

War.....What Is It Good For? #Season15

Back at it again for the third annual WAR article. This article is designed to give each player and team a value, based on their performances in the most recent season. Without further ado, the WAR (Wins Above Replacement) for every player and team that participated in the SWBL in 2017!

Non-Pitching WAR:

The way these numbers were found was quite simple. A player's: OBP, SLG, Plate Appearances and a rating system for Defense (1-7) and Base running (1-5) were entered into a formula to develop how many wins that player is worth, compared to what a replacement player would contribute. The formula for what a replacement player's average SLG is (league average SLG - .200 points). The formula for what a replacement player's average OBP is (league average OBP - .100 points) (As suggested by FanGraphs).

You may be asking, "Why weren't RBI or Runs scored used to produce a player's WAR?" The reasoning for this is because some teams benefit by having better players than other teams, thus allowing for more RBI and Run scoring opportunities. I felt as though leaving those statistics out would help give a better picture of what players values would be, regardless of what team they played on or where they hit in the lineup.

You also may be asking, "Why did you use a rating system for fielding and baserunning instead of actually compiling all of the stats?" The reasoning for this is because WAR calculations take into account of which position you play for fielding AND numerous other statistics. As far as base-running goes, we don't really have any supporting statistics. Honestly, that's a lot of digging and work that I don't feel like going through.

Defense Rating: 1= Best, 4 = Average , 7 = Worst . Just about every player received either a 2, 3 or 4. Gold Glover's received 1's and others received 5's and 6's . These ratings did not affect the WAR a whole lot, so I used my best judgment.

Base running: 1= Best, 3 = Average , 5 = Worst . Again, this was a judgment rating and just about every player received either a 2 or 3, with a few players receiving a 1.

Pitching WAR:

These numbers were found using the following statistics: Innings Pitched, ERA and K's. Strikeouts add either very little or no effect on a player's pitching WAR. Also, in my opinion, ERA was the strongest statistic that could fairly be averaged to quantify what a replacement player could produce. The formula for what a replacement player's average ERA is (league average ERA + 1.0)

Before you go and compare your stats to players that have the same WAR as you, please consider the following are taken into consideration:

- On-Base % $[(Walks + Hits + SAC)/Plate Appearance]$
- Slugging % $[Total Bases/ At-Bats]$
- Plate Appearances (At Bats + Walks) Players with more walks benefited.
- Defense Rating [1-7]
- Base Running Rating [1-5]
- Total Games Played
- Total Innings Pitched
- ERA
- Strikeouts Thrown

- The league average OBP with the suggested deductions was $20.4/48 = 0.425 - .100 = 0.325$
- The league average SLG with the suggested deductions was $44.49/48 = 0.927 - .200 = 0.727$
- The league average ERA with the suggested additions was $(5*470)/416 = 5.65 + 1.0 = 6.65$

Non-Pitching WAR (Hitting and Fielding)

Sam Skibbe: 2.0
 Tyler Flakne: 1.6
 Chris Meador: 1.4
 Sam Bakula: 1.3
 Patrick Gatti: 1.3
 Gus Skibbe: 0.9
 Peter Leicht: 0.9
 Scott Pohle: 0.9
 Ty Butler: 0.8
 Luke Bakula: 0.7
 Kevin Pohle: 0.7
 John Calloway: 0.7
 Brian Kenny: 0.7
 Kyle Breda: 0.6
 Bryan Benware: 0.6
 Spencer Bogad: 0.6
 Grant Boyd: 0.5
 Michael Karl: 0.5
 Brett Spencer: 0.5
 Will Rath: 0.4
 Blake Spencer: 0.4
 Kyle Cornell: 0.4
 Edloe Donnan: 0.4
 Jim Stout: 0.3
 Jimmy Nelson: 0.3
 Mark Belles: 0.3
 Steve Hays: 0.3
 Mat Peisert: 0.3
 Paul Castellano: 0.3
 Zach Artim: 0.2
 Devin Nelson: 0.2
 Jeremy Worrell: 0.1
 Evan Close: 0.1
 John Leicht: 0.1
 Dylan Bannecke: 0.1
 John Doerries: 0.0
 Auston Steffes: 0.0
 Jimmy Cole: 0.0
 Derek Thompson: -0.1
 Trent Steffes: -0.1
 Matt Germer: - 0.1
 Cam Branson: -0.1
 Justin Gober: -0.1
 Curran Collins: -0.2

