

1 Wesley M. Griffith, SBN 286390  
John R. Parker, Jr., SBN 257761  
2 **ALMEIDA LAW GROUP LLC**  
3550 Watt Ave, Suite 140  
3 Sacramento, CA 95821  
Telephone: 530-490-3178  
4 E-mail: [wes@almeidalawgroup.com](mailto:wes@almeidalawgroup.com)  
[jrparker@almeidalawgroup.com](mailto:jrparker@almeidalawgroup.com)

5  
6 Christopher Nienhaus, *pro hac vice* to be filed  
**ALMEIDA LAW GROUP LLC**  
849 W. Webster Ave  
7 Chicago, IL 60614  
Telephone: 708-529-5418  
8 E-mail: [chris@almeidalawgroup.com](mailto:chris@almeidalawgroup.com)

9 *Counsel for Plaintiffs and the Proposed Class*

10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

BRANDON MOORE, ZHICHENG ZHEN,  
and JONATHAN SMITH, individually and  
on behalf of others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

DRAFTKINGS, INC., AND DOES 1-20,

Defendants.

Case No.

**CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR  
MONETARY AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

**Jury Trial Demanded**

1 **INTRODUCTION**

2 1. For years, Defendant DraftKings, Inc. (“DraftKings”), has been operating mobile  
3 gambling applications and websites within California (collectively, the “Gambling Websites”),  
4 representing to customers and the public that its “Daily Fantasy Sports” contests and “Pick6”  
5 contests are legal forms of gambling in California. They are not.

6 2. Plaintiffs Brandon Moore, ZhiCheng Zhen, and Jonathan Smith (collectively  
7 “Plaintiffs”), on behalf of themselves and the proposed class of similarly situated Californians,  
8 bring this lawsuit to stop the unlawful gambling that occurs on DraftKings’ Gambling Websites in  
9 California and to recover the money that DraftKings has unlawfully taken from them.

10 **PARTIES**

11 **A. Plaintiffs.**

12 3. At all times relevant to this action, Plaintiff Brandon Moore was over the age of 18  
13 and was a resident of San Francisco, California.

14 4. At all times relevant to this action, Plaintiff ZhiCheng Zhen was over the age of 18  
15 and was a resident of Oakland, California.

16 5. At all times relevant to this action, Plaintiff Jonathan Smith was over the age of 18  
17 and was a resident of California, presently residing in Napa County.

18 **B. Defendants.**

19 6. Defendant DraftKings, Inc. is a Delaware Corporation with its headquarters in  
20 Boston, Massachusetts. DraftKings regularly conducts business within California and this District,  
21 including by running the Gambling Websites that are the subject of this litigation.

22 7. On information and belief, Does 1-20 are individuals and/or entities who facilitate  
23 DraftKings’ unlawful practices described in this Complaint. The identities of Does 1-20 are not  
24 presently known to Plaintiffs. The Doe defendants, along with defendant DraftKings, are  
25 collectively referred to in this Complaint as “Defendants.”

26 8. Plaintiffs expressly reserve their right to amend this Complaint to add the Doe  
27 defendants by name, once their identities are known.

28

**JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

1  
2 9. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to the Class  
3 Action Fairness Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d), because there exists minimal diversity between class  
4 members and Defendants and because the amount in controversy exceeds \$5,000,000, exclusive of  
5 interest and costs.

6 10. The United States District Court for the Northern District of California has personal  
7 jurisdiction over the parties in this matter because Plaintiff Moore resides in San Francisco County,  
8 Plaintiff Zhen resides in Alameda County, and Plaintiff Smith resides in Napa County. DraftKings  
9 regularly conducts business within this District, including by engaging in the unlawful gambling  
10 practices that are at the center of this action.

11 11. Venue is proper in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(c) because  
12 Plaintiff Moore resides in San Francisco County, Plaintiff Zhen resides in Alameda County, and  
13 Plaintiff Smith resides in Napa County, and DraftKings' unlawful actions, which are the subject of  
14 this action, occurred in San Francisco County, Alameda County, and Napa County, among other  
15 locations within California.

16 12. Pursuant to California Civil Code Section 1780(d), a declaration from Plaintiff  
17 Moore is attached as **Exhibit A**, confirming that venue is proper.

**DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT**

18  
19 13. Pursuant to Local Rules 3.2(c) and 3.5(b), Plaintiffs further state that assignment to  
20 the San Francisco and Oakland Division of this Court is proper because Plaintiff Moore resides in  
21 San Francisco County, Plaintiff Zhen resides in Alameda County, and Plaintiff Smith resides in  
22 Napa County, and many of the events at issue in this lawsuit occurred in San Francisco County,  
23 Alameda County, and Napa County, which pursuant to Local Rule 3-2(d) provides for assignment  
24 to this Division.

25 ///

26 ///

27 ///

28

## FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

### A. California's Longstanding Ban on Gambling.

14. For over 150 years, California has broadly prohibited commercialized gambling.

15. For example, in 1872, California enacted Penal Code Section 330, which provides in relevant part that “[e]very person who . . . conducts, either as owner or employee . . . *any banking or percentage game* played with . . . *any device*, for money, checks, credit, or other representative of value . . . is guilty of a misdemeanor.” CAL. PENAL CODE § 330 (emphasis added).

16. A “banking game” refers to a situation where the “house” is a participant in the game, taking on all contestants, paying all winners, and collecting from all losers. *See Sullivan v. Fox*, 189 Cal. App. 3d 673, 678 (1987). And a “percentage game” refers to a situation where the house collects a portion of the bets or wagers made by contestants, but is not directly involved in game play. *See id. at 679*.

17. Similarly, California Penal Code Section 337a prohibits additional conduct, including:

- “*Pool selling or bookmaking, with or without writing, at any time or place.*” CAL. PENAL CODE § 337a(a)(1) (emphasis added).
- “[R]eceive[ing], hold[ing], or forward[ing] . . . in any manner whatsoever, any money . . . staked, pledged, bet or wagered, or to be staked, pledged, bet or wagered, or offered for the purpose of being staked, pledged, bet or wagered, upon the result, or purported result, of any trial, or purported trial, or contest, or purported contest, of skill, speed or power of endurance of person or animal, or between persons, animals, or mechanical apparatus, or upon the result, or purported result, of any lot, chance, casualty, unknown or contingent event whatsoever.” *Id. at (a)(3)* (emphasis added).
- “[A]t any time or place, record[ing], or register[ing] any bet or bets, wager or wagers, upon the result, or purported result, of any trial, or purported trial, or contest, or purported contest, of skill, speed or power of endurance of person or animal, or between persons, animals, or mechanical apparatus, or upon the

1 result, or purported result, *of any* lot, chance, casualty, *unknown or contingent*  
2 *event whatsoever.*” *Id.* at (a)(4) (emphasis added).

- 3 • “[O]ffer[ing] or accept[ing] any bet or bets, or wager or wagers, upon the result,  
4 or purported result, *of any* trial, or purported trial, or *contest*, or purported  
5 contest, of skill, speed or power of endurance *of person* or animal, or *between*  
6 *persons, animals, or mechanical apparatus.*” *Id.* at (a)(6) (emphasis added).

7 18. The terms used in Section 337a have their commonsense meanings. For example,  
8 the California Court of Appeal has explained that “[p]ool selling’ is the selling or distribution of  
9 shares or chances in a wagering pool,” such as when money wagered by all participants is combined  
10 into a single pool and the winnings are distributed based on predetermined rules. *See Finster v.*  
11 *Keller*, 18 Cal. App. 3d 836, 846 (1971) (cleaned up). And “[b]ookmaking’ is the making of a  
12 betting book and includes the taking of bets, [and] [t]he taking of one bet is sufficient” to constitute  
13 “bookmaking.” *People v. Thompson*, 206 Cal. App. 2d 734, 739 (1962) (cleaned up).

14 19. Similarly, “bet” and “wager” have their commonsense meanings. For example, the  
15 Judicial Council of California Criminal Jury Instructions (2025 Edition) provides that a “bet is a  
16 wager or agreement between two or more people that if an uncertain future event happens, the loser  
17 will pay money to the winner or give the winner something of value. A bet includes a wager made  
18 on the outcome of any actual or purported event, including but not limited to any kind of sporting  
19 contest.” CALCRIM No. 2993, Receiving or Holding Bets (CAL. PENAL CODE § 337a(a)(3))  
20 (cleaned up).<sup>1</sup>

21 20. “Bets” and “wagers” include entry fees paid in online fantasy sports. *Los Angeles*  
22 *Turf Club v. Horse Racing Labs, LLC*, 2017 WL 11634526, at \*8 (C.D. Cal. May 15, 2017).

23 21. Put simply, a company violates California Penal Code Section 337a when it engages  
24 in pool selling, bookmaking, or accepts or records any bets or wagers on the result of any contest  
25  
26

27 <sup>1</sup> Available online at <https://www.justia.com/criminal/docs/calcrim/2900/2993/> (last visited June  
28 1, 2025).

1 and/or any unknown or contingent event whatsoever—including, without limitation, bets  
2 associated with the performance of persons, such as in fantasy sports.<sup>2</sup>

3 22. Moreover, various sections of the California Penal Code prohibit “lotteries” and  
4 “games of chance.”

5 23. For example, Penal Code Sections 320 and 321 make the operation of a lottery  
6 unlawful: “Every person who contrives, prepares, sets up, proposes, or draws any lottery, is guilty  
7 of a misdemeanor”<sup>3</sup> and “[e]very person who sells, gives, or in any manner whatever, furnishes or  
8 transfers to or for any other person any ticket, chance, share, or interest, or any paper, certificate,  
9 or instrument purporting or understood to be or to represent any ticket, chance, share, or interest in,  
10 or depending upon the event of any lottery, is guilty of a misdemeanor.”<sup>4</sup> Penal Code Section 319  
11 defines a lottery broadly to include “any scheme for the disposal or distribution of property by  
12 chance, among persons who have paid or promised to pay any valuable consideration for the chance  
13 of obtaining such property or a portion of it, or for any share or any interest in such property, upon  
14 any agreement, understanding, or expectation that it is to be distributed or disposed of by lot or  
15 chance, whether called a lottery, raffle, or gift enterprise, or by whatever name the same may be  
16 known.” CAL. PENAL CODE § 319.

17 24. Similarly, Penal Code Section 330a makes it unlawful to own or operate any  
18 “contrivance, appliance, or mechanical device, upon the result of action of which money or other  
19 valuable thing is staked or hazarded . . . [that] is won or lost . . . dependent upon hazard or chance.”  
20 CAL. PENAL CODE § 330a.

21 25. And Penal Code Section 337j makes it unlawful to operate a “game of chance” or  
22 to “receive, directly or indirectly, any compensation” for operating such a game “*without having*  
23 *first procured . . . all federal, state, and local licenses required by law.*” CAL. PENAL CODE § 337j.  
24 (emphasis added).

25 <sup>2</sup> While Section 337a does include exemptions in certain circumstances for non-commercial  
26 gambling in amounts below \$2,500, the Section 337a exemptions expressly do “not apply to . . .  
27 [a]ny bet, bets, wager, wagers, or betting pool or pools made online.” CAL. PENAL CODE §  
28 336.9(b)(1).

<sup>3</sup> CAL. PENAL CODE § 320.

<sup>4</sup> CAL. PENAL CODE § 321.

1 26. In fact, as the legislature re-affirmed in 2008, “no person in this state has a right to  
2 operate a gambling enterprise except as may be expressly permitted by the laws of this state.” Cal.  
3 Bus. & Prof. Code § 19801(d).

4 **B. Supermajorities of the California Electorate Rejected the Gambling Industry’s**  
5 **Attempts to Legalize Sports Betting in 2022.**

6 27. In 2022, two ballot initiatives were put to the California voters to legalize certain  
7 additional forms of gambling in the state, including various forms of sports betting: Proposition 26  
8 and Proposition 27.

9 28. **Proposition 26** was primarily sponsored by California’s Native American tribes,  
10 and, among other things, would have:

- 11 • Legalized in-person sports betting at tribal casinos.
- 12 • Allowed additional gambling at tribal casinos, including roulette and dice games  
13 like craps.
- 14 • Established certain taxes and fees associated with sports betting.

15 29. Proposition 26, however, was soundly rejected in November 2022, with  
16 approximately 67% of the California electorate voting “no.”

17 30. **Proposition 27** aimed to legalize online sports betting in California, and was  
18 primarily sponsored by the online sports betting industry, with the Washington Post reporting that  
19 “DraftKings, FanDuel and BetMGM alone contributed \$95 million toward supporting the  
20 California [Proposition 27] measure, and the industry ultimately spent \$150 million on political  
21 ads.”<sup>5</sup>

22 31. Among other things, Proposition 27 would have:

- 23 • Legalized and regulated online sports betting in California.
- 24 • Established a new division within the California Department of Justice to  
25 set license requirements and oversee the industry.

26  
27 <sup>5</sup> Gus Garcia-Roberts, *Inside the \$400 million fight to control California sports betting*, WASH.  
28 POST (Nov. 3, 2022), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/sports/2022/11/03/prop-26-27-california-sports-betting/> (last visited June 1, 2025).

- 1 • Imposed a 10% tax on sports betting revenue and established licensing
- 2 fees.
- 3 • Allocated revenue from online gambling to a homelessness prevention.

4 32. Proposition 27 was also soundly rejected in November 2022, with 82% of the  
5 electorate voting “no,” making it one of the largest margins of defeat in California ballot proposition  
6 history.

7 **C. California’s Ongoing Investigation into Daily Fantasy Sports Betting.**

8 33. Despite the resounding defeats at the ballot box, online sports betting operators, like  
9 DraftKings, have continued to operate in California.

10 34. In particular, “daily fantasy sports” betting has proliferated in the state.

11 35. Daily fantasy sports, which are often referred to by the abbreviation “DFS,” are a  
12 subset of fantasy sports games that are generally played online through gambling websites:

13 As with traditional fantasy sports games, [in daily fantasy sports],  
14 players compete against others by building a team of professional  
15 athletes from a particular league or competition while remaining  
under a salary cap, and earn points based on the actual statistical  
performance of the players in real-world competitions.

