

Golden Bay Rotisserie League Transaction Primer

(updated 01/29/2014)

This transaction primer is designed to give Golden Bay Rotisserie League owners a quick understanding of how and when they can make transactions in the Golden Bay Rotisserie League. These notes are based upon the rules set forth in the Golden Bay Rotisserie Rule Book.

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PREPARING FOR AUCTION DAY

It's just prior to auction day and you have been asked to submit your keepers along with their opening day salaries. Here is what you need to know:

1. You may only keep a maximum of **15** players to start the auction. This means you will need to fill at least 8 spots during the auction.
2. If you wish to participate in the pre-auction draft, your roster size must be **14** players or less prior to the draft. You may continue to make picks in the pre-auction draft until your roster reaches **15** players (see #1 above).
3. Your roster must meet positional requirements during and after the auction.

Due to off-season moves, the MANILA FOLDERS are carrying eleven pitchers. When putting together their pre-auctions keeps, the FOLDERS know they must cut at least one of the pitchers in order to maintain a legal roster (nine pitchers and one utility player). If they only cut one pitcher prior to the auction, they may not choose a pitcher in the pre-auction draft or bid on a pitcher in the auction.

4. You are working with a **\$260** salary cap for your 23-man roster. You must be at \$260 or under at the conclusion of the auction. When picking replacements for injured players or minor leaguers after the auction, it is permissible to go over the cap.

Due to off-season moves, the MANILA FOLDERS have amassed a team salary of \$317. When putting together their pre-auction keeps, the FOLDERS know they must cut enough salary so that they can bid at least \$1 on each of players they need to acquire in the auction. If the FOLDERS keep the maximum of 15 players prior to the auction, their total salary cannot be more than \$252. This will allow them to bid \$1 on each of the eight players they need to acquire. (NOTE : While this is legal, it is a very poor strategy).

5. You need to understand what the contract status of the players on your roster means to help you determine who to keep and for how long. The following table shows the contract status codes and their associated implications. **In this example, the 2004 auction will be used as the starting point:**

Contract Status	Implications
1	<p>This player may be kept at his listed salary for one more year. No long-term contract decision needs to be made on this player until prior to the 2005 season. If the player is kept, his contract status will change to '2' after the auction.</p> <p>You may cut this player without penalty prior to the auction.</p>

2	<p>This player has just completed his second year on one or more of our rotisserie rosters. In order to keep this player, you must make one of the following choices:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Keep the player for one more year at his current salary making his contract status an 'A'. 2. Sign the player to a long-term, guaranteed contract of two years or more. For each year beyond the current year that you decide to keep the player, you must immediately add \$5 to his salary. For example, if the player's current salary is \$10 and you decide to sign him through 2005 (two years), his contract status becomes a 'B' and his salary moves to \$15. If you decide to sign the same player through 2006 (three years), his contact status becomes a 'C' and his salary moves to \$20 and so on. <p>You may cut this player without penalty prior to the auction.</p>
B,C,D, etc.	<p>This player is in the middle of a long-term guaranteed contract. Prior to the auction, a 'B' player will become an 'A' player, a 'C' player will become a 'B' player and so on. A year peels off the contract prior to every auction the player goes through.</p> <p>You MUST keep this player at his listed salary through the auction or you will be penalized his salary for the duration of his contract.</p> <p>Those players that become 'A' players prior to the auction can be waived at any time during the season. There is no future penalty.</p>

DUE DATES ON YOUR ROSTERS AND WHAT THEY MEAN

Each week when the Open Transaction Report and the league rosters are posted, due dates will appear next to some players' names. This means that there is a pending roster move involving that player. The player may have been removed from his major league team's active roster in which case you need to reserve and replace him. It is also possible that the player is already on the reserve list, but has returned to active status with his major league team. In this case, you need to make a decision between keeping that player or his replacement(s). Here are some notes on how these due dates are determined and what to consider when making roster moves based upon these due dates:

1. The due dates assigned to player moves are based upon the major league transaction time. The rosters may be posted before some transactions have taken place, but the correct dates will be put in the next set of rosters.

