

Scoresheet Baseball July 20th, 2009

Hi All: As the second half of the season gets underway many of you are looking to make deals. There is still plenty of time to trade - this year's **trading deadline** is not until **Labor Day** (Sept. 7th.) But before making a deal we do ask you to consider your fellow owners, and to please read the following:

Trading Ethics: On behalf of all *Scoresheet* owners: please, no matter what your record, do **not** make a trade unless it is designed to improve **your** team. We all play *Scoresheet* for fun, and certainly making trades is part of the fun. But when making a trade please show some respect for your fellow league owners. Making a deal that unfairly helps out another owner in your league (by trading them good players and not getting fair value in return) just ruins the league for everyone else. We do monitor trades, but having to veto trades is a tough task, and is no fun for anyone involved. So, even if this does not appear to be your year to win a pennant, please refrain from making trades that are unbalanced. If you have a friend trying to win the league, then let him win it on his own, and please do not make a trade with him just to help his team out!

Also, if you agree verbally to a trade then it is definitely not right to back out later. Once you say something to the effect of "okay, it's a deal", then you are committed to making that trade. And please remember if you make a trade you need to send us a note confirming you agreed to the trade.

Many of you play in continuing leagues, where teams keep players from year to year. If you are in one of those continuing leagues we would like to point out that **loaning players to another team** for some sort of compensation in return is **highly unethical!** It is fine to simply trade a player for future draft picks because you feel you are out of the race and want to improve for next year (as long as you get fair value). But agreeing to something like trading another team ARod in return for draft picks, with the understanding you get Rodriguez back at the end of the year for lesser draft picks, is **NOT** right. For continuing leagues we have thought about making a rule that says something like "once you trade away a player you can not get him back on your roster for at least 12 months", or even banning all trading of future draft picks. But some of our leagues do a lot of trading, and rules like that would just lessen the fun of making legitimate deals, and would also make it harder for teams to re-build for the future. So, rather than make such a strict rule, **we ask that you make NO trades that involve 'loaning' players!** And if for some reason you think you may not keep your team for next year please do not trade any next year draft picks - thanks!

Simply put, you should consider how the other owners in your league will view a trade before making it. If it is the kind of deal that would upset you if you were in the middle of the battle for first, then you should not make it. Even if this looks like it is not your year to win, you may be in first place next year, and think of how unhappy you'd be if you lost the pennant because of an unfair deal.

Also, it is considered polite to respond to trade offers made to you. Even if you simply say 'no!' that is better than dead silence. And if the original offer is made by e-mail it is pretty quick to hit reply and type in at least a short response. Who knows, that response may lead to a better offer that you actually take.

Finally, **PLEASE REPORT TO US ANY TRADES THAT YOU MAKE!** Trade notices need to be sent in by the very first Monday after you make the trade - thanks! Even if you are not changing your lineup please do send in a note confirming you made the trade so that we can put it thru. The best way to report trades is to use the trade report form on your league's Scoresheet web page. By using that form the other team owners in your league can/will see that you confirmed the trade, and also the players you traded for will automatically be added to your on-line lineup form (in the farm section) as soon as you report the trade.

Some quick reminders:

- 1) You can only list 30 players on a lineup card.
- 2) If you are using a position player he must be listed against **both** RHPers and LHPers.
- 3) If you list a player as a defensive sub then that player also needs to be listed on your batting/bench card. So yes, defensive subs that you list DO count against your 30 man limit on a lineup card.
- 4) Once again, **PLEASE** report trades that you make by the very first Monday after you make the trade.

Have a great week! - Jeff Barton

P.S. We are now forming **football** leagues for the upcoming season. If you'd like to get in a postal mail league drafting in 2 stages, we need to **HAVE** your draft list in our office (list up to 120 names), by/before August 10th. If you'd like to be in a web drafting league the first web drafts will be starting the first week of August, and new web draft leagues will be formed thru out the month of August. **If you'd like a spot in either type of league please let us know as soon as possible so we can save a spot for you and can send you complete drafting info.** Player lists and rules packets are also on our web site. - Jeff