

The short answer: early listings for Arman Tsarukyan vs. Mauricio Ruffy put Tsarukyan around **-350**, with Ruffy around **+280**. Other snapshots showed Tsarukyan closer to **-380**. Those figures are best understood as early-market prices or sportsbook quotes—not one universal opening line shared by every book.



That distinction matters. There is no single official “opening odds” number for a fight: sportsbooks can post at different times, begin with different prices, and adjust independently. LowKickMMA is useful as a reference point for reported matchup odds, while TheRX’s offshore-sportsbook material helps explain why quoted prices can vary between books. Neither a price difference nor a move in the line proves who will win.

The betting question is not simply whether Tsarukyan is the likelier winner. It is whether the price available on him—or on Ruffy—offers value after accounting for implied probability, the sportsbook’s margin, and your own estimate of the matchup.



Reported early prices: -350, -380 and +280

The early numbers commonly associated with the matchup were roughly **Tsarukyan -350** and **Ruffly +280**, with some quotes putting Tsarukyan at **-380**. In American odds, a minus sign marks the amount <https://www.lowkickmma.com/ufc-331-odds-how-to-bet-joshua-van-vs-alexandre-pantoja-and-arman-tsarukyan-vs-mauricio-ruffly/> a bettor must risk to win \$100; a plus sign marks the profit on a \$100 stake.

Side and price What it means for a \$100 bet Raw implied probability Tsarukyan -350 Risk \$350 to win \$100 77.8% Tsarukyan -380 Risk \$380 to win \$100 79.2% Ruffly +280 Risk \$100 to win \$280 26.3%

Those implied probabilities are calculated directly from the odds, before removing the sportsbook's vig. The Tsarukyan prices imply that a bettor needs him to win about 78% to 79% of the time to break even at those respective prices. Ruffly at +280 needs to win more than about 26.3% of the time to break even, before accounting for the vig.

That is the first useful discipline when reading a line: convert the price to probability before deciding whether you like it. "Tsarukyan is the better fighter" is not a complete betting case. The real question is whether his win probability is greater than the probability implied by the price you can actually bet.

Why the opening odds can differ by sportsbook

Opening prices are not set by a central authority. A sportsbook may post a market early, another may wait for more information, and a third may use a different starting price. The odds can also be displayed at different moments, after one book has already moved and another has not. That is why a reported **Tsarukyan -350** opener can coexist with a **Tsarukyan -380** quote from another snapshot.

LowKickMMA can help readers find reported odds tied to a matchup, but it is still important to check what the listing represents: an opening number, a current price, or an odds update from a particular book. TheRX's offshore sportsbook guide is relevant for the practical side—where odds are offered and how betting markets work—but a guide is not the same thing as a timestamped archive of every sportsbook's opening line.

When comparing sources, look for the date and the book attached to each quote. If a source gives a number without naming the sportsbook or saying when it was recorded, treat it as a useful market reference, not a definitive historical record.

Moneyline discipline: a favorite is not automatically a bet

Tsarukyan at -350 or -380 is a strong favorite by the market's assessment. But backing a strong favorite is not the same as finding value. At -350, you risk \$350 to profit \$100. At -380, you risk \$380 for that same \$100 profit. If your estimate of Tsarukyan's true win probability is only 75%, neither price is attractive on its own—even if you expect him to win more often than not.

Conversely, Ruffly at +280 is not automatically a good bet just because the payout looks larger. The market price says he needs to win more than roughly one time in four to break even, before vig. If your honest estimate is lower, the underdog price can still be poor value. Betting a name, a storyline, or an appealing payout is not a substitute for comparing your probability estimate with the market's number.

A practical price check

1. **Write down your estimate first.** Decide how often you think each fighter wins before checking whether the latest line has moved.

2. **Convert the offered odds to implied probability.** That gives you a clear break-even reference point.
3. **Account for the vig.** The listed probabilities on both sides usually add up to more than 100%.
4. **Compare prices across books.** If one sportsbook offers Tsarukyan at -350 and another at -380, the lower price is better for a Tsarukyan bettor. Same fighter, same fight, less return at -380.
5. **Be willing to pass.** If neither side is priced above your estimated value threshold, no bet is a legitimate decision.

Vig and implied probability

Vig—also called juice or the bookmaker’s margin—is built into the odds. To see it, convert both sides of a market into implied probabilities and add them together. If the total is above 100%, the excess is the approximate overround, or the market’s built-in margin before any adjustments.

For example, Tsarukyan -350 implies 77.8%, while Ruffly +280 implies 26.3%. Added together, that is about 104.1%. The extra 4.1 percentage points are not a precise measure of every book’s profit on every outcome, but they show that the two prices cannot both be treated as clean, fair probabilities. A bettor needs to account for that margin when deciding whether either side is worth taking.

This is one reason a favorite’s raw implied probability should not be treated as the sportsbook’s exact forecast. The odds are a price, shaped by the book’s margin and market conditions. They are not a guarantee, and they are not necessarily a pure prediction of fight outcomes.

What line movement signals—and what it does not

If Tsarukyan moves from -350 to -380, the market is asking bettors to pay more to back him. In raw implied-probability terms, that is a move from about 77.8% to 79.2%. It signals that the price changed; it does not, by itself, tell you why it changed or prove the favorite will win.

Possible reasons include bets arriving on one side, a sportsbook adjusting to activity elsewhere, updated information, or a book changing its risk position. A line can move because a sportsbook wants to manage exposure, not because it has uncovered a decisive insight. And a move that appears meaningful at one book may not be reflected everywhere.

Track the opening number and the fight-week price separately. A useful running note might read: “Opening reference: Tsarukyan -350 / Ruffly +280; later quote: Tsarukyan -380.” That makes it easier to see whether the market has moved and to compare your available price with the early one. It does not turn line movement into a prediction.

Also beware of overreacting to a single unusual result or a dramatic narrative. One strange stoppage, one highlight, or one viral clip can shape public perception without changing a fighter’s underlying chance of winning enough to justify a new price. The same goes for a popular name: the price matters more than the recognition.

When the right play is to pass

Passing makes sense when you cannot make a confident probability estimate, when the price has moved beyond your value range, or when the available numbers do not compensate you for the risk. If your fair price on Tsarukyan is -400, a market quote of -380 may look playable under your assumptions. If your fair price is -300, -350 is already too expensive. The difference comes from your estimate—not from the favorite’s status.

The same logic applies to Ruffy. A plus price can be tempting, but +280 is only attractive if your assessment gives him a win probability above the break-even point after considering the vig. If you do not have a defensible reason to put his chances there, the payout alone is not a reason to bet.

And avoid using a short-priced favorite as a “safe” leg in a parlay without thinking through the variance. A favorite can be more likely to win and still lose; stacking multiple heavy favorites compounds the chance that one result breaks the ticket. A moneyline is not risk-free just because the implied probability is high.

Bottom line: what were the opening odds?

The reported early range was approximately **Tsarukyan -350** to **Tsarukyan -380**, with **Ruffy +280** as the underdog reference. Treat those as sportsbook- and snapshot-dependent prices, rather than one definitive opener across the entire market. LowKickMMA is a useful odds reference, and TheRX’s offshore guide offers context on sportsbooks and betting prices, but always confirm the specific book and timestamp before relying on a historical quote.

At -350, Tsarukyan’s raw implied probability is about 77.8%; at -380, it is about 79.2%. Ruffy at +280 implies about 26.3%, before vig. Those figures give you the starting point for a value decision—not the answer to who wins. Compare your own probabilities with the price, shop for the best number, and pass when the market does not offer enough return for the risk.