<p>If you own Ron Gant and he is activated just PRIOR to his team's game on Tuesday night, May 21, you MUST activate him by 6/4. He will have been eligible to play in two weeks worth of games by then.</p>
<p>If you own Ron Gant and he is activated just AFTER his team's game on Tuesday night, May 21, you MUST activate him by 6/11. He will NOT have been eligible to play in two weeks worth of games by 6/4, so you get the extra week.</p>
<p>If you own Rich Aurilia and he is disabled just PRIOR to his team's game on Tuesday night, May 21, you MUST replace him by 6/4. He will have been ineligible to play for two weeks worth of games by then.</p>
<p>If you own Rich Aurilia and he is disabled just AFTER his team's game on Tuesday night, May 21, you MUST replace him by 6/11. He will NOT have been ineligible to play for two weeks worth of games by 6/4, so you get the extra week.</p>

2. You MAY activate a player before his major league team activates him. Since you already own the player, no proof of a major league transaction is required. However, if after two weeks, your player is still not active on his major league team, the commissioner will replace him with the free agent hitter with the most at bats or the free agent pitcher with the most innings pitched (depending on the type of player involved). In the case of a hitter, you will be provided a player which allows you to carry a legal roster with respect to position requirements. You will NOT be able to activate the original player again until he is actually activated by his major league team.
3. If you do not replace an inactive player before NOON on his due date, the commissioner will replace him with the free agent hitter with the most at bats or the free agent pitcher with the most innings pitched (depending on the type of player involved). In the case of a hitter, you will be provided a player which allows you to carry a legal roster with respect to position requirements. This move is final as you have had two plus weeks to make this move.

4. If you do not break a stack of players before NOON on their due date, the commissioner will waive all inactive players in the stack and keep the active player. These moves are final as you have had two plus weeks to make these moves.

REPLACING INJURED, OPTIONED, RELEASED, OR AMERICAN LEAGUE PLAYERS

Every season, major league roster moves will create openings on the rosters of each Rotisserie team. You may make replacements for these players from our free agent list or via waiver claim to bring your roster back to full strength.

Before attempting to reserve a player and acquire a replacement for him, consider the following:

1. The player you are trying to reserve and replace must no longer be on the active roster of a National League team at the time you attempt to sign a replacement for him. If there is any question, use one of the many baseball web sites that list transactions to verify the information (see below).

Here is a list of Major League Baseball transaction sites to help in your research:

- <http://www.cbssports.com/mlb/transactions/>
- <http://espn.go.com/mlb/transactions>
- <http://msn.foxsports.com/mlb/transactions>
- <http://mlb.mlb.com/mlb/transactions/>
- <http://www.sportsnetwork.com/merge/tsnform.aspx?c=sportsnetwork&page=mlb/stat/transactions.aspx?sc=AA>

Also check the free fantasy sites such as:

- <http://www.rotoworld.com/playernews/mlb/baseball-player-news?r=1>
- <http://www.letsplay2.com/baseball/news.cfm>

2. As of 2014, you no longer need to verify that the player you are trying to sign from the free agent pool is actually on the active roster of a National League team. We have made it permissible to compile your replacement list using rumor, conjecture, and news bites, but you do so at your own risk. If a player you attempt to sign is not on a National League active roster for that day's game, you forfeit your pick in that round of free agent signings.

Team One has Cincinnati Reds starting pitcher Mike Leake and he has just gone on the disabled list with a leg injury. Team One would like to replace him on the next Tuesday transaction day. Due to their position in the standings, they make a list of three players which they submit to the commissioner. The first player on the list is the pitcher rumored to be replacing Arroyo in the Reds starting rotation, Tony Cingrani. The second player on the list is the Atlanta Braves #5 starting pitcher, Freddy Garcia, and the third player is Chicago Cubs relief pitcher James Russell.

When transactions are processed prior to the Tuesday games, Cingrani is still not officially on the Reds roster. Team One is penalized their pick in the first round of free agent signings and teams with lower precedence in the standings are given the ability to fill roster spots before Team One. In the meantime, Team Two selects Freddy Garcia. By the time the selection process returns to Team One, they must use their third pick, James Russell. That is their penalty for risking their first choice on Cingrani without confirming his presence on the Reds roster.

3. Priority for free agent signings is based upon the prior week's standings with the fifth place team having first choice and the selection order progressing as follows . . . 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 4, 3, 2, and 1. If you are not in fifth place, you should send in multiple names based upon your current standing so you don't run the risk of not getting a replacement for your opening. If you do not provide enough names, it is assumed you do not want any other players.
4. It is YOUR responsibility to make sure your roster is legal (based on position requirements) after any free agent signing. Verify that any potential free agent signing that you provide the commissioner will leave you with a legal roster if you actually get the player.
5. It is YOUR responsibility to make sure that any free agent signing you attempt to make does not put you over the current salary cap. The caps are \$320 from April through August and \$330 after roster expansion in September (provided you actually expanded your roster).

