

Vote the Goat is Fair Use

Methodology, Purpose and Legal Safeguards

Introduction

This page explains in detail why Vote The Goat uses publicly available names and career data, how those materials are used, which safeguards are in place to avoid implied endorsement or unlawful exploitation, and how we handle removal requests or legal inquiries. The goal is full transparency for users, platform reviewers, and representatives.

1) Purpose of the App

Vote The Goat is an informational polling tool that collects and displays public opinion about player “greatness” in basketball. The app does not produce official rankings on behalf of any organization and does not claim ownership of names or images. Its primary function is to enable community participation and to surface collective judgments, complemented by original statistical analysis.

2) Use of Names and Data

- Informational use only: Player names appear solely to identify candidates in the poll and to present factual career data.
- No official imagery or logos: We do not use official photos, team logos, or copyrighted images without license. Players are represented by original avatars created in-house.
- Data sources and reworking: Statistical data are drawn from public sources and reprocessed internally to produce analyses and cross-comparisons that are not commonly available elsewhere.

3) Legal Framework Overview (Informational)

- Fair use and informational use: Using names and public facts in an informational, transformative, and non-exploitative context is generally less risky than commercial or promotional uses. This page provides a high-level orientation and is not a substitute for jurisdiction-specific legal advice.
- Right of publicity: Laws vary by jurisdiction. The risk increases where use implies endorsement, sponsorship, or commercial exploitation of a person's fame. Vote The Goat structures its features to minimize those risks.
- Platform policies: App stores and platforms may apply conservative review standards; we document and demonstrate our safeguards to satisfy platform review teams.

4) How Vote The Goat Implements Legal Principles

- Transformative analysis: We transform public statistical data into new insights (for example, cross-season combinations of awards and statistical categories) that add informational value beyond mere reproduction.
- Neutral presentation: UI copy and site copy use neutral, informational language; we avoid promotional phrasing that could imply endorsement.
- No official assets: No official photos, team marks, or licensed imagery are used in the app.
- No public UGC areas: The app does not include public comment sections, user uploads, or testimonial features that could create endorsement impressions or user-generated legal exposure.
- Commercial separation: Advertising is limited to interstitial ads that are not tied to player profiles or poll outcomes; we do not sell rankings or personal user data to third parties for commercial exploitation.

5) Methodology and Transparency

- Score composition: Final ranking = User votes (80%) + Greatness Index (20%).

- Purpose of the Greatness Index: The Index is a proprietary statistical reworking of public data designed to mitigate distortions from non-representative voting and to introduce an objective component.
- Index confidentiality: The full internal formula is not published to avoid conditioning votes and to protect proprietary methods; high-level description and examples are provided instead.
- Examples of added value: cross-season award combinations, simultaneous category leadership in a single season, and other composite metrics that are not readily available in public sources.

6) Monetization and Commercial Separation

- Ad model: The app is supported by interstitial advertising only. Ads are not linked to player profiles and do not influence poll results.
- No sale of rankings or personal data: We do not sell player rankings or personal user data to third parties for commercial use.

7) Measures to Prevent Implied Endorsement

- Clear, neutral language across UI and communications.
- No official images or logos used anywhere in the product.
- No claims of affiliation or sponsorship.
- No public interaction features that could create endorsement impressions.
- Visible disclaimers in app and detailed FAIR USE page on the site.

8) Removal Procedure and Handling Legal Requests

- How to request removal: Use the in-app Report / Request removal button or email vtgsupport@ithakacompanylimited.com

- Information to provide: requester identity, reason for request, and supporting documentation where applicable
- Response times: acknowledgment within 48 hours; final response within 72 business hours. If a request is valid, we will remove or update the profile promptly.
- Representative channel: agents or legal counsel should use the same email; we will provide documentation and, where appropriate, a concise legal rationale for our use.

9) Documentation and Evidence

- Internal records: We maintain logs of data sources, timestamps, and reprocessing steps to demonstrate the informational and transformative nature of our work.
- Evidence on request: These records are available to authorized parties, platform reviewers, or legal representatives upon legitimate request. A downloadable one-page summary for platform review is available on this site.

10) Jurisdictional Limits and Good Faith Cooperation

- Jurisdictional differences: Right of publicity and image laws differ by country and state. We acknowledge these differences and will evaluate requests on a case-by-case basis.
- Good faith approach: We operate in good faith, prioritize rapid remediation of legitimate concerns, and are prepared to cooperate with platform review teams and legal representatives to resolve disputes.

11) Contact for Representatives and Legal Counsel

For formal requests or legal correspondence, contact vtgsupport@ithakacompanylimited.com. Provide clear identification, the legal basis for the request, and any supporting documents. We commit to the SLA above and to transparent, documented handling of all formal inquiries.

Closing Statement

Vote The Goat is committed to transparent, public-facing polling and original analysis. We balance openness with respect for legal rights and will continue to refine policies and procedures to reduce risk while preserving the app's mission of public participation. If you have questions about our approach or need further documentation for review, contact vtgsupport@ithakacompanylimited.com