is 50 minutes for regular tournaments, we are using 60 minutes for Pro Tour events because of the additional logistic responsibilities placed on players and the level of prize money at risk. This will apply to both Limited and Constructed Pro Tours, starting with Los Angeles. Regular DCI sanctioned tournaments still have a 50 minute recommended round length.

Day-Two Advancement

Starting with Pro Tour Los Angeles, an experimental method of advancing players to day two will be used. Instead of simply advancing just the top 96 players to the second day, any players with a tied match score as the 96th players will also advance to the second day of the Pro Tour. This could mean that no extra players will advance or that dozens of extra players will advance, depending on the exact match point cut-off for the 96th player. The main advantage of this system is that no player will miss day two because of tiebreakers. One of the disadvantages of this system is that there may be some draft pods with seven players and there will be additional logistical challenges for day two.

Everything else is pretty much as usual. The head judge of the event will be Collin Jackson, who head judged US and Canadian Nationals in 2000. This

should be a very exciting event given the multicolored dynamic of an *Invasion* Rochester Draft. The drafting should be pretty chaotic for those who don't keep a level head. You can watch live coverage starting Thursday evening, February 1st on Sideboard Online.

Happy New Year,
Jeff Donais
DCI Tournament Manager