6. Proposals to sign free agents to fill roster openings should be submitted before noon on transaction day (Tuesday unless otherwise announced). If you submit your information after the noon deadline, you lose your priority as established by the standings.
7. If you miss the noon deadline, you may still attempt to sign a replacement from the remaining free agents. This must be done before the secondary deadline of 4pm. Players will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis.
8. The only players you may sign from the free agent list after the noon deadline and before the second deadline at 4pm are players who were originally available at noon. This prevents owners from bypassing the priority selection order and benefiting from late afternoon major league transactions.

If a trade brings over a star American Leaguer like Alex Rodriguez after the noon deadline on Tuesday, April 20, he is dead to our league until the following Tuesday.

9. The only players that you can slide into natural openings on your team are those that have been used as replacements for original members of your team. Better known as the “substitute teacher rule”, the premise is that you should not be able to improve your team due to injury, minor league option, or American League trade.

Let's say your school's fourth grade teacher, Mr. Woody Williams, is sick and cannot teach for two weeks. The principal sends in a substitute teacher, Mr. Ryan Jensen. Mr. Jensen is doing well and the school likes him. About two weeks later, Mr. Woody Williams is ready to come back to school at the same time that the fifth grade teacher, Mr. Shawn Estes, falls ill.

The principal gives Mr. Williams back his fourth grade class and Mr. Jensen slides over to teach the fifth grade class for Mr. Estes. It would be unrealistic for Mr. Williams to lose his fourth grade class just because he was ill. Well, the same goes for traditional Rotisserie baseball. Mr. Jensen is the replacement and he is the only one you can slide!

TRADES DURING THE SEASON

Many trades are made during a typical Rotisserie season for many different reasons. Some owners are making trades to try to finish as high as possible. Other owners are playing for next year and trying to trade off players they cannot use for players they can use the following season. Regardless of which type of owner you are, here are the things you need to consider before completing a trade:

1. Upon the completion of a trade, both participating teams **MUST** have rosters that meet positional requirements. It is your responsibility to check this – **NOT** the commissioner.
2. Upon the completion of a trade, both participating teams **MUST** have total salaries that fall between the in-season bottom and top caps. The in-season bottom cap is \$200. The in-season top cap is \$320 from April through August and \$330 after roster expansion in September (provided you actually expanded your roster). It is your responsibility to check this – **NOT** the commissioner.
3. Both participating teams in a trade should be aware of the Rotisserie contract implications of players involved. Pay special attention to any long-term contracts (B,C,D, etc.) you may be acquiring as you will be responsible for these in coming seasons. ‘A’ and ‘S’ contracts will automatically expire at the conclusion of the season and become free agents.
4. Both participating teams in a trade should be aware of the major league contract status of players involved. A player may have an attractive Rotisserie contract, but he may be about to become a free agent in the major leagues leaving open the possibility that he will sign with an American League team.

To check the major league contract status of players on your Rotisserie team and those you may be interested in acquiring, try the following web site:

- [Cot's Baseball Contracts](#)

5. You may NOT trade a player back to a team from whom you acquired that same player until after the next auction. Your rosters show the Rotisserie team you have acquired a player from. If you still want to trade a player back to the team you acquired that player from, you must involve a third Rotisserie team in the trade to accomplish the task.
6. Beginning in 2012, there is only one in-season trading deadline, the first Tuesday after July 31st. All trades made from opening day through to the end of the trading deadline must be posted to the rest of the league for a period of no less than four hours. During this time, owners may present counteroffers to either of the parties involved in the initial posted trade. Either of the original parties may accept the original trade or one of the counteroffers that were posted.
7. Beginning in 2012, each trade will be evaluated by the commissioner to determine if it is a 'rebuilding' trade. A 'rebuilding' trade is one in which one of the parties is conceding the current season and playing for next year. Typically these trades involve one team trading off 'A' players, 'S' players, or high salaried players they no longer need to acquire future talent.

In the event the commissioner determines a trade is a 'rebuilding' trade, the trading partner acquiring the future talent must select at least one player in the deal that they will hold through the following season's auction. The only way an owner can get out of this commitment is if a designated player is not on the active roster of his National League at the time of the next auction.

Team One trades Jordan Zimmerman \$10 (A) and Shane Victorino \$26 (A) to Team Two for James McDonald \$10 (1) and Dan Murphy \$1 (2). The commissioner evaluates the trade as a 'rebuilding' trade since Team One is dumping 'A' players for lesser talent. Team One announces that they will 'keep McDonald OR Murphy' through the following season's