Alex Heck: -0.2
Rob Walters: -0.2
Andrew Lindor: -0.2
Kevin: Wiethuchter: -0.3

Astros:

Total Non-Pitching WAR: 0.8
Team Average WAR (7 players) : 0.1

Athletics:

Total Non-Pitching WAR: 1.6
Team Average WAR (5 players) : 0.3

Brewers:

Total Non-Pitching WAR: 2.7
Team Average WAR (6 players): 0.45

Diamondbacks:

Total Non-Pitching WAR: 0.2
Team Average WAR (6 players): 0.033

Expos:

Total Non-Pitching WAR: -0.1
Team Average WAR (5 players): -0.02

Rockies:

Total Non-Pitching WAR: 2.6
Team Average WAR (5 players): 0.52

Royals:

Total Non-Pitching WAR: 5.3
Team Average WAR (4 players): 1.32

Twins:

Total Non-Pitching WAR: 2.7
Team Average WAR (5 players): 0.54

Yankees:

Total Non-Pitching WAR: 3.6
Team Average WAR (4 players): 0.9

Pitching WAR

Jackson Crosley: 1.5
Will Rath: 1.2
Kyle Cornell: 1.2
David Olderman: 1.0
Scott Pohle: 1.0
Jimmy Cole: 1.0
Brett Spencer: 0.9
Spencer Bogad: 0.9
Gus Skibbe: 0.8
Luke Bakula: 0.7
Mat Peisert: 0.7
Jimmy Nelson: 0.7
Jim Stout: 0.6
Sam Skibbe: 0.6
Kyle Breda: 0.4
Mark Belles: 0.3
Blake Spencer: 0.3
Zach Artim: 0.2
Tyler Flakne: 0.1
Auston Steffes: 0.1
Trent Steffes: 0.0
Matt Germer: 0.0
Paul Castellano: 0.0
Cam Branson: 0.0
Alex Heck: -0.1
Derek Thompson: -0.1
Devon Nelson: -0.1
Chris Meador: -0.1
Kevin Wietchuchter: -0.2
Steve Hays: -0.2

Astros:

Total Pitching WAR: 0.5
Team Average WAR (3 players) : 0.16

Athletics:

Total Pitching WAR: 0.6
Team Average WAR (3 players) : 0.20

Brewers:

Total Pitching WAR: 2.8
Team Average WAR (3 players): 0.93

Diamondbacks:

Total Pitching WAR: 1.7
Team Average WAR (5 players): 0.34

Expos:

Total Pitching WAR: 0.5

Team Average WAR (3 players): 0.16

Rockies:

Total Pitching WAR: 1.6

Team Average WAR (3 players): 0.53

Royals:

Total Pitching WAR: 1.5

Team Average WAR (3 players): 0.50

Twins:

Total Pitching WAR: 2.0

Team Average WAR (3 players): 0.66

Yankees:

Total Pitching WAR: 2.5

Team Average WAR (2 players): 1.25

Total WAR by Team (Non-Pitching + Pitching)

Astros: 1.3

Athletics: 2.2

Brewers: 5.5

Diamondbacks: 1.9

Expos: 0.4

Rockies: 4.2

Royals: 6.8

Twins: 4.7

Yankees: 6.1

Expected Team Records:

Glendale: Replacement Team Win/Loss 3.2 - 6.8

Yankees: 9.3 - 0.7

Twins: 7.9 - 2.1

Diamondbacks: 5.1 - 4.9

Sportsbarn: Replacement Team Win/Loss 2.4 - 7.6

Rockies: 6.6 - 3.4

Brewers: 7.9 - 2.1

Expos: 2.8 - 7.2

Sand Bar: Replacement Team Win/Loss 2.4 - 7.6

Royals: 9.2 - 0.8

Astros: 3.7 - 6.3

Athletics: 4.6 - 5.4

Actual Team Records:

Yankees: 9-1

Twins: 7-3

Diamondbacks: 3-7

Rockies: 6-4

Brewers: 5-5

Expos: 2-8

Royals: 10-0

Astros: 2-8

Athletics: 1-9