16 Daily fantasy sports are an accelerated variant of traditional fantasy  
17 sports that are conducted over short-term periods, such as a week or  
single day of competition, as opposed to those that are played across  
18 an entire season.

19 Daily fantasy sports are typically structured in the form of paid  
20 competitions typically referred to as a “contest”; winners receive a  
share of a pre-determined pot funded by their entry fees. A portion  
of entry fee payments go to the provider as rake revenue.<sup>6</sup>

21 36. According to the California Business Journal, “California residents are estimated to  
22 contribute as much as 10% of the total entries in DFS contests nationwide. This popularity has  
23 translated into substantial revenue, with DFS platforms raking in approximately \$200 million in  
24 entry fees annually [in California].”<sup>7</sup>

25 <sup>6</sup> *Daily Fantasy Sports*, Wikipedia, available online at  
26 [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daily\\_fantasy\\_sports#cite\\_ref-sg-dk500k\\_1-0](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daily_fantasy_sports#cite_ref-sg-dk500k_1-0) (last visited June 1,  
2025).

27 <sup>7</sup> *Unfenced Playground: A Peek into California’s Daily Fantasy Sports Landscape*, California  
28 *Business Journal*, available online at <https://calbizjournal.com/unfenced-playground-a-peek-into->

1 37. In response to these massive ongoing daily fantasy sports betting operations in  
2 California, on or about October 5, 2023, State Senator Scott Wilk wrote to the California  
3 Department of Justice and requested an investigation into daily fantasy sports betting:

4 I write to request a legal opinion as to whether California law  
5 prohibits the offering and operation of daily fantasy sports betting  
6 platforms with players physically located within the State of  
7 California, regardless of whether the operators and associated  
8 technology are located within or outside of the State.

9 Pursuant to California law, no one may operate “any game of  
10 chance” without the required federal, state, and local licenses. No one  
11 has “the right to operate a gambling enterprise except as may be  
12 expressly permitted by the laws of this state and by the ordinances of  
13 local governmental bodies.”

14 In 2022, California voters overwhelmingly rejected Proposition 27  
15 to legalize online sports wagering. Although sports wagering in all  
16 forms remains illegal in California, online daily fantasy sports  
17 betting is proliferating throughout the state. Through these online  
18 platforms, a participant pays to enter a contest in which they may win  
19 a prize depending on how well athletes perform. Although the  
20 participant may utilize their knowledge of a particular sport in  
21 choosing their “team” of players, how well those players perform  
22 during a game is completely out of the participant’s control. As such,  
23 *daily fantasy sports appears to be a game of chance not otherwise  
24 permitted by the laws of California.*

25 (Cleaned up; footnotes omitted; emphasis added).<sup>8</sup>

26 ///

27 ///

28 ///

---

[californias-daily-fantasy-sports-landscape/#:~:text=In%20fact%2C%20California%20residents%20are,million%20in%20entry%20fees%20annually](https://www.legalsportsreport.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/OU-23-1001-Sen.-Wilk-request-1.pdf) (last visited June 1, 2025).

<sup>8</sup> A copy of the letter is publicly available online at <https://www.legalsportsreport.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/OU-23-1001-Sen.-Wilk-request-1.pdf> (last visited June 1, 2025).

1 38. Consistent with the Senator’s request, the California Department of Justice directed  
2 the Attorney General’s Opinion Unit to address the following question:

3 Does California law prohibit the offering and operation of daily  
4 fantasy sports betting platforms with players physically located  
5 within the State of California, regardless of whether the operators  
6 and associated technology are located within or outside of the State?

7 Opinion Request No. 23-1001.<sup>9</sup>

8 39. As of the time of the filing of this lawsuit, no opinion has issued from the Attorney  
9 General’s Office.<sup>10</sup>

10 **D. DraftKings’ California Gambling Operations.**

11 40. DraftKings has been operating in California since approximately 2012 through the  
12 Gambling Websites, which consist of at least the DraftKings Daily Fantasy mobile apps for  
13 Android and IOS and the DraftKings website, DraftKings.com, and associated subpages. The  
14 primary gambling products that DraftKings currently offers in California are “Daily Fantasy  
15 Sports” and “Pick6.” DraftKings consistently and explicitly represents to its customers that both  
16 Daily Fantasy Sports and Pick6 are legal in the state. They are not.

17 **1. Daily Fantasy Sports.**

18 **a. Traditional Daily Fantasy Sports.**

19 41. A fantasy sport is a game where participants assemble imaginary teams composed  
20 of real professional sports players. These imaginary teams “compete” based on the statistical  
21 performance of those players in actual games, such as rushing yards, receiving yards, or points  
22 scored. This performance is converted into points that are compiled and totaled according to rules  
23 agreed to amongst the players.<sup>11</sup>

24 <sup>9</sup> Available online at <https://oag.ca.gov/opinions/monthly-report> (last visited June 1, 2025).

25 <sup>10</sup> Plaintiffs’ counsel have “subscribed” to the Legal Opinions of the Attorney General Monthly  
26 Opinion Report and understand that they will receive an email notification once an opinion issues.  
27 Plaintiffs’ counsel will promptly notify the Court regarding any relevant updates they receive.

28 <sup>11</sup> See generally, *Daily Fantasy Sports*, Wikipedia, available online at  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daily\\_fantasy\\_sports#cite\\_ref-sg-dk500k\\_1-0](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daily_fantasy_sports#cite_ref-sg-dk500k_1-0) (last visited June 1,  
2025).

1 42. Traditional fantasy sports were played with friends and family over the course of a  
2 sports season, for small amounts of collectively pooled money or for no money at all.

3 43. In traditional fantasy games involving money, one participant may have held money  
4 for the group to payout at the end of the season, but all participant money was distributed to other  
5 players (and not any third-party) at the end of the season.<sup>12</sup>

6 **b. The Daily Fantasy Sports Offered by DraftKings in California.**

7 44. On the Gambling Websites, DraftKings describes its Daily Fantasy Sports contests  
8 as follows:

---

9  
10 **What is daily fantasy sports?**

11 Daily Fantasy Sports (DFS) mirrors season-long fantasy sports but condenses it into a shorter, more sweat-  
12 inducing format. Heart-throbbing contests range from a day to a week depending on the sport. Competitors draft  
13 a player roster and those athletes earn points based on their in-game performance. Sweat the sweat each and  
every play. Test your skills with friends or with other fans nationally and let victory chase you for a change.

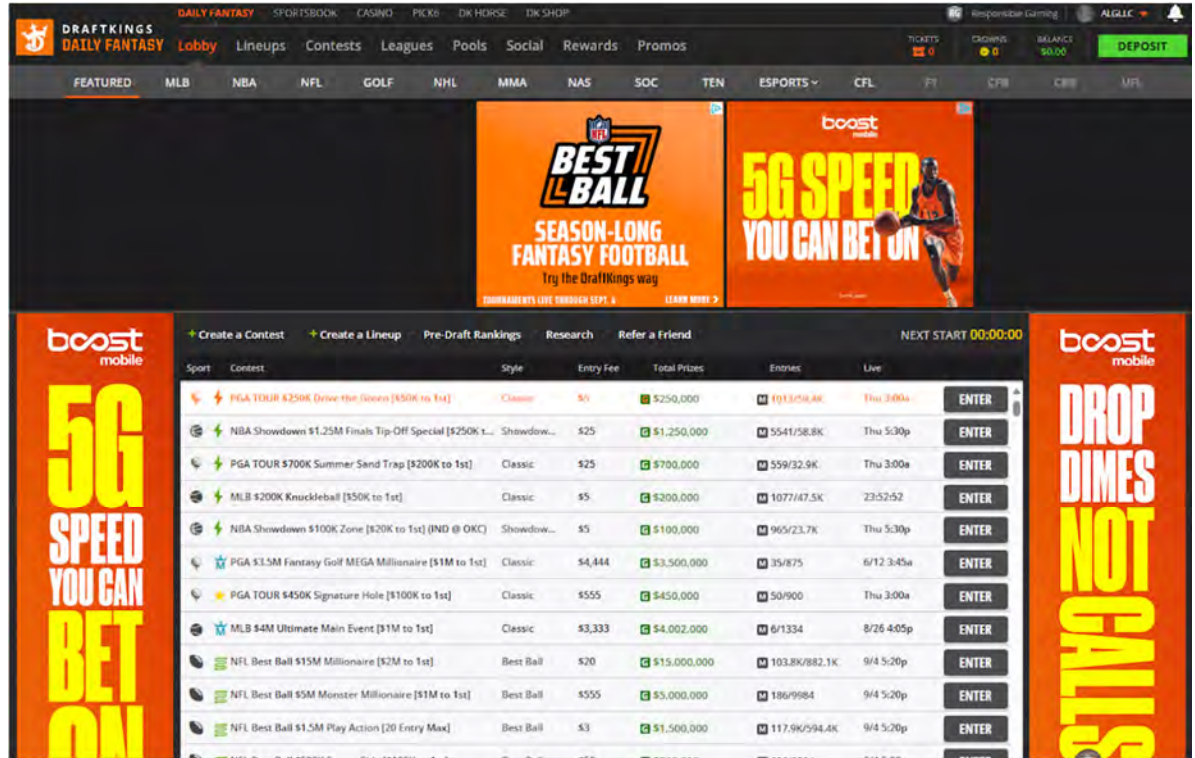
14 DraftKings DFS is legal in most US states. Check out [where DraftKings DFS is legal](#).

15  
16 45. In short, according to DraftKings, Daily Fantasy Sports are similar to traditional  
17 fantasy sports, but the reality is that there are many critical differences.

18 46. First, unlike traditional fantasy sports that are played between friends and family,  
19 DraftKings Daily Fantasy Sports sets up contests between strangers through its Gambling Websites.  
20 Many of the Daily Fantasy Sports contests offered by DraftKings include hundreds, thousands, or  
21 tens of thousands of participants, as compared to traditional fantasy sports, that might have had  
22 around a dozen participants.

23  
24  
25  
26  
27 \_\_\_\_\_  
28 <sup>12</sup> This type of non-commercialized, small scale fantasy sports betting is exempted from many of  
the criminal law prohibitions discussed in Section A, above. See also Cal. Penal Code § 336.9(b)(1).

1 47. Here is an example of how the Daily Fantasy Sports interface appears on desktop,  
2 reflecting some of the available contests in California, with total participant positions ranging from  
3 several hundred to over half a million:



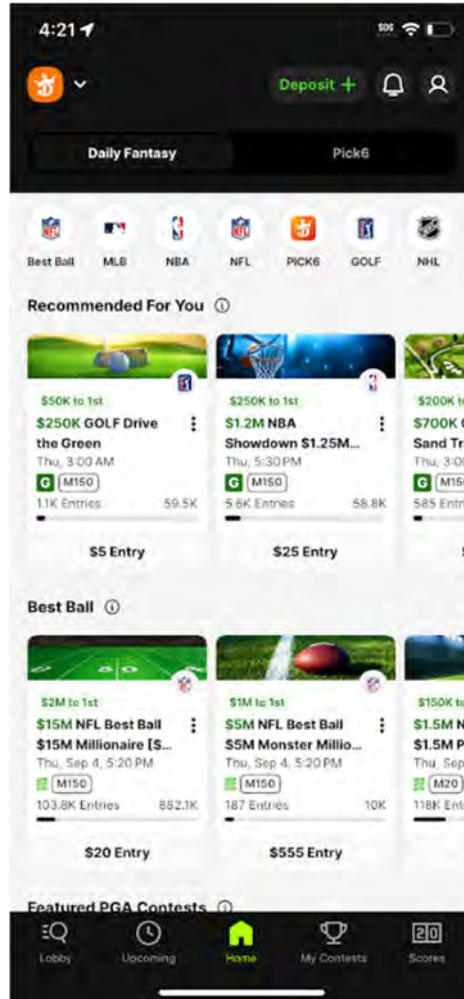
17 ///

18 ///

19 ///

20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

1           48.     And here is an example of how the Daily Fantasy Sports interface appears on  
 2 mobile, reflecting some of the available contests in California, with total participant positions  
 3 ranging from 10,000 to over 882,000:



20           49.     Second, unlike traditional fantasy sports, in Daily Fantasy Sports, DraftKings  
 21 receives, pools, documents (i.e., books), and holds all participant bets and wagers until the end of  
 22 the contest, when DraftKings uses its records (i.e., DraftKings' betting book) to distribute a portion  
 23 of the pooled bets and wagers to the winner(s).

24           50.     Third, unlike traditional fantasy sports, in Daily Fantasy Sports, DraftKings takes a  
 25 portion of each pool of bets and wagers, even though it is not a direct participant in the game.

26           51.     Fourth, unlike traditional fantasy sports, in Daily Fantasy Sports, the size of the bets  
 27 and wagers, the number of participants, the pool size of bets and wagers, the prize pools made  
 28

1 available as “winnings,” and the portions of the bets, wagers, and pools kept by DraftKings are all  
2 set by DraftKings.

3 52. Fifth, unlike traditional fantasy sports, in Daily Fantasy Sports, the size of the bets  
4 and wagers, the number of participants, the pool sizes of bets and wagers collected, the prize pools  
5 made available as “winnings,” and the portions of the bets, wagers, and pools kept by DraftKings  
6 vary dramatically, even when betting on the same underlying professional sporting event.

