

Baseball is Back

By Jesse Almeida 3/15/22

After a grueling 3-4 months of wondering when baseball would be back, the lockout is over and we have baseball back. The players union and the owners have made an agreement on the CBT and rule changes for the game for the next 5 years. What does this mean? That means that spring training starts immediately and we will have a full 162 game regular season. This is great for the sport and the fans who love the game of baseball. The game is back and we get to watch the players and team that we love the most.

As mentioned, the CBT was changed from 210 million dollars to 230 million dollars. The CBT is the Competitive Balance Tax. So, teams have 230 million dollars to spend before they get penalized for going over. Here is how the CBT penalties work, “When a team goes over the luxury tax for the first time, it must pay a 20% tax on the difference of the amount it went over. If they go over the threshold two years in a row, the team pays a 30% tax on the difference in year two. If that team goes over it again for a third year, that penalty rises to 50% [MLB luxury tax explained: How it works and why it exists \(franchisesports.co.uk\)](#).” The Red Sox were at 203 million before the increase, now they have 27 Million to spend. What should the Red Sox do with this extra money?

So far, the Red Sox lost Eduardo Rodriguez unfortunately, however they added some pitching in James Paxton, Rich Hill, and Michael Wacha before the lockout. The Sox made in most people's opinion a questionable move in trading away Hunter Renfroe for two good prospects and Jackie Bradley Jr. Personally, the only way that this move makes sense is if a splash is on its way to Boston. If the Red Sox do not either keep Kyle Schwarber, or make a splash with the extra money, they have taken a step back. The Red Sox are rumored on Freddie Freeman, Trevor Story, Seiya Suzuki, Jorge Soler, and obviously Schwarber.

The 2022 baseball season is here and Opening day will be at Yankee Stadium against the New York Yankees for the Red Sox. Then on Patriots Day weekend, the Red Sox will be back at Fenway Park for their home opener against the Minnesota Twins.