

## Rules Changes to Consider for 2019

These proposals are on the docket for discussion at the Winter Meeting in January, 2019. Please review and prepare to discuss.

1. Article 9.2.3.11: Change “waiting period” to 1 week instead of the present 2, for Owners in both leagues to make trades with each other in both leagues.
2. Consider making FA and trade transactions to be effective on Tuesday, with any concomitant transactions to be made by the respective Owners as necessary. Policing roster integrity may be difficult.
3. Consider whether to make the “2-player Ohtani Option” a permanent feature. Brendan McKay is another possible two-way player.
4. Dollar cap on rosters
5. Include asterisk and players on long-term contracts as though they are \$25 players for trade purposes, thus affecting the anti-dumping provisions. Players with long-term contracts or in the final year of a regular contract as well as players with salaries of \$25 or more would be regarded as “premium” players for trade purposes.
6. Prohibit 2 such players from being traded in a single deal to the same Owner
7. Change our daily transactions deadline for “lineup changes” only. (No effect on FA bids and trade deadline) Currently we are setting our daily lineups at noon ... sometimes 5-8 hrs ahead of the release of actual MLB lineups. My reasoning is why have daily transactions when we are still guessing what the daily real life lineups will be? I think MLB.com and Rotowire have the batting orders available about 2 hrs before game times. This would eliminate the dead spots for rain outs /postponed games. Also we wouldn't have players in our fantasy lineups that we later find out are out of the real life lineups. Of course we don't know this until 5-8 hrs after we have "locked" our fantasy starting lineups for the day under the current rules. I think this would be a more natural way to play the game....
8. Change the rosters to add 2 more pitchers and eliminate one of the catchers and one outfield spot. Justification is that in the current MLB environment teams are carrying at least 12 pitchers and are cycling in at least 6 more for spot starts during the season. This restricts the number of players that are available whenever a team has several injuries to its position players. Also, we quickly use up all of the position players in our reserve draft. For the last couple of years, only about a dozen free agents are ever available each week, and they are the absolute bottom of the barrel, and gives us no chance to recover from injuries. If we look at the number of pitchers who appear in the course of the season, it is about 250 - 16 per team. Looking at the position players available it is about 225 - 15 per team. Our teams are currently comprised of 14 of 23 as position players for a total of 168, while we need only 108 pitchers. Thus we are using 168 of 225 position players versus only 108 of 250 pitchers. Obviously, that gives us tons of pitchers to add every week, but very few hitters. We need to

get the ratios back to closer. This plan gives us 132 of 250 pitchers and 144 of 225 hitters, much closer to equal. If we incorporate this rule, we should also address the minimum requirements for innings and at bats: Change minimum at bats for each team to 4500 and minimum innings for each team to 1200.

9. Change the makeup of rosters at Roster Freeze such that each team may keep any mixture of Active and Reserve players up to the limit of 15. As presently defined, we can keep up to 12 Active and 3 Reserve players. Under the proposal, an Owner might choose to keep a combination of 9 Active and 6 Reserve players or, as an extreme example, 15 Reserves (all "Rookies").
10. When a trade involves players with unequal salaries, add the salary "loss" shortage to that team's FAAB account. For example, if a trade includes a total of \$75 in salaries in exchange for players with salaries totaling \$40, the team acquiring the \$40 players would have the difference (\$35) added to his FAAB account.
11. Trade restriction: No dumping until June 1 (or July 1). This would mimic what the real guys do, lesson the angst of dumping for the whiners. And it WOULD give more credence to the auction day results. It would also give the season more time to unfold, with each team's fortunes possibly looking different in June (or July) than they do in early May, for example.