7 53. For example, on May 2025, DraftKings offered thousands of Daily Fantasy Sports  
8 contests in California, with varied bet and wager amounts, pool sizes, and rakes percentages paid  
9 to DraftKings. Here are the terms on three fantasy contests DraftKings offered in California on the  
10 New York Knicks versus the Indiana Pacers NBA basketball game:

- 11 a. “NBA Showdown Single Entry \$5 Double Up (NYK @ IND).” There  
12 were 229 participant slots available, each for a \$5 wager, forming a  
13 pool of \$1,145. However, only \$1,000 in “Total Prizes” were available  
14 to be distributed to participants, with DraftKings keeping \$145 of the  
15 pool for itself. That \$145 rake represents a percentage take of 12.7%.
- 16 b. “NBA Showdown \$30k Showtime [Single Entry] (NYK @ IND).”  
17 There were 334 participant slots available, each for a \$100 wager,  
18 forming a pool of \$33,400. However, only \$30,100 in “Total Prizes”  
19 were available to be distributed, with DraftKings keeping \$3,300 of  
20 the pool for itself. That \$3,300 rake represents a percentage take of  
21 approximately 10%.
- 22 c. “NBA Showdown \$500k Shootaround [\$100k to 1<sup>st</sup>] (NYK @ IND).”  
23 There were 29,411 participant slots available, each for a \$20 wager,  
24 forming a pool of \$588,220. However, only \$500,000 in “Total  
25 Prizes” were available to be distributed to participants, with  
26 DraftKings keeping \$88,220 of the pool for itself. That \$88,220 rake  
27 represents a percentage take of approximately 15%.
- 28

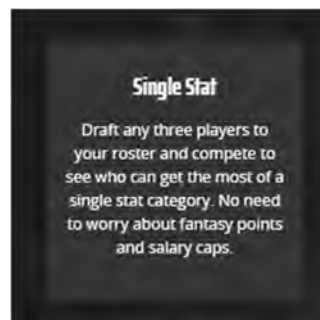
1 54. Sixth, unlike traditional fantasy sports, in Daily Fantasy Sports, DraftKings  
 2 maintains records of all bets and wagers placed on Daily Fantasy Sports, and uses those records  
 3 (i.e., the betting books) to calculate post-contest payouts to participants from the pool of bets and  
 4 wagers.

5 55. Seventh, unlike traditional fantasy sports, which generally last throughout an entire  
 6 sports season (e.g., the NFL regular football season), Daily Fantasy Sports, as the name suggests,  
 7 generally involve short periods of participation and are designed to entice multiple rounds of repeat  
 8 betting over the course of a day, a weekend, or a week.<sup>13</sup>

9 56. Eighth, unlike traditional fantasy sports, DraftKings offers a number of contest types  
 10 simultaneously, including:



18 57. Ninth, DraftKings, offers products that it calls Daily Fantasy Sports, which are  
 19 actually just direct bets on player statistics:



25 <sup>13</sup> In fact, DraftKings is facing lawsuits across the country related to the addictive nature of its  
 26 online betting platforms. While those claims are not at issue in this lawsuit, because California law  
 27 categorially prohibits Daily Fantasy Sports under the Penal Code, the California legislature has also  
 28 expressly noted the addictive nature of gambling: “Gambling can become addictive and is not an  
 activity to be promoted or legitimized as entertainment for children and families.” Cal. Bus. & Prof.  
 Code § 19801(c).

1 58. Finally, unlike traditional fantasy sports, in Daily Fantasy Sports, DraftKings offers  
2 users the opportunity to enter contests across a multitude of sporting types at the same time. For  
3 example, in May 2025, DraftKings offered Daily Fantasy Sports contests for MLB, the WNBA,  
4 the NBA, NHL, NFL, UFC, Soccer, NASCAR, and the PGA Tour, among others, on the Gambling  
5 Websites in California. Indeed, DraftKings even offered (in fact, enticed) California customers in  
6 May to make early bets and wagers on sports that would not be in season for months, including  
7 bets on the fall season of the NFL.

8 59. Ultimately, regardless of which Daily Fantasy Sports contest-type DraftKings  
9 customers select, they have no control over the outcome of the fantasy game they have wagered on.  
10 The outcome is determined entirely based on athletes’ actual in-game performances (i.e., the  
11 athletes’ performances in the actual sporting events) and are entirely outside the control of the  
12 participants of Daily Fantasy Sports.<sup>14</sup>

13 60. Moreover, “[c]hance affects the result not only as to the person or persons to receive  
14 the pool proceeds, but as to the amount received by any winning player, since more than one player  
15 may have selected the [same winning combination on] a particular day.” *Finster*, 18 Cal. App. 3d  
16 at 845.

17 61. Put simply, the outcomes of the Daily Fantasy Sports contests are contingent and  
18 unknown at the time the bets and wagers are collected, recorded (i.e., booked), and pooled by  
19 DraftKings. And as a result, DraftKings’ Daily Fantasy Sports violate California Penal Code  
20 Sections 319, 320, 321, 330, 330a, 337a, and 337j.

21 ///

22 ///

23 ///

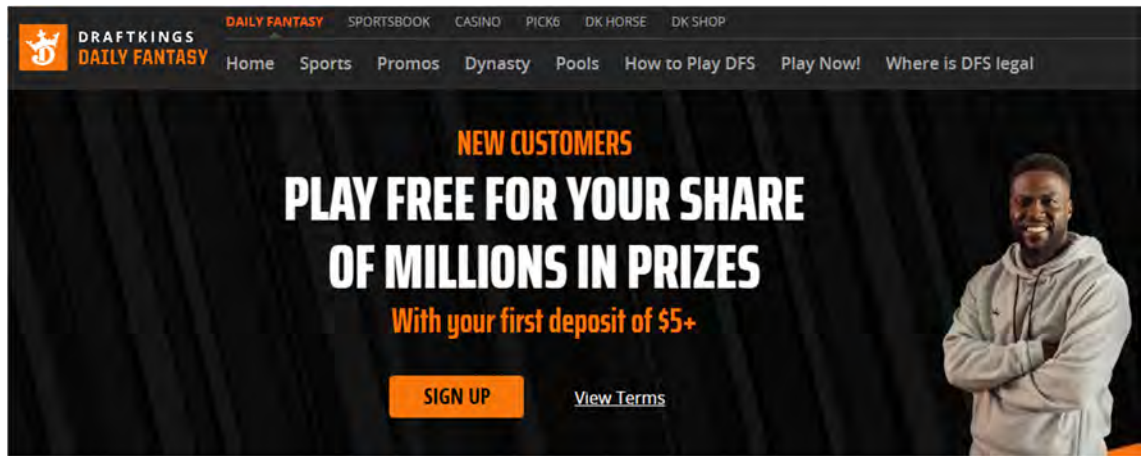
24  
25 \_\_\_\_\_  
26 <sup>14</sup> Plaintiffs note that they are specifically authorized by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure Rule  
27 8(d)(2) to make their allegations in the alternative, and accordingly, allege that the gambling  
28 contests offered in California by DraftKings constitute games of “chance” for purposes of those  
Penal Code Sections that prohibit lotteries and/or other games of chance, and constitute games of  
skill, to the extent skill is found to be a necessary element of certain claims made under Penal Code  
Section 337a or otherwise.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

**c. DraftKings Falsely Assures Customers that Daily Fantasy Sports Are Legal in California.**

62. Well aware that customers would otherwise refuse to play its Daily Fantasy Sports contests if they knew and understood those contests violated California criminal law, on its Daily Fantasy Sports website, DraftKings repeatedly assures prospective customers that Daily Fantasy Sports are legal in California.

63. For example, on the main DraftKings landing page, DraftKings.com, one of the featured “above the fold” menu options is a “Where is DFS legal” button:



///  
///  
///

64. If a California user follows the link to “where is DFS legal,” he<sup>15</sup> is taken to a page<sup>16</sup> which displays the following information, reflecting that Daily Fantasy Sports are legal in California, among many other states:



65. DraftKings further represents on this page that it carefully monitors state and federal law and regulations to ensure that its practices are in compliance with applicable law:

### Experience DraftKings Daily Fantasy Sports for yourself.

DraftKings is a global sports technology and entertainment company whose Daily Fantasy Sports contests are governed by both federal and state law. Federal law specifically exempts fantasy sports contests from the prohibitions of the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act, or UIGEA. At the state level, legislation and regulation vary state-to-state. In recent years, many state legislatures have passed laws confirming and clarifying the legality of Daily Fantasy Sports contests. DraftKings monitors new developments and acts quickly to ensure it is in compliance with the laws in any jurisdiction where it operates. As laws change or regulations are implemented, DraftKings will take steps to ensure its continued compliance, and changes to this site may take place to reflect any such new laws or regulations.

<sup>15</sup> Men make up more than 2/3 of sports bettors in the United States. See <https://bircheshealth.com/resources/sports-betting-demographics-in-the-u-s> (last visited June 1, 2025).

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.draftkings.com/where-is-draftkings-legal> (last visited June 1, 2025).

1 66. DraftKings next includes a list of states where Daily Fantasy Sports are (supposedly)  
2 legal, which expressly identifies California as a “legal” jurisdiction:



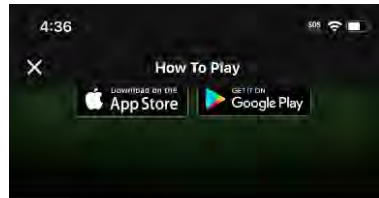
25 ///

26 ///

27 ///

28

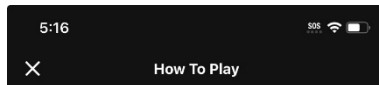
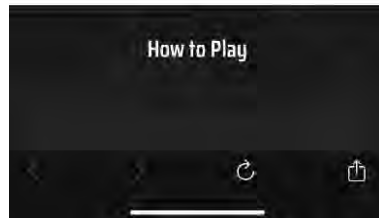
67. Substantively identical representations are made to customers on the “DraftKings Fantasy” mobile app:



**What is daily fantasy sports?**

Daily Fantasy Sports (DFS) mirrors season-long fantasy sports but condenses it into a shorter, more sweat-inducing format. Heart-thrilling contests range from a day to a week depending on the sport. Competitors draft a player roster and those athletes earn points based on their in-game performance. Sweat the sweat each and every play. Test your skills with friends or with other fans nationally and let victory chase you for a change.

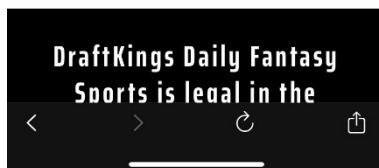
DraftKings DFS is legal in most US states. Check out [where DraftKings DFS is legal](#).



**Experience DraftKings Daily Fantasy Sports for yourself.**

DraftKings is a global sports technology and entertainment company whose Daily Fantasy Sports contests are governed by both federal and state law. Federal law specifically exempts fantasy sports contests from the prohibitions of the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act, or UIGEA. At the state level, legislation and regulation vary state-to-state. In recent years, many state legislatures have passed laws confirming and clarifying the legality of Daily Fantasy Sports contests. DraftKings monitors new developments and acts quickly to ensure it is in compliance with the laws in any jurisdiction where it operates.

As laws change or regulations are implemented, DraftKings will take steps to ensure its continued compliance, and changes to this site may take place to reflect any such new laws or regulations.



**WHERE CAN YOU PLAY DRAFTKINGS DAILY FANTASY SPORTS?**



- DraftKings Fantasy Sports Live
- DraftKings Fantasy Sports Not Live



- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Florida
- Georgia
- Illinois
- Indiana

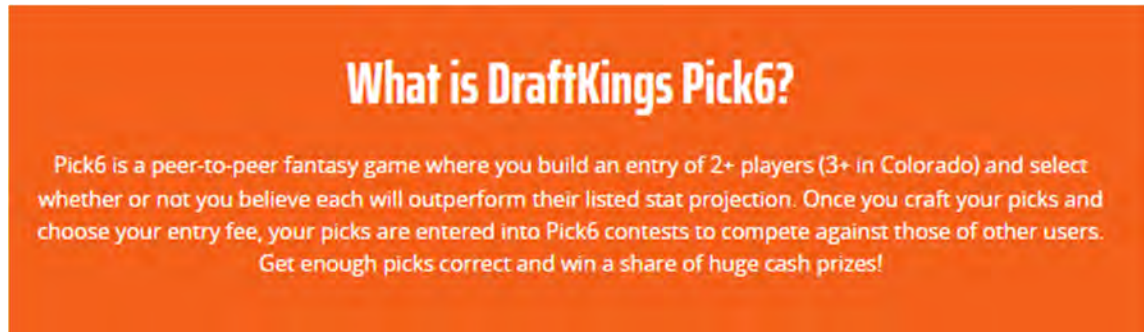


1           **2. DraftKings Pick6.**

2                   **a. DraftKings Pick6 Contests.**

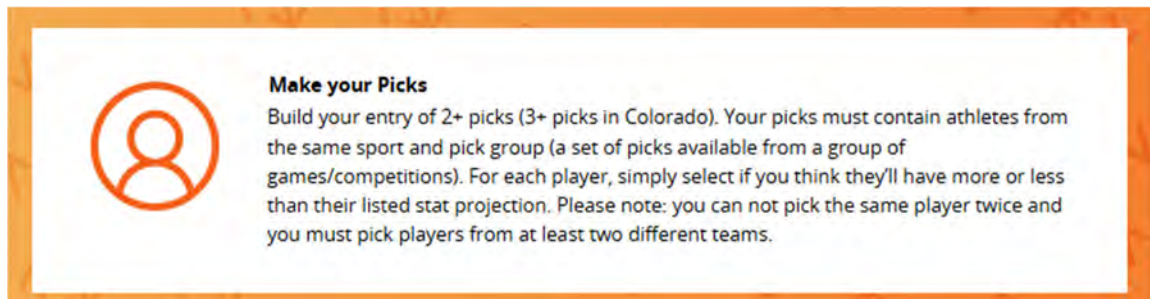
3           68. DraftKings “Pick6” is a proprietary contest that DraftKings developed, on  
4 information and belief, in an attempt to circumvent state laws that prohibited traditional sports  
5 betting while still allowing participants to place bets on whether individual professional athletes  
6 will either meet the “under” or the “over” in certain statistical categories.

