

What Are the Expectations for the Celtics

By Jesse Almeida 10/21/22

All I can say is that this was originally a great offseason for the Boston Celtics. But things did not look good for the Celtics before the season began. Injuries have already hit the Celtics, and a huge mindblowing story has been released about the Celtics head coach. What was the offseason like for the Boston Celtics?

At the start of free agency, Brad Stevens made a huge splash in the trade market trading for an all star caliber guard in Malcolm Brogdon. Brogdon has been battling injuries on the court, however his talent when he is on the court is underrated. Brogdon is the 8th player in NBA history to achieve 50 percent from the field, 40 percent from 3, and a 90 percent from the free throw in a season. Along this, currently there have been 5 guards in the NBA to average 20+ PPG¹, 5+ RPG², and 5+ APG³ over the last 2 seasons. Those players are, your very own Malcolm Brogdon, Stephen Curry, James Harden, Russell Westbrook, and Luka Doncic. Brogdon is a point guard who knows how to get the ball in the hoop whether that is by shooting, or by playmaking, he is one of the better guards in the NBA and gives the Celtics a boost off of the bench. Then, the Celtics went out and got Danilo Gallinari who is a stretch forward who previously played for the Atlanta Hawks. Gallo averaged 12 PPG on 43 percent from the field, and 38 percent from 3. He filled the void of providing the Celtics with shooting off of the bench which they lacked last season.

But then, the Celtics season went down a hill where no one expected. First was reported that Robert Williams would miss some time at the beginning of the year. Now at the time of typing this, it looks like he will return no sooner than January. Next, came something that no one expected. The Boston Celtics suspended head coach Ime Udoka for an affair with a female

¹ PPG: Points Per Game

² RPG: Rebounds Per Game

³ APG: Assists Per Game

within the organization and for using crude language in his communications with this female coworker. It was a shock around Celtics nation and to the NBA. After his first season as a head coach and bringing the Celtics to the NBA Finals and being 2 wins away from winning it all, the Celtics would be without their head coach for the entire season. To top it all off, Danilo Gallinari who the Celtics just signed tore his ACL while playing for Italy at the FIBA World Cup qualifier. Another key piece to this year's run goes down for the season before he even sees the parquet. Questions were now being asked as to whether or not the Celtics would be the team everyone is predicting them to be.

As the season began however, Brad went out and filled the void that would be missed from Gallinari and signed Blake Griffin to a contract. As we all know, Blake Griffin has been rumored to come to Boston for many years now. He did not play much on the Nets, but when he was on the court, there were times where he showed that he still does have plenty left in the tank. Griffin also adds to this defensive core as he drew a league leading 38 charges last season. He may not be the same Blake Griffin as before, but he is a great fit for this Celtics team and can help them make a deep run. Even after the roller coaster offseason, the Celtics picked it up right where they left off and won on opening night against the 76ers on a score of 126-117. The offense exploded as the J's had 35 pts each combining for 70 pts, and the bench went off with Brogdon leading the way with 16 points off the bench. Based off of early looks, the Boston Celtics are going to be a great team this year, and fans should still expect a deep run and possibly banner 18 this season.

Sources From:

[Malcolm Brogdon | Boston Celtics | NBA.com](#)

[\(1\) StatMuse on Twitter: "Guards that averaged 20+ PPG, 5+ RPG and 5+ APG over the last 2 seasons: – Malcolm Brogdon – Steph Curry – James Harden – Russell Westbrook – Luka Doncic Elite list. <https://t.co/lASSdVnLUd>" / Twitter](#)

[Danilo Gallinari Stats, Height, Weight, Position, Draft Status and more | Basketball-Reference.com](#)

[Sources - Investigation found Boston Celtics coach Ime Udoka used crude language in dialogue with female subordinate prior to start of improper relationship \(espn.com\)](#)

[Celtics' Danilo Gallinari diagnosed with torn ACL in left knee | NBA.com](#)