

The Best Time Of Year To Be A Football Fan: Helpful Tips For Getting Those Hot Postseason Tickets Easily And Safely

(NAPSA)—Football fans across the country are gearing up for college bowl season and NFL playoff games. That means planning the tailgate, stocking up on face paint and figuring out ways to secure the best seats to the big game. Unfortunately, many of these seats are gone long before most fans even have a chance to buy them. Whether these tickets were grabbed quickly by early birds such as season ticket holders, program boosters or corporate VIPs, the availability for the common fan can be extremely limited. The result is frustrated fans who want to see their teams play but don't know where or how to get their hands on tickets to these sold-out events. Many will feel no choice but to deal with street scalpers outside the venue and risk getting a phony ticket or paying exorbitant prices.

Thankfully, the days of the street scalper may be numbered now with the advent of specialized online secondary ticket services such as StubHub.com. Today fans can not only gain access to these high-demand games but literally shop from the widest selection of tickets supplied by season ticket holders and other fans who have them available for resale. Although there are several online services to choose from, they're not all risk-free. It's important to take a closer look before shelling out hundreds or even thousands of dollars for a ticket to the big game.

Here are some tips to remember when buying college bowl or NFL playoff game tickets online:

1. Use a trusted site/location—Make sure to buy from a company with a rock solid reputation for service. (eBay is popular but does not guarantee tickets. You take your chances buying from someone you meet via craigslist.)



Don't fumble your chance for postseason tickets: Find selection and security at online ticket stores.

2. Insist on Guarantee—To be 100 percent sure you'll get your tickets and keep your money safe, go to a site such as StubHub which guarantees ticket quality, secure transactions and on-time delivery. Tickets are worthless if they arrive late.

3. Customer Service is Key—Make sure any online site has a clearly visible Customer Service number, so you can easily contact a representative directly with any issues or assistance with your purchase.

4. Beware of below market prices—Be wary of any deals that sound or look too good to be true. They usually are.

5. Don't negotiate a deal on the street—The risks of buying tickets from street scalpers are many: Counterfeit tickets can be prevalent and once cash is handed over it's gone. Plus, selection is limited and pricing is not easily compared to other sellers.

6. Always use a credit card—Credit cards have built-in securities against fraud. Cash and wire transfers should never be used unless you know the seller personally.

For more information on purchasing tickets secondhand, visit StubHub at www.stubhub.com.