7           69. DraftKings describes its Pick6<sup>17</sup> contests as a “fantasy game where you build an  
8 entry of 2+ players (3+ in Colorado) and select whether or not you believe each will outperform  
9 their listed stat projection. Once you craft your picks and choose your entry fee, your picks are  
10 entered into Pick6 contests to compete against those of other users. Get enough picks correct and  
11 win a share of huge cash prizes!”:



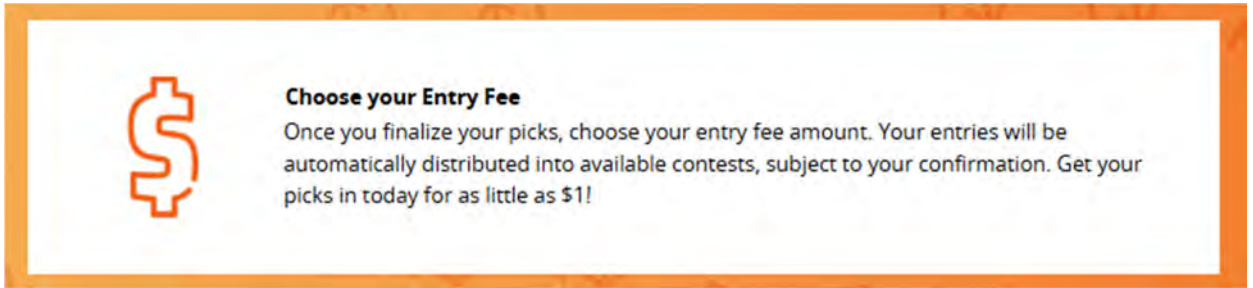
19           70. On the same informational webpage, DraftKings also provides step by step  
20 information on “how to play” Pick6.

21           71. First, a user makes selects his players and whether they will perform “over” or  
22 “under” a particular statistical category:

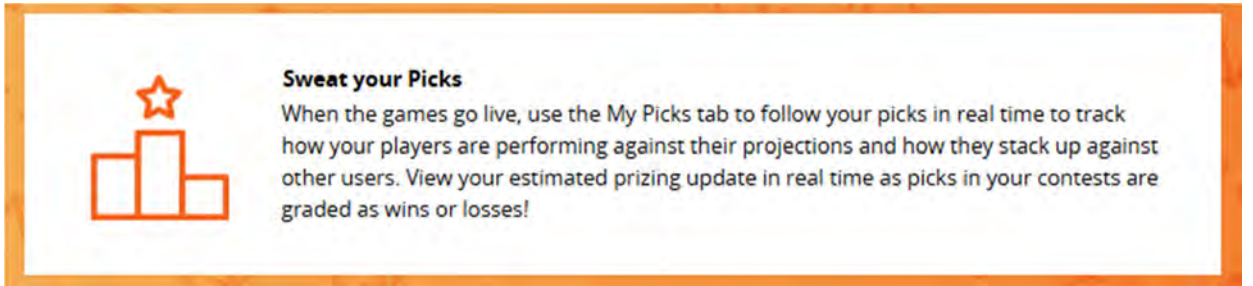


17 <https://pick6.draftkings.com/how-to-play-pick6> (last visited June 1, 2025).

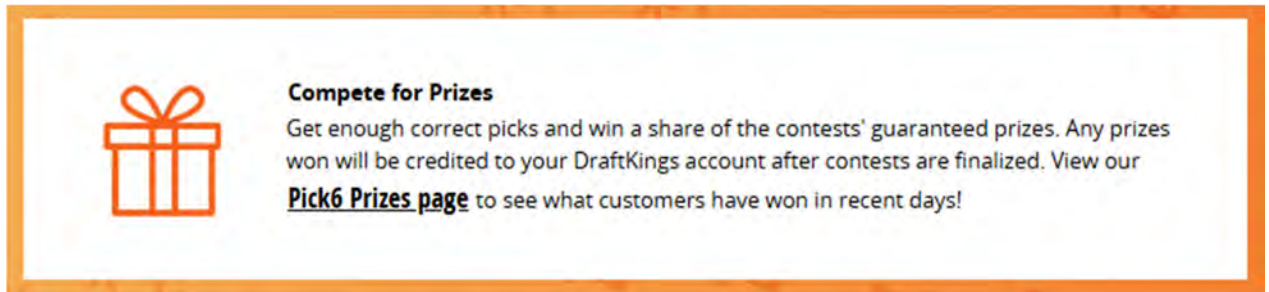
1 72. Next, the user chooses how much to bet and wager:



2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7 73. Third, the user is encouraged to follow his bets and wagers in real time to see how  
8 the bets and wagers perform:



9  
10  
11  
12  
13 74. Finally, DraftKings notes the available prize pools collected and paid from  
14 participant bets and wagers:



15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20 75. Pick6 contests offered by DraftKings in May 2025 included events on MLB, the  
21 WNBA, the NBA, NHL, UFC, Soccer, NASCAR, and the PGA Tour, among others.

22 ///

23 ///

24 ///

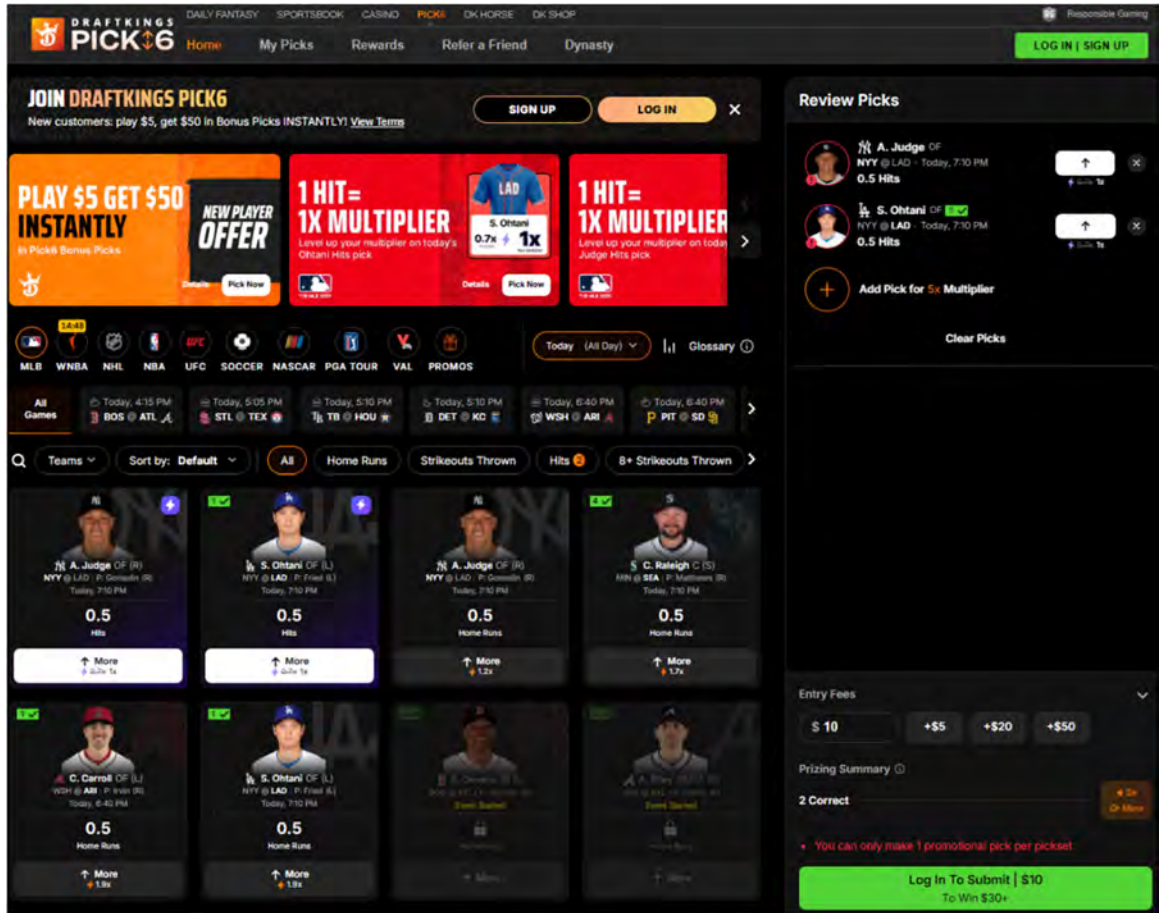
25

26

27

28

76. Here is an example of how the Pick6 user interface appeared in California on desktop in May 2025,<sup>18</sup> with two sample players selected from the MLB tab:<sup>19</sup>



///

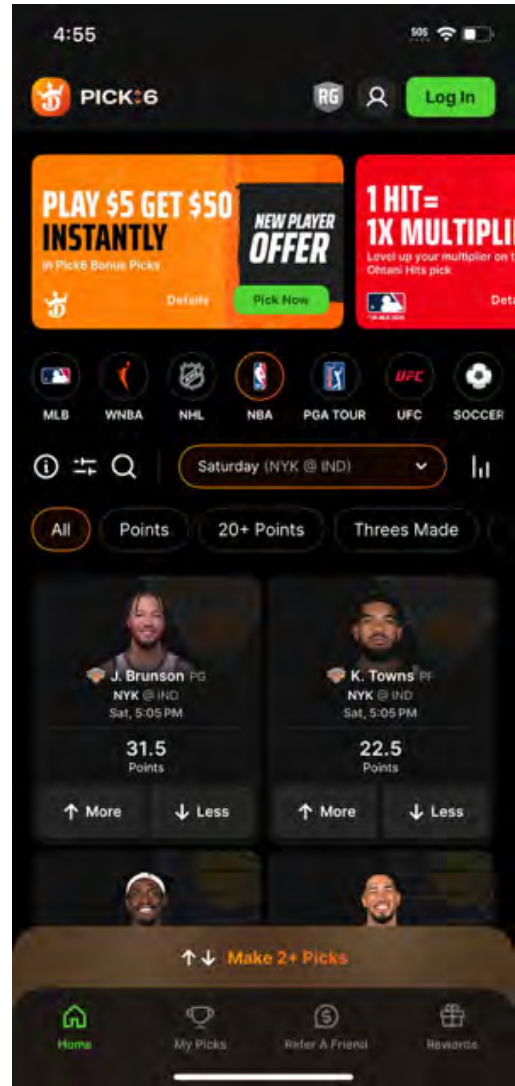
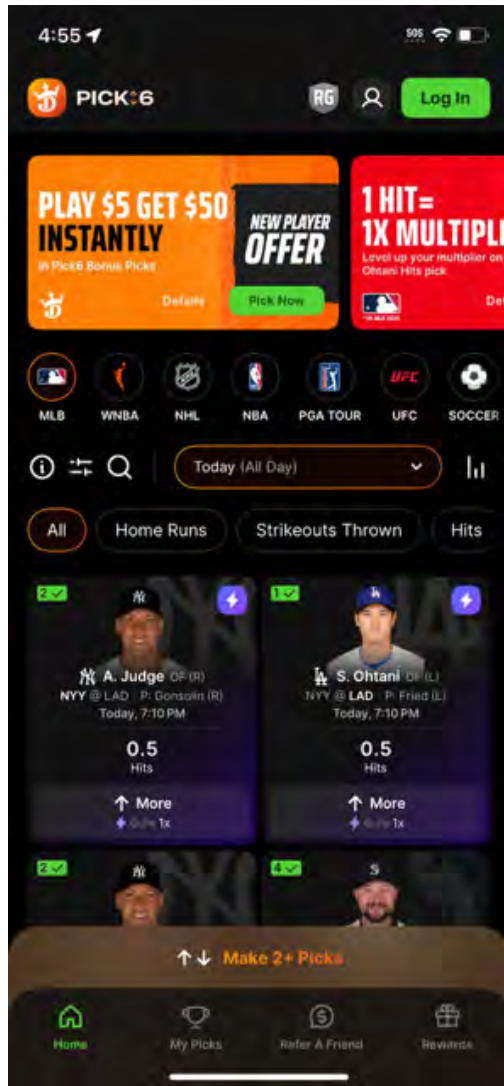
///

///

<sup>18</sup> <https://pick6.draftkings.com/> (last visited May 31, 2025).

<sup>19</sup> Despite advertising that bets can be placed for \$1 on earlier DraftKings webpages, DraftKings instead defaults the users into a higher dollar value bets, here \$10. In the fine print (which the user must scroll down and click through to see), the interface notes that the \$10 bet will actually be divided into ten \$1 entries, meaning there is no reason (other than to induce higher levels of betting) for the DraftKings interface to default to \$10 instead of \$1.

1 77. And here are examples of how Pick6 displayed on the DraftKings mobile app in  
2 California in May 2025 from the MLB and NBA tabs:



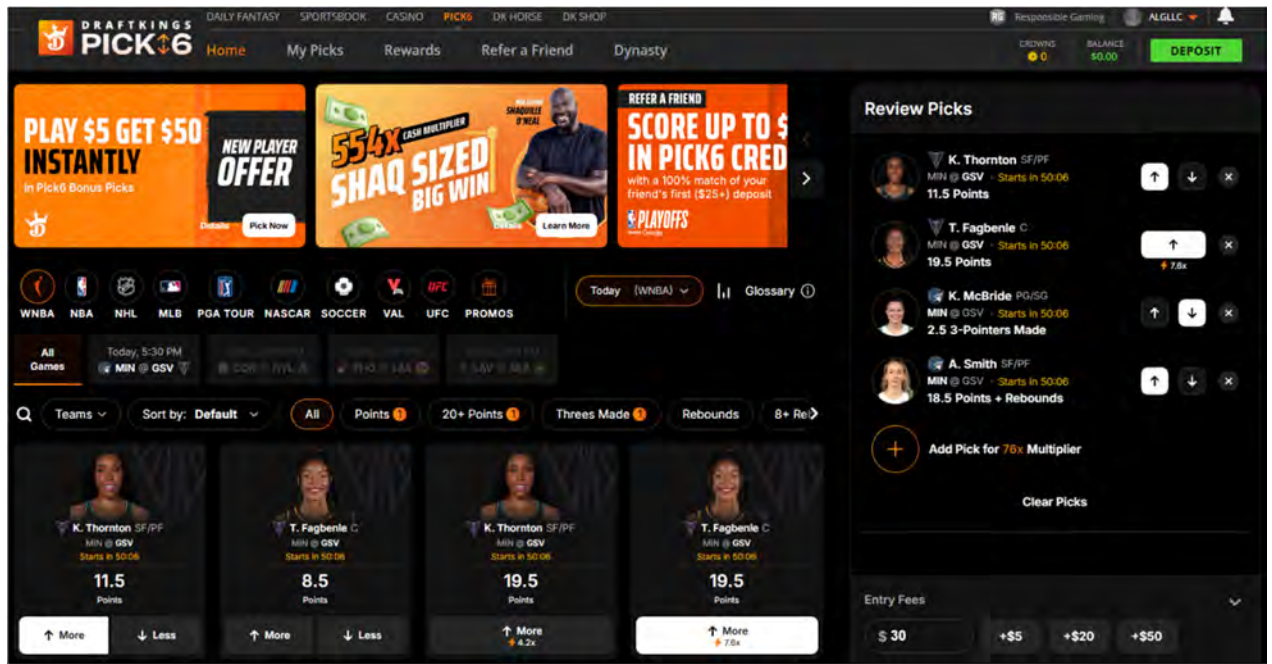
21 ///

22 ///

23 ///

1 78. Here is a step-by-step example of a Pick6 transaction conducted on desktop. The  
 2 mobile app interface is materially identical.

