

New in This Year's Book

What follows are the notable additions to this 2020 edition of *The Process*. We've inserted small ideas, corrected typos, and clarified some existing ideas, but won't necessarily call those out here.

Foreword (pg. 1-2) - We are fortunate enough to have Clay Link write the foreword to this year's edition. Clay is the MLB editor for RotoWire and has been one of the most successful fantasy baseball owners in the fantasy sports industry over the past two seasons. In 2018, he won The Great Fantasy Baseball Invitational, finished eighth out of over 1,700 teams in the 2018 NFBC Online Championship competition, and placed second in the Tout Wars Head-2-Head league. He repeated that second place Tout Wars Head-2-Head finish in 2019.

Find an Advantage (pg. 11-12) - A brief section on finding an advantage and knowing one's strengths.

The F-ing Ball (pg. 15-16) - Brief discussion of the elephant in the room, the juiced baseball, and understanding how a juiced ball in 2019 and non-juiced ball in 2018 affect Steamer projections, along with references to the standings gain points and pERA measures in the appendices.

Projecting Holds (pg. 31-32) - Updated analysis of the top Saves + Holds earners from the 2019 season.

Rookie Variance (pg. 44-45) - New study looking at the variance in rookie hitter projections versus non-rookie projections and how to apply this when attempting to value and draft rookie hitters.

Valuation Methods (pg. 71) - Due to the fact that neither of the authors regularly utilize the percentage valuation method and our lack of confidence in being able to adequately explain the nuances of the calculations, we have elected to remove the detailed explanation of how to calculate PVM valuations.

Standings Gain Points Example Final Equations (pg. 80) - Added brief explanation and example of how to use the SGP factors and example equations in Appendix H. This example formula can be used to shortcut the process and value players without going through the entire SGP process.

Z-score Example Final Equations (pg. 86-87) - Added brief example of what a final z-score calculation looks like. Once an owner has performed a z-score calculation, this example formula can be used to shortcut the process on future valuation runs.

Comparison of SGP and Z-score Auction Values (pg. 88-90) - New study comparing valuation results from the SGP and z-score methods. The study highlights the differences for both hitters and pitchers and where the two valuation systems differ most on the extremes.

Are Closers or Starters Cheaper in the Auction or in Free Agency (pg. 99-101) - New study attempting to shed light on the age-old argument of if it's cheaper to acquire saves in the draft or via free agency.

What is Multi-position Eligibility Worth? (pg. 103-105) - Added several more paragraphs to the argument as to why multi-position eligible players are more valuable.

Consider Previous Production (pg. 116-126) - New study seeking to understand if and the extent to which previous fantasy production levels indicate the likelihood of better returns on investment in the future.

Catcher Strategy (pg. 132-133) - Added several new paragraphs on the strategy of waiting to draft catchers until the later stages of the draft.

Historic Results for Closers (pg. 134-136) - Important new information about the Saves environment, changing closer usage patterns, and closer turnover rates.

Finding a Helper (pg. 136-138) - Added a section about tips and benefits of working with a partner manager during the season.

Draft-only Strategy (pg. 144-145) - Added two new tips: "The Mike Fiers Rule" and "Default Stat Rule of Thumb."

Studies of Weekly Valuations for the 2017 and 2018 Seasons (pg. 154-172) - Updated study to now include the results of the 2018 season. Expanded study to include both 12-team and 15-team leagues.

ADP and Weekly Valuations (pg. 172-174) - New addition to the weekly valuation study to also incorporate expected weekly earnings from various ADP ranges.

What Does an Average Weekly Statistic Line Look Like (pg. 174-177) - New addition to the weekly valuation studies that demonstrate what weekly stat lines look like and what they are worth.

FAAB Spending Trends (pg. 177-178) - Updated for 2019 NFBC Main Event FAAB transactions.

How Valuable are Two-Start Pitchers (pg. 179-180) - Updated study which includes both 2017 and 2018 results. Expanded study to include both 12-team and 15-team leagues.

The Split Changes During the Season (pg. 180) - Removed this concept from the book.

In-Season Tools (pg. 192-194) - New section on the MLB news monitoring, lineup and batting order, projected starting pitcher, and weekly projection tools used by the authors to identify free agent targets and set lineups each week.

Mid-to-Late May (pg. 195-197) - Updated listing of hitters demoted during the 2019 season. Added significant discussion of the MLB Super Two deadline and its applicability to fantasy baseball.

FAAB Procedure (pg. 203-204) - Added discussion of the importance of each owner establishing a consistent and repeatable FAAB process to run through each weekend.

Specific Bidding Strategies (pg. 208-215) - Added a concept on "FAAB Binning Strategy" and different categories of players to target. Discussed overlap of the binning strategy with the costing strategy from the 2019 edition of *The Process*. Added 2019 charts of NFBC Main Event FAAB trends.

The Balancing Act of Player Valuation (pg. 215-216) - New section discussing how owners can find a balance between maximizing short-term value and long-term value on their rosters.

What to Consider for Weekly Lineups (pg. 225-228) - Added tables that can be used to quickly identify the earnings a player is expected to lose by missing one game in a 7, 4, or 3-game lineup period.

Lineup Setting Strategies (pg. 228) - New tip about monitoring MLB lineups.

Utility Advantage (pg. 228-229) - New tip about setting a lineup to give the owner the most flexibility to react to late news or injuries.

Studying Success Factors and Winning Owners (pg. 236-265) - Comprehensive new study of the final standings, all owner acquisitions, and all owner drops of the 2018 NFBC Main Event. This study seeks to confirm that successful owners are demonstrating behaviors consistent with the recommendations of this book.

Oh, and we also found a Melvin Upton reference that we changed back to B.J. Upton.