3 79. **First**, the user selects a sporting type (e.g., NBA, WNBA), specific athletes, and  
 4 whether to bet the “over” or “under” on each athlete. Here the user has selected the WNBA, the  
 5 “over” on Thornton, the “over” on Fagbenle, the “under” on McBride, and the “over” on Smith:



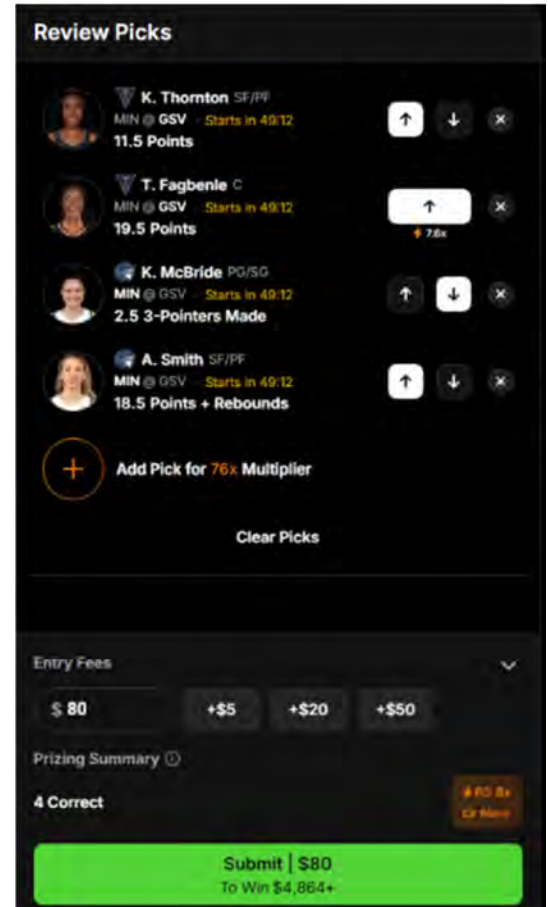
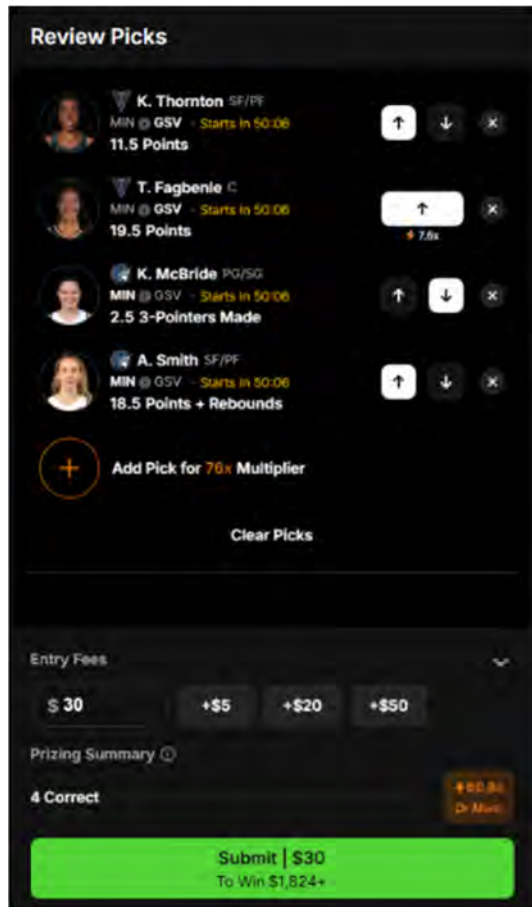
6 80. The statistical line for each player that the user is betting the “over” or “under” on  
 7 is pre-determined by DraftKings.

8 ///

9 ///

10 ///

1 81. **Second**, the user chooses how much to bet. It is only after the wager amount is  
 2 selected that the user is informed of the potential pooled prize that is available based on the bet.  
 3 Here are two examples, one reflecting a potential bet of \$30 resulting in potential winnings of  
 4 \$1,824, and the second reflecting a wager of \$80 resulting in potential winnings of \$4,864:

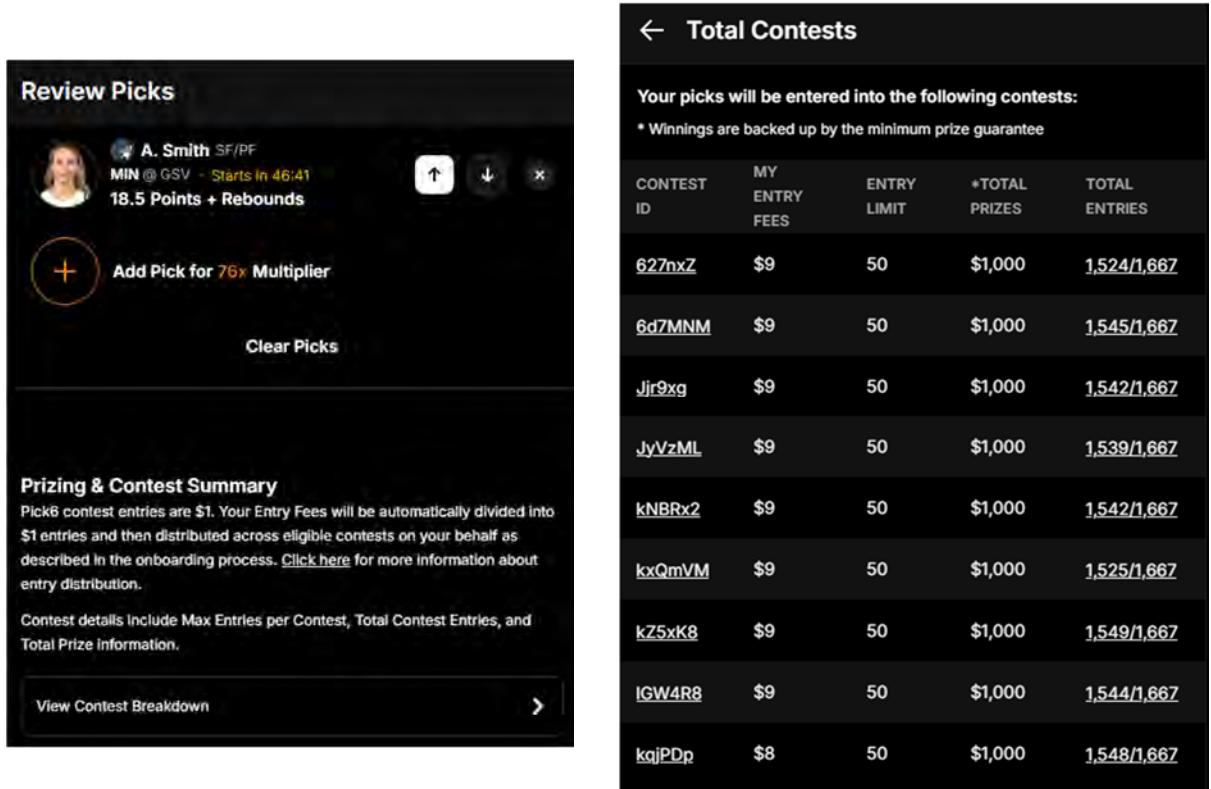


20 ///

21 ///

22 ///

1 82. **Third**, if the user scrolls to the fine print (which requires scrolling in a specific  
 2 section of the screen where no scroll bar is provided), the user learns that regardless of how much  
 3 he bets, in reality, his wager will be entered as a series of \$1 bets, across multiple contests. The user  
 4 must select “View Contest Breakdown” to learn the specific details of where and how the bets are  
 5 distributed:



18 83. In this example from June 2025, if “View Contest Breakdown” was selected, the  
 19 user would learn that his bets are being spread across nine separate Pick6 contests, with each of the  
 20 nine contests having 1,667 participant slots, with a total prize pool of \$1,000 per contest, meaning  
 21 that DraftKings would take a rake on each contest of \$667, representing 40% of the total pool of  
 22 funds collected. The user has no control over which specific pools his bets and wagers were entered  
 23 into or who is he is playing against. DraftKings selects both for him.

24 84. **Fourth**, if the user then completes the wager, he has a chance to win from the pooled  
 25 funds. However, because multiple users could choose the same combination of players in a given  
 26 contest, “[c]hance affects the result not only as to the person or persons to receive the pool proceeds,  
 27  
 28

1 but as to the amount received by any winning player, since more than one player may have selected  
2 the [same winning combination].” *Finster*, 18 Cal. App. 3d at 845.

3 85. **Finally**, after the underlying sports competitions resolve, DraftKings uses its  
4 records (i.e., its betting book) to determine the winners and losers and make payments to  
5 participants from the pooled wagers.

6 86. Ultimately, regardless of which Pick6 sporting event type DraftKings customers  
7 select, the specific athletes’ “overs” and “unders” chosen, or the amounts bet, the customers have  
8 no control over the outcome of the contest they have wagered on. The outcome is determined  
9 entirely based on athletes’ actual in-game performances (i.e., the athletes’ performance in the actual  
10 underlying sporting events) and are entirely outside of the customers’ control.<sup>20</sup>

11 87. Put simply, the outcomes of the Pick6 contests are contingent and unknown at the  
12 time the bets and wagers are collected, recorded (i.e., booked), and pooled by DraftKings. And as  
13 a result, DraftKings’ Pick6 contests violate California Penal Code Sections 319, 320, 321, 330,  
14 330a, 337a, and 337j.

15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26 <sup>20</sup> Plaintiffs note that they are specifically authorized by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure Rule  
27 8(d)(2) to make their allegations in the alternative, and accordingly, allege that the gambling  
28 contests offered in California by DraftKings constitute games of “chance” for purposes of those  
Penal Code Sections that prohibit lotteries and/or other games of chance, and constitute games of  
skill, to the extent skill is found to be a necessary element of certain claims made under Penal Code  
Section 337a or otherwise.

1           **b. DraftKings’ False Assurances that DraftKings Pick6 Is Permitted in**  
 2           **California.**

3           88. Well aware that customers would otherwise decline to play DraftKings Pick6 if they  
 4 knew and understood those contests to violate California criminal law, on DraftKings’ Pick6  
 5 website, DraftKings repeatedly assures prospective customers that DraftKings Pick6 can be played  
 6 in California.

7           89. For example, if a California user follows the link to “Where is Pick6 Available” he  
 8 is taken to a page<sup>21</sup> which displays the following information, reflecting that Pick6 is available in  
 9 California, among many other states:



20

21

22

23

24

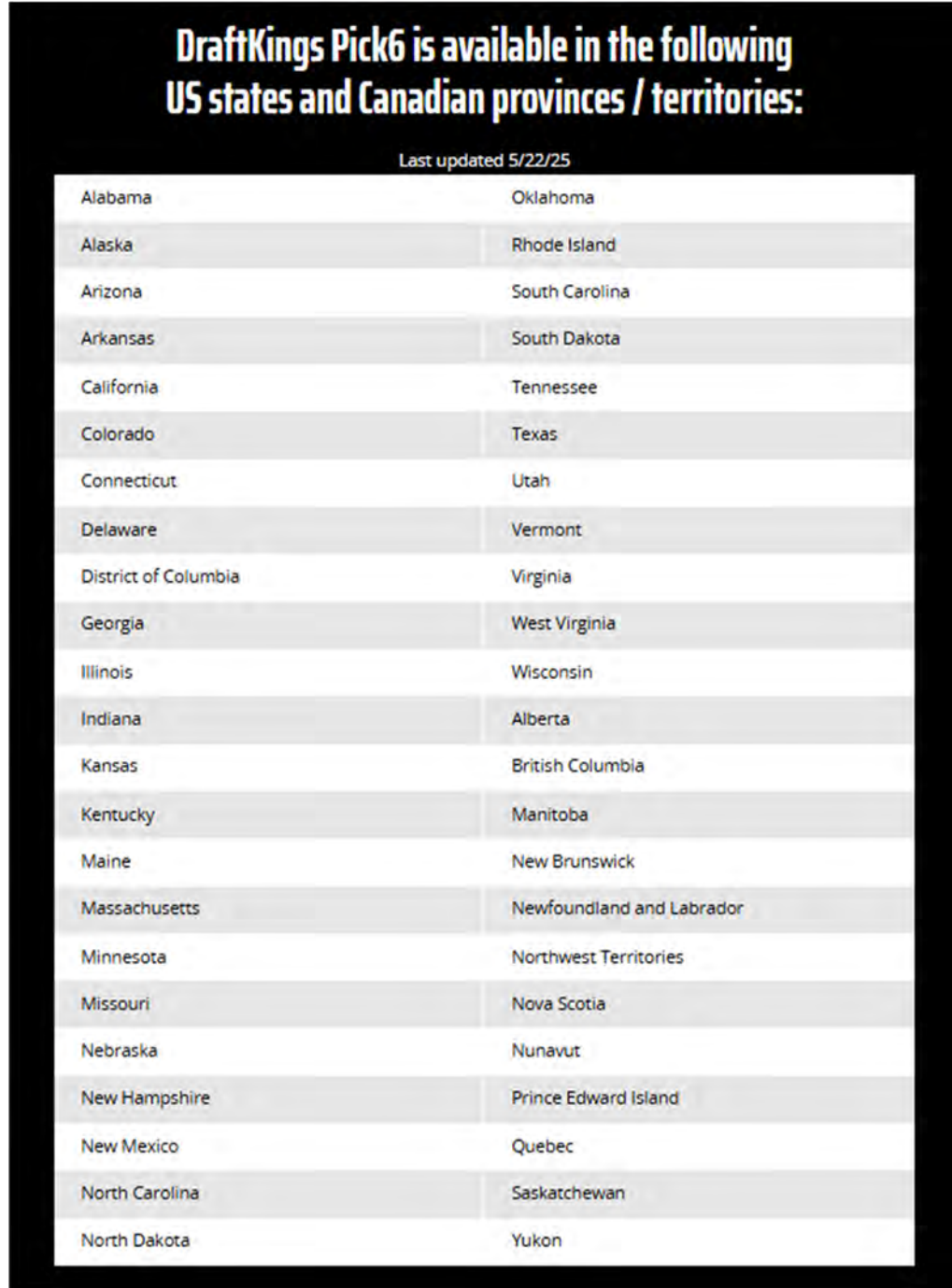
25

26

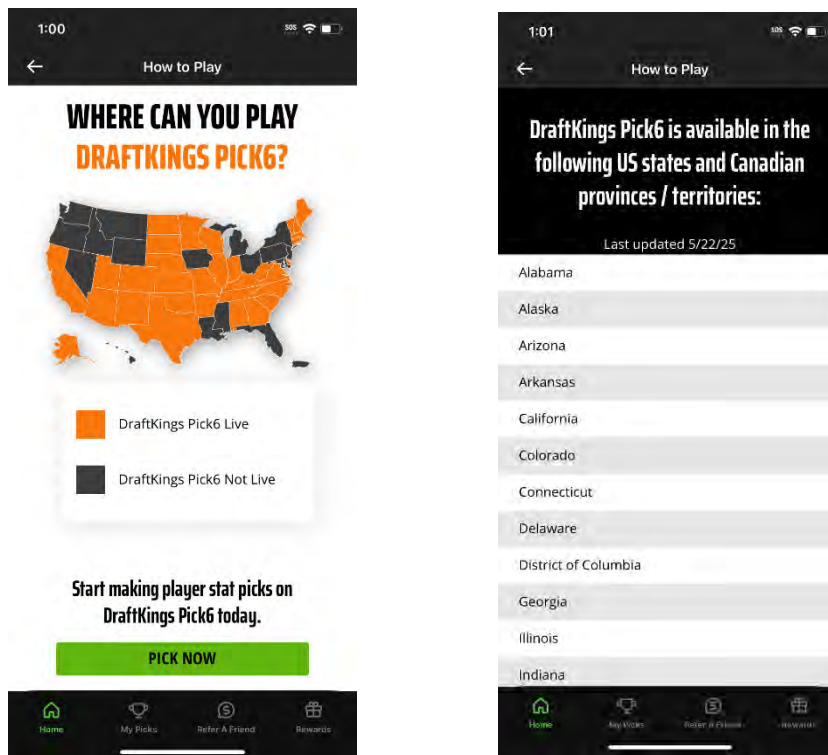
27

28           <sup>21</sup> <https://pick6.draftkings.com/where-is-pick6-available> (last visited June 1, 2025).

1 90. DraftKings next includes a list of states where Daily Fantasy Sports are available,  
 2 which expressly identifies California as an “available” jurisdiction, leading users to believe use of  
 3 Pick6 is legal in California:



1 91. Substantively identical representations are made to customers on the “DraftKings  
2 Fantasy” mobile app



15 **E. DraftKings’ Half-Billion Dollar Advertising Budget.**

16 92. According to Scaleo.com, DraftKings is estimated to spend between \$500 to \$600  
17 million per year on advertising and marketing, among the highest spends in the industry.<sup>22</sup>

18 93. The reason DraftKings spends hundreds of millions of dollars each year on  
19 advertisements and marketing is to expand and maintain its userbase, including within California.

20 94. Examples of DraftKings’ advertising and marketing tactics within California  
21 include:

- 22 a. Sponsorship of Established Sports Leagues: According to its own  
23 website, “DraftKings is both an official daily fantasy and sports  
24 betting partner of the NFL, NHL, PGA TOUR, and UFC, as well as  
25

26  
27 <sup>22</sup> *How Much Sportsbooks Spend on Marketing (2025 Updated Stats!)*, available online at  
28 <https://www.scaleo.io/blog/how-much-sportsbooks-spend-on-marketing-2024-updated-stats/> (last visited June 1, 2025)

1 an official daily fantasy partner of NASCAR, an official sports betting  
2 partner of the NBA and an authorized gaming operator of MLB.”<sup>23</sup>

3 b. Traditional TV Ads: DraftKings runs extensive traditional TV  
4 advertisements featuring celebrities and promotional products and  
5 offers to attract new customers.<sup>24</sup>

6 c. Digital Marketing: DraftKings invests heavily in online digital  
7 advertising, including Google Ads and social media advertising to  
8 target specific demographics and interests.

9 d. Promotional Offers: DraftKings uses new user bonuses, deposit  
10 matches, and referral programs, among other tactics, to incentivize  
11 sign-ups.

12 e. Seasonal Campaigns: DraftKings strategically times ad campaigns  
13 around major sporting events (e.g., the NBA Finals) to maximize  
14 potential reach and engagement.

15 f. User Interface Design and Personalization: On information and belief,  
16 DraftKings utilizes data analytics to personalize marketing messages  
17 and platform experiences based on user preferences.

18 g. Loyalty Programs: DraftKings incentivizes repeat engagement and  
19 loyalty through rewards programs, exclusive contests, and  
20 promotions.

21 h. Content Creation: DraftKings provides content like sports news,  
22 player updates, expert analysis, and tips to drive potential customer  
23 engagement with its products.

24  
25  
26 <sup>23</sup> *DraftKings Becomes an Official Sports Betting and Daily Fantasy Partner of the WNBA*,  
available online at <https://www.draftkings.com/draftkings-becomes-an-official-sports-betting-and-daily-fantasy-partner-of-the-wnba> (last visited June 1, 2025).

27 <sup>24</sup> For example, DraftKings ran the following ad featuring Kevin Hart during the 2024 Super Bowl:  
28 [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SLZ8DI\\_G7k4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SLZ8DI_G7k4) (last visited June 1, 2025).

- 1 i. Direct Customer Marketing: DraftKings sends emails, texts, and push-  
2 notifications to its existing customers, particularly when existing  
3 customers decrease their use of the Gambling Websites.

4 95. Further, DraftKings has expanded its marketing efforts in California to include co-  
5 branded products, including products that can be purchased and used by minors.

6 96. For example, here is a picture of a DraftKings advertisement on a bag of Ruffles  
7 potato chips:



16 97. Put simply, DraftKings has a comprehensive marketing and customer solicitation  
17 plan, that it spends approximately a half-billion dollars a year on, designed to entice new and  
18 existing customers to use the DraftKings products, including the Gambling Websites within  
19 California.

20 **F. Plaintiffs' Experiences.**

21 **1. Plaintiff Brandon Moore's Experience.**

22 98. At all times relevant to this action, Plaintiff Brandon Moore has resided in San  
23 Francisco, California.

24 99. In or about 2012, in response to advertisements he had seen online, Plaintiff Moore  
25 created an account with DraftKings. DraftKings represented to Plaintiff Moore that the products  
26 and services it offered in California were legal.

27 100. Since that time, DraftKings has continued to represent to Plaintiff Moore including  
28 on the Gambling Websites themselves—that its services are legal in California.

1 101. In setting up and using his DraftKings account, Plaintiff Moore expressly relied  
2 upon DraftKings' representations that the services it provides in California are legal.

3 102. If DraftKings had honestly and accurately disclosed the unlawful nature of its  
4 gambling operations in California, Plaintiff Moore would not have created an account with  
5 DraftKings in California and would not have placed bets while in California through the DraftKings  
6 Gambling Websites.

7 103. Since May of 2023, Plaintiff Moore, has lost over \$3,000 to DraftKings while in  
8 California.

9 104. If DraftKings had not solicited bets and wagers from Plaintiff Moore while  
10 representing that such activities were legal in California (when, unknown to Plaintiff Moore at the  
11 time, they in fact were not legal), he would not have made any of those bets or wagers and would  
12 not have paid any money to DraftKings.

13 105. Plaintiff Moore has played at least the following DraftKings games while in  
14 California and lost money to DraftKings on each: Daily Fantasy Sports and Pick6.

15 106. In Plaintiff Moore's experience, DraftKings collects fees via Daily Fantasy Sports  
16 and Pick6 by pooling together all bets and wagers from participants, documenting the bets and  
17 wagers that were placed, and then pays out prizes from the bet and wager pool, less the amount  
18 DraftKings collects and keeps for itself. The difference between the total bets and wagers collected  
19 and the prizes paid out is DraftKings' take.

20 107. Plaintiff Moore used the Gambling Websites while in California as recently as May  
21 17, 2025, placing a bet of \$20 on a Daily Fantasy Sports contest offered by DraftKings. There were  
22 29,411 entry positions available for the contest, forming a total bet and wager pool of approximately  
23 \$588,220, which was collected and held by DraftKings. Despite collecting \$588,220 in bets and  
24 wagers, the payout pool made available by DraftKings to contestants like Plaintiff Moore was only  
25 \$500,000, meaning that at least \$88,220—about 15% of the total pool—was paid directly to and  
26 kept by DraftKings.

27 108. While Plaintiff Moore has now discontinued the use of DraftKings while in  
28 California, he remains interested in online gambling in California. If online gambling contests such

1 as Daily Fantasy Sports and Pick6 become legal in California, Plaintiff Moore would continue to  
2 gamble online in California. Plaintiff Moore may be tricked by DraftKings in the future into  
3 engaging in unlawful gambling in California if DraftKings continues to claim that its practices are  
4 legal.

5 109. Plaintiff Moore's sole reason for setting up an account with DraftKings and  
6 purportedly consenting to DraftKings' terms of service (which he did not review and was not aware  
7 he was purportedly agreeing to at the time of account creation or otherwise) was to gain access to  
8 the gambling services in California offered by DraftKings that he now understands violate  
9 California law.

10 110. Said differently, to the extent a contract was formed between Plaintiff Moore and  
11 DraftKings, the sole purpose of the contract was to facilitate the unlawful gambling activities that  
12 are at issue in this Complaint.

13 111. Accordingly, Plaintiff Moore's contract with DraftKings (to the extent any such  
14 contract was otherwise ever formed), is void (and was void *ab initio*) pursuant to, among other  
15 authorities, California Civil Code Section 1667, which makes contracts invalid where the contract  
16 is: "1. Contrary to an express provision of law; 2. Contrary to the policy of express law, though not  
17 expressly prohibited; or 3. Otherwise contrary to good morals."

18 **2. Plaintiff ZhiCheng Zhen's Experience.**

19 112. At all times relevant to this action, Plaintiff ZhiCheng Zhen has resided in Alameda  
20 County, California.

21 113. In or about 2024, in response to advertisements he saw online and while watching  
22 NBA games on TV in California, Plaintiff Zhen created an account with DraftKings. DraftKings  
23 represented to Plaintiff Zhen that the products and services it offered in California were legal.

24 114. Since the time of account creation, DraftKings has continued to represent to Plaintiff  
25 Zhen, including on the Gambling Websites themselves, that its services are legal in California.

26 115. In setting up and using his DraftKings account, Plaintiff Zhen expressly relied upon  
27 DraftKings' representations that the services it provides in California are legal.  
28

1 116. If DraftKings had honestly and accurately disclosed the unlawful nature of its  
2 gambling operations in California, Plaintiff Zhen would not have created an account with  
3 DraftKings in California and would not have placed bets while in California through the DraftKings  
4 Gambling Websites.

5 117. Since May of 2024, Plaintiff Zhen has lost approximately \$1,000 to DraftKings  
6 while in California.

7 118. If DraftKings had not solicited bets and wagers from Plaintiff Zhen while  
8 representing that such activities were legal in California (when, unknown to Plaintiff Zhen at the  
9 time, they in fact were not legal), he would not have made any of those bets or wagers and would  
10 not have paid any money to DraftKings.

11 119. In Plaintiff Zhen's experience, DraftKings pools together all bets and wagers from  
12 participants, documenting the bets and wagers that were placed, and then pays out prizes from the  
13 bet and wager pool, less the amount DraftKings collects and keeps for itself. The difference between  
14 the total bets and wagers collected and the prizes paid out is DraftKings' take.

15 120. Plaintiff Zhen has gambled with DraftKings as recently as February 12, 2025, while  
16 in California, playing NBA Pick6 and lost around \$400.

17 121. While Plaintiff Zhen has now discontinued the use of DraftKings while in  
18 California, he remains interested in online gambling in California, and if it becomes legal, he would  
19 continue to gamble online in California. Plaintiff Zhen may be tricked by DraftKings in the future  
20 into engaging in unlawful gambling in California if DraftKings continues to claim that its practices  
21 are legal.

22 122. Plaintiff Zhen's sole reason for setting up an account with DraftKings and  
23 purportedly consenting to DraftKings' terms of service (which he did not review and was not aware  
24 he was purportedly agreeing to at the time of account creation or otherwise) was to gain access to  
25 the gambling services in California offered by DraftKings that he now understands violate  
26 California law.

1 123. Said differently, to the extent a contract was formed between Plaintiff Zhen and  
2 DraftKings, the sole purpose of the contract was to facilitate the unlawful gambling activities that  
3 are at issue in this Complaint.

4 124. Accordingly, Plaintiff Zhen’s contract with DraftKings (to the extent any such  
5 contract was otherwise ever formed), is void (and was void *ab initio*) pursuant to, among other  
6 authorities, California Civil Code Section 1667, which makes contracts invalid where the contract  
7 is: “1. Contrary to an express provision of law; 2. Contrary to the policy of express law, though not  
8 expressly prohibited; or 3. Otherwise contrary to good morals.”

9 **3. Plaintiff Jonathan Smith’s Experience.**

10 125. At all times relevant to this action, Plaintiff Jonathan Smith has resided in California,  
11 presently residing in Napa County.

12 126. In or about 2019, in response to advertisements he had seen on television while  
13 watching the NBA, Plaintiff Smith created an account with DraftKings. DraftKings represented to  
14 Plaintiff Smith that the products and services it offered in California were legal.

15 127. Since that time, DraftKings has continued to represent to Plaintiff Smith—including  
16 on the Gambling Websites themselves—that its services are legal in California.

17 128. In setting up and using his DraftKings account, Plaintiff Smith expressly relied upon  
18 DraftKings’ representations that the services it provides in California are legal.

19 129. If DraftKings had honestly and accurately disclosed the unlawful nature of its  
20 gambling operations in California, Plaintiff Smith would not have created an account with  
21 DraftKings in California and would not have placed bets while in California through the DraftKings  
22 Gambling Websites.

23 130. Since May of 2019, Plaintiff Smith, has lost a total of approximately \$1,700 to  
24 DraftKings while in California.

25 131. If DraftKings had not solicited bets and wagers from Plaintiff Smith while  
26 representing that such activities were legal (when, unknown to Plaintiff Smith at the time, they in  
27 fact were not legal), he would not have made any of those bets or wagers and would not have paid  
28 any money to DraftKings.

1 132. Among other gambling options offered by DraftKings in California, Plaintiff Smith  
2 has played Daily Fantasy Sports through DraftKings while in California and lost money to  
3 DraftKings.

4 133. In Plaintiff Smiths' experience, DraftKings pools together all bets and wagers from  
5 participants, documenting the bets and wagers that were placed, and then pays out prizes from the  
6 bet and wager pool, less the amount DraftKings collects and keeps for itself. The difference between  
7 the total bets and wagers collected and the prizes paid out is DraftKings' take.

8 134. While Plaintiff Smith has now discontinued the use of DraftKings while in  
9 California, he remains interested in online gambling in California, and if it becomes legal, he would  
10 continue to gamble online in California. Plaintiff Smith may be tricked by DraftKings in the future  
11 into engaging in unlawful gambling in California if DraftKings continues to claim that its practices  
12 are legal.

13 135. Plaintiff Smith's sole reason for setting up an account with DraftKings and  
14 purportedly consenting to DraftKings' terms of service (which he did not review and was not aware  
15 he was purportedly agreeing to at the time of account creation) was to gain access to the gambling  
16 services in California offered by DraftKings that he now understands violate California law.

17 136. Said differently, to the extent a contract was formed between Plaintiff Smith and  
18 DraftKings, the sole purpose of the contract was to facilitate the unlawful gambling activities that  
19 are at issue in this Complaint.

20 137. Accordingly, Plaintiff Smith's contract with DraftKings (to the extent any such  
21 contract was otherwise ever formed), is void (and was void *ab initio*) pursuant to, among other  
22 authorities, California Civil Code Section 1667, which makes contracts invalid where the contract  
23 is: "1. Contrary to an express provision of law; 2. Contrary to the policy of express law, though not  
24 expressly prohibited; or 3. Otherwise contrary to good morals."

25 **G. DraftKings' Affirmative Misrepresentations Have Tolloed the Statute of Limitations.**

26 138. As detailed above, DraftKings has consistently and explicitly represented to the  
27 public and its customers, including Plaintiffs and the Class (as defined below), that its operation of  
28 the Gambling Websites in California is legal.

1 139. Among other things, DraftKings has held itself out as being an expert on gambling  
2 law and regulations, and induced Plaintiffs and the Class to rely on its affirmative false  
3 representations and statements in order to secure Plaintiffs' and the Class's use of the Gambling  
4 Websites and to keep Plaintiffs and the Class using the unlawful Gambling Websites in California.

5 140. As a direct and proximate result of DraftKings' affirmative misrepresentations and  
6 statements, Plaintiffs and the Class had no reason to believe that operation of the Gambling  
7 Websites was unlawful. In fact, just the opposite—they trusted and relied upon DraftKings'  
8 purported expertise in California gambling law and regulation.

9 141. Plaintiffs and the Class were unable to discover—and in fact, did not discover—the  
10 true and unlawful nature of the Gambling Websites on their own, as, on information and belief,  
11 DraftKings and others in the online gambling industry have inundated the internet and other  
12 publicly available resources (e.g., news articles and legal blogs) with claims that daily fantasy  
13 sports betting contests and other betting contests, like Pick6, are legal in California.

14 142. When Plaintiffs did finally learn the true unlawful nature of the Gambling Websites'  
15 operation in or about May of 2025, Plaintiffs promptly filed this lawsuit.

16 **H. DraftKings Acted with Malice, Oppression, and Fraud.**

17 143. As detailed in this Complaint, DraftKings has acted with malice, oppression, and  
18 fraud.

19 144. DraftKings acted with malice, because, among other reasons and as otherwise  
20 detailed in this Complaint, DraftKings' conduct was despicable and was done with a willful and  
21 knowing disregard of the rights of the public, Plaintiffs, and the Class (as defined below) because  
22 DraftKings knew (or should have known) that its gambling operations in California were illegal,  
23 but despite that induced Plaintiffs and the Class to gamble and lose money through its Gambling  
24 Websites while in California. As the California legislature has repeatedly made clear, "no person  
25 in this state has a right to operate a gambling enterprise except as may be expressly permitted by  
26 the laws of this state." Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 19801(d).

27 145. DraftKings' conduct was oppressive because, among other reasons and as otherwise  
28 detailed in this Complaint, it was despicable and subjected Plaintiffs and the Class to cruel and

1 unjust hardship in knowing disregard of their rights, including by falsely inducing them to lose  
2 significant sums of money through the illegal gambling enterprise that DraftKings held out as being  
3 legal in California.

4 146. DraftKings' conduct was fraudulent, because, among other reasons and as otherwise  
5 detailed in this Complaint, DraftKings intentionally misrepresented and concealed the true nature  
6 of its unlawful gambling enterprise from Plaintiffs and the Class by affirmatively representing that  
7 the Gambling Websites and associated contests were legal in California when DraftKings knew (or  
8 should have known) that such contests were not.

9 **CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

10 147. This action is brought and may properly proceed as a class action pursuant to Federal  
11 Rule of Civil Procedure Rule 23, including, without limitation, Sections (b)(1), (b)(2), and (b)(3)  
12 of Rule 23.

13 148. Plaintiffs seek certification of the following class (the "Class"):

14 All residents of California who placed a bet or wager on the  
15 Gambling Websites while in California.

16 149. The following people are excluded from the Class: (1) any Judge or Magistrate  
17 presiding over this action, members of their staffs (including judicial clerks), and members of their  
18 families; (2) Defendants, Defendants' subsidiaries, parents, successors, predecessors, and any  
19 entity in which the Defendants or its parents have a controlling interest, and their current or former  
20 employees, officers and directors; (3) persons who properly execute and file a timely request for  
21 exclusion from the Class; (4) persons whose claims in this matter have been finally adjudicated on  
22 the merits or otherwise released; (5) Plaintiffs' counsel and Defendants' counsel, and non-attorney  
23 employees of their firms; and (6) the legal representatives, successors, and assigns of any such  
24 excluded persons.

25 150. DraftKings' practices have resulted in actual injury and harm to the Class members  
26 in the amount of deposits made with DraftKings and/or losses incurred on the Gambling Websites  
27 for bets or wagers placed while in California.  
28

1 151. Plaintiffs explicitly reserve their right to amend, add to, modify, and/or otherwise  
2 change the proposed class definition as discovery in this action progresses.

3 152. **Numerosity.** Plaintiffs are informed and believe that there are hundreds of  
4 thousands or potentially millions of members of the Class. The Class is so large that the joinder of  
5 all of its members is impracticable. The exact number of members of the Class can be determined  
6 from information in the possession and control of DraftKings.

7 153. **Commonality.** DraftKings has acted or refused to act on grounds that apply  
8 generally to the Class. Absent certification of the Class, the relief sought herein creates the  
9 possibility of inconsistent judgments and/or obligations imposed on DraftKings and/or Plaintiffs  
10 and the Class. Numerous common issues of fact and law exist, including, without limitation:

- 11 a. What gambling contests DraftKings offers in California.
- 12 b. What mediums (e.g., website, app, in person, etc.) DraftKings offers its  
13 gambling contests through in California.
- 14 c. The dates and number of gambling contests offered by DraftKings in  
15 California.
- 16 d. Whether DraftKings violates California Penal Code Section 319 by  
17 operating the Gambling Websites in California and allowing California  
18 residents to place bets and wagers on the Gambling Websites.
- 19 e. Whether DraftKings violates California Penal Code Section 320 by  
20 operating the Gambling Websites in California and allowing California  
21 residents to place bets and wagers on the Gambling Websites.
- 22 f. Whether DraftKings violates California Penal Code Section 321 by  
23 operating the Gambling Websites in California and allowing California  
24 residents to place bets and wagers on the Gambling Websites.
- 25 g. Whether DraftKings violates California Penal Code Section 330 by  
26 operating the Gambling Websites in California and allowing California  
27 residents to place bets and wagers on the Gambling Websites.
- 28

- 1 h. Whether DraftKings violates California Penal Code Section 330a by
- 2 operating the Gambling Websites in California and allowing California
- 3 residents to place bets and wagers on the Gambling Websites.
- 4 i. Whether DraftKings violates California Penal Code Section 337a by
- 5 operating the Gambling Websites in California and allowing California
- 6 residents to place bets and wagers on the Gambling Websites.
- 7 j. Whether DraftKings violates any additional sections of the California Penal
- 8 Code or other applicable California law and/or regulation by operating the
- 9 Gambling Websites in California and allowing California residents to place
- 10 bets and wagers on the Gambling Websites.
- 11 k. Whether DraftKings' violations of the California Penal Code give rise to
- 12 liability under California's unfair competition law.
- 13 l. Whether DraftKings is a "person" within the meaning of Section 1761(c) of
- 14 the California Consumer Legal Remedies Act ("CLRA").
- 15 m. Whether Plaintiffs are "consumers" within the meaning of Section 1761(d)
- 16 of the CLRA.
- 17 n. Whether DraftKings' practices violate the following CLRA Sections, among
- 18 others:
  - 19 i. "Misrepresenting the source, sponsorship, approval, or certification
  - 20 of goods or services" (a)(2);
  - 21 ii. "Misrepresenting the affiliation, connection, or association with, or
  - 22 certification by, another" (a)(3);
  - 23 iii. "Representing that goods or services have sponsorship, approval,
  - 24 characteristics, ingredients, uses, benefits, or quantities that they do not
  - 25 have or that a person has a sponsorship, approval, status, affiliation, or
  - 26 connection that the person does not have" (a)(5);
  - 27
  - 28

- 1 iv. “Representing that goods or services are of a particular standard,  
2 quality, or grade, or that goods are of a particular style or model, if they are  
3 of another” (a)(7);
- 4 v. “Representing that a transaction confers or involves rights, remedies,  
5 or obligations that it does not have or involve, or that are prohibited by law”  
6 (a)(14);
- 7 vi. “Representing that the consumer will receive a rebate, discount, or  
8 other economic benefit, if the earning of the benefit is contingent on an  
9 event to occur subsequent to the consummation of the transaction” (a)(17);  
10 and
- 11 vii. “Inserting an unconscionable provision in the contract” (a)(19).
- 12 o. Whether DraftKings’ operation of the Gambling Websites should be  
13 enjoined in California.
- 14 p. The appropriate damages model for calculating restitution, disgorgement,  
15 and/or damages for violation of the unfair competition law and/or the CLRA.
- 16 q. Whether DraftKings’ affirmative misrepresentations that the Gambling  
17 Websites are legal tolled any otherwise applicable statutes of limitations.
- 18 r. Whether any subset of claims held by the Class are barred by the statute of  
19 limitations.

20 154. **Predominance.** These common issues predominate over individualized inquiries in  
21 this action because DraftKings’ liability can be established as to all members of the Class as  
22 discussed herein.

23 155. **Typicality.** Plaintiffs’ claims against DraftKings and experience with DraftKings  
24 are typical, if not identical, to the claims and experiences of members of the Class because, among  
25 other reasons, Plaintiffs’ claims arise from DraftKings’ practices that are applicable to the entire  
26 Class.

27 156. **Adequacy.** Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests  
28 of the Class and have retained counsel competent and experienced in complex litigation and class

1 actions. Plaintiffs' claims are representative of the claims of the other members of the Class, as  
2 Plaintiffs and each member of the Class lost money to DraftKings. Plaintiffs also have no interests  
3 antagonistic to those of the Class, and DraftKings has no defenses unique to Plaintiffs. Plaintiffs  
4 and their counsel are committed to vigorously prosecuting this action on behalf of the Class and  
5 have the financial resources to do so. Neither Plaintiffs nor their counsel have any interest adverse  
6 to the Class.

7 157. **Superiority.** There are substantial benefits to proceeding as a class action that  
8 render proceeding as a class action superior to any alternatives, including that it will provide a  
9 realistic means for members of the Class to recover damages; the damages suffered by members of  
10 the Class may be relatively small; it would be substantially less burdensome on the courts and the  
11 parties than numerous individual proceedings; many members of the Class may be unaware that  
12 they have legal recourse for the conduct alleged herein; and because issues common to members  
13 of the Class can be effectively managed in a single proceeding. Plaintiffs and their counsel know  
14 of no difficulty that could be encountered in the management of this litigation that would preclude  
15 its maintenance as a class action.

16 158. Plaintiffs reserve the right to revise each of the foregoing allegations based on facts  
17 learned through additional investigation and in discovery.

### 18 CAUSES OF ACTION

#### 19 **A. First Cause of Action: Violation of California's Unfair Competition Law, Cal. Bus. &** 20 **Prof. Code §§ 17200 *et seq.*, on Behalf of Plaintiffs and the Class.**

21 159. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through  
22 158, inclusive, of this Complaint.

23 160. DraftKings, Plaintiffs, and Class are "persons" within the meaning of the UCL.

24 161. The UCL prohibits any "unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business act or practice,"  
25 each of which is separately actionable.

26 162. DraftKings' practices of operating the Gambling Websites within California are  
27 "unlawful" within the meaning of the UCL because, among other things, the operation of the  
28 Gambling Websites violates California Penal Code Sections 319, 320, 321, 330, 330a, 337a, and

1 337j because, among other reasons, in the course of business and in the course of trade and  
2 commerce, DraftKings has:

- 3 a. Operated illegal lotteries and/or games of chance in violation of Penal  
4 Code Sections 319, 320, 321, 330a, and 337j by operating the Daily  
5 Fantasy Sports contests and Pick6 gambling contests in California.<sup>25</sup>
- 6 b. Operated banking and/or percentage gambling games in violation of  
7 Penal Code Section 330 by operating the Daily Fantasy Sports  
8 contests and Pick6 gambling contests in California.
- 9 c. Engaged in pool selling in violation of Penal Code Section 337(a)(1)  
10 by operating the Daily Fantasy Sports contests and Pick6 gambling  
11 contests in California.
- 12 d. Engaged in bookmaking in violation of Penal Code Section 337(a)(1)  
13 by operating the Daily Fantasy Sports contests and Pick6 gambling  
14 contests in California.
- 15 e. Violated Penal Code Section 337(a)(3) by “receiv[ing], hold[ing], or  
16 forward[ing] . . . money . . . staked, pledged, bet or wagered . . upon  
17 the result, or purported result, of any trial, or purported trial, or  
18 contest, or purported contest, of skill, speed or power of endurance of  
19 person or animal, or between persons, animals, or mechanical  
20 apparatus, or upon the result, or purported result, of any lot, chance,  
21 casualty, unknown or contingent event whatsoever” by operating the  
22 Daily Fantasy Sports contests and Pick6 gambling contests in  
23 California.

24  
25 \_\_\_\_\_  
26 <sup>25</sup> Plaintiffs note that they are specifically authorized by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure Rule  
27 8(d)(2) to make their allegations in the alternative, and accordingly, allege that the gambling  
28 contests offered in California by DraftKings constitute games of “chance” for purposes of those  
Penal Code Sections that prohibit lotteries and/or other games of chance, and constitute games of  
skill, to the extent skill is found to be a necessary element of certain claims made under Penal Code  
Section 337a or otherwise.

1 f. Violated Penal Code Section 337(a)(4) by “record[ing], or  
2 register[ing] any bet or bets, wager or wagers, upon the result . . . of  
3 any trial, or purported trial, or contest, or purported contest, of skill,  
4 speed or power of endurance of person or animal, or between persons,  
5 animals, or mechanical apparatus, or upon the result, or purported  
6 result, of any lot, chance, casualty, unknown or contingent event  
7 whatsoever” by operating the Daily Fantasy Sports contests and Pick6  
8 gambling contests in California.

9 g. Violated Penal Code Section 337(a)(6) by “[o]ffer[ing] or accept[ing]  
10 any bet or bets, or wager or wagers, upon the result . . . of any trial, or  
11 purported trial, or contest, or purported contest, of skill, speed or  
12 power of endurance of person or animal, or between persons, animals,  
13 or mechanical apparatus” by operating the Daily Fantasy Sports  
14 contests and Pick6 gambling contests in California.

15 163. DraftKings’ operation of the Gambling Websites is also unlawful within the  
16 meaning of the UCL because DraftKings has violated the CLRA, as alleged in the Second Cause  
17 of Action, below.

18 164. DraftKings’ operation of the Gambling Websites is also unlawful within the  
19 meaning of the UCL because DraftKings has violated the California Business and Professions  
20 Code, because “no person in this state has a right to operate a gambling enterprise except as may  
21 be expressly permitted by the laws of this state.” Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 19801(d).

22 165. The acts and practices of DraftKings as alleged herein also constitute “unfair”  
23 business acts and practices under the UCL because DraftKings’ conduct is unconscionable,  
24 immoral, deceptive, unfair, illegal, unethical, oppressive, and/or unscrupulous. Further, the gravity  
25 of DraftKings’ conduct outweighs any conceivable benefit of such conduct.

26 166. DraftKings has, in the course of business and in the course of trade or commerce,  
27 undertaken and engaged in unfair business acts and practices by tricking consumers into believing  
28

1 operation of the Gambling Websites is lawful in California, when in fact, it is not, causing Plaintiffs  
2 and the Class to be tricked out of tens of millions of dollars.

3 167. Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered injury in fact—in the form of all amounts paid  
4 to DraftKings and/or the total of net losses on the Gambling Websites run by DraftKings—as a  
5 result of DraftKings’ unlawful and unfair business acts and practices and are at substantial risk of  
6 continuing to lose money and be injured by those acts and practices if the practices are not enjoined.

7 168. Plaintiffs and the Class seek an order providing restitution and disgorgement in the  
8 form of all amounts paid to DraftKings by Plaintiffs and the Class and/or the total of net losses on  
9 the Gambling Websites by Plaintiffs and the Class.

10 169. Plaintiffs and the Class further seek their attorneys’ fees and costs pursuant to  
11 California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1021.5 because Plaintiffs and the Class seek to enforce  
12 “an important right affecting the public interest” in bringing this cause of action.

13 **B. Second Cause of Action: Violation of California’s Consumer Legal Remedies Act,**  
14 **California Civil Code §§ 1750 *et seq.*, on Behalf of Plaintiffs and the Class.**

15 170. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through  
16 158, inclusive, of this Complaint.

17 171. At all relevant times, Plaintiffs and Class members were “consumers” within the  
18 meaning of the CLRA, as they were individuals seeking or acquiring, by purchase or lease, goods  
19 or services for personal, family, or household purposes.

20 172. DraftKings’ actions and conduct constituted transactions for the sale or lease of  
21 goods or services to consumers under the terms of the CLRA, namely the selling of the unlawful  
22 gambling goods and services that are at issue in this action through the Gambling Websites.

23 173. DraftKings violated the CLRA by, among other things:

- 24 a. “Misrepresenting the source, sponsorship, approval, or certification of goods  
25 or services” (a)(2);
- 26 b. “Misrepresenting the affiliation, connection, or association with, or  
27 certification by, another” (a)(3);
- 28

- 1 c. “Representing that goods or services have sponsorship, approval,  
2 characteristics, ingredients, uses, benefits, or quantities that they do not have  
3 or that a person has a sponsorship, approval, status, affiliation, or connection  
4 that the person does not have” (a)(5);
- 5 d. “Representing that goods or services are of a particular standard, quality, or  
6 grade, or that goods are of a particular style or model, if they are of another”  
7 (a)(7);
- 8 e. “Representing that a transaction confers or involves rights, remedies, or  
9 obligations that it does not have or involve, or that are prohibited by law”  
10 (a)(14);
- 11 f. “Representing that the consumer will receive a rebate, discount, or other  
12 economic benefit, if the earning of the benefit is contingent on an event to  
13 occur subsequent to the consummation of the transaction” (a)(17); and
- 14 g. “Inserting an unconscionable provision in the contract” (a)(19).

15 174. DraftKings’ actions and misrepresentations were material, and DraftKings’  
16 violations of the CLRA were a substantial factor in causing Plaintiffs and the Class to lose money.

17 175. As a direct and proximate consequence of these actions, Plaintiffs and the Class  
18 suffered injury.

19 176. DraftKings’ conduct was malicious, fraudulent, and wanton in that it intentionally  
20 and knowingly provided misleading information to Plaintiffs and the Class for Defendants’ own  
21 benefit to the detriment of Plaintiffs and the Class.

22 177. The CLRA provides robust enforcement tools for consumers, including:

- 23 a. Prohibiting the waiver of any substantive rights provided for under the  
24 CLRA. *Id.* § 1750
- 25 b. Requiring that the CLRA “shall be liberally construed and applied to  
26 promote its underlying purposes, which are to protect consumers against  
27 unfair and deceptive business practices and to provide efficient and  
28 economical procedures to secure such protection.” *Id.* § 1760.

- 1 c. Establishing a substantive right to litigate in the forum where the transaction
- 2 occurred. *Id.* § 1780(d).
- 3 d. Establishing a substantive right to pursue class claims. *Id.* § 1781; *see also*
- 4 *id.* § 1752.
- 5 e. Authorizing injunctive relief. *Id.* § 1780(a)(2)
- 6 f. Authorizing actual damages. *Id.* § 1780(a)(1).
- 7 g. Authorizing restitution of unlawfully taken sums. *Id.* § 1780(a)(3).
- 8 h. Authorizing punitive damages. *Id.* § 1780(a)(4).
- 9 i. Authorizing statutory damages of \$1,000 per violation. *Id.* § 1780(a)(1).
- 10 j. Authorizing statutory damages of \$5,000 per injured individual, where the
- 11 unlawful conduct was directed against the elderly or the disabled. *Id.* §
- 12 1780(b)(1).
- 13 k. Requiring that the Court “shall award court costs and attorney’s fees to a
- 14 prevailing plaintiff in litigation.” *Id.* § 1780(e).

15 178. Plaintiffs seek all available remedies under the CLRA, except that, at this time,

16 Plaintiffs do not seek any monetary damages for their CLRA cause of action.<sup>26</sup>

17 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

18 179. Plaintiffs, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, respectfully

19 request that this Court enter an Order:

- 20 a. Certifying the proposed Class pursuant to Rule 23, appointing
- 21 Plaintiffs as Class Representatives, and appointing Plaintiffs’ counsel
- 22 as Class Counsel;
- 23 b. Declaring that DraftKings is financially responsible for notifying the
- 24 Class members of the pendency of this suit;

25

---

26 <sup>26</sup> Pursuant to Section 1782(d) of the CLRA, Plaintiffs expressly reserve their right to amend their

27 CLRA cause of action to add claims for monetary relief, including, without limitation, for actual,

28 punitive, and statutory damages, at least 30 days after providing DraftKings the notice contemplated by Section 1782(a).

- 1 c. Declaring that DraftKings has committed the violations of law alleged
- 2 herein;
- 3 d. Providing for any and all injunctive relief the Court deems
- 4 appropriate;
- 5 e. Awarding monetary relief, including but not limited to restitution in
- 6 an amount that the Court or jury will determine, in accordance with
- 7 applicable law;
- 8 f. Providing for any and all other equitable monetary relief the Court
- 9 deems appropriate;
- 10 g. Awarding Plaintiffs their reasonable costs and expenses of suit,
- 11 including attorney's fees;
- 12 h. Awarding pre- and post-judgment interest to extent the law allows;
- 13 and
- 14 i. Providing such further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.
- 15 j. Respectfully submitted,

16 Dated June 1, 2025

17 By: /s/ Wesley M. Griffith  
18 Wesley M. Griffith, SBN 286390  
19 John R. Parker, Jr., SBN 257761  
20 **ALMEIDA LAW GROUP LLC**  
21 3550 Watt Ave, Suite 140  
22 Sacramento, CA 95821  
23 Telephone: 530-490-3178  
24 E-mail: [wes@almeidalawgroup.com](mailto:wes@almeidalawgroup.com)  
25 [jrparker@almeidalawgroup.com](mailto:jrparker@almeidalawgroup.com)

26 Christopher Nienhaus, *pro hac vice* to be filed  
27 **ALMEIDA LAW GROUP LLC**  
28 849 W. Webster Ave  
Chicago, IL 60614  
Telephone: 708-529-5418  
E-mail: [chris@almeidalawgroup.com](mailto:chris@almeidalawgroup.com)

*Counsel for Plaintiffs and the Proposed Class*

**DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY**

1  
2 Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the putative Class, hereby respectfully demand a trial  
3 by jury on all claims for which a jury trial is available.

4  
5 Dated: June 1, 2025

6 By: /s/ Wesley M. Griffith  
7 Wesley M. Griffith, SBN 286390  
8 John R. Parker, Jr., SBN 257761  
9 **ALMEIDA LAW GROUP LLC**  
3550 Watt Ave, Suite 140  
Sacramento, CA 95821  
Telephone: 530-490-3178  
E-mail: [wes@almeidalawgroup.com](mailto:wes@almeidalawgroup.com)  
[jrparker@almeidalawgroup.com](mailto:jrparker@almeidalawgroup.com)

10 Christopher Nienhaus, *pro hac vice* to be filed  
11 **ALMEIDA LAW GROUP LLC**  
849 W. Webster Ave  
Chicago, IL 60614  
Telephone: 708-529-5418  
E-mail: [chris@almeidalawgroup.com](mailto:chris@almeidalawgroup.com)

12  
13 *Counsel for Plaintiffs and the Proposed Class*  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

# **EXHIBIT A**

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

**DECLARATION REGARDING VENUE**

I, Brandon Moore, declare as follows:

1. I am a plaintiff in *Moore, et al. vs. DraftKings, Inc. et al.*, and make this declaration based on my personal knowledge. I could and would testify competently to the statements contained herein if called upon to do so.

2. At all times relevant to this action, including at all times since I began using DraftKings, Inc.’s online and app based products and services in or about 2012, I have been a resident of the County of San Francisco, California.

3. Defendant DraftKings, Inc., regularly conducts business in the County of San Francisco, including by advertising and operating its online and app-based gambling products and services and taking of gambling bets and wagers from customers.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and accurate. Executed on May 29, 2025 in the County of San Francisco.

  
Brandon Moore (May 29, 2025 19:21 PDT)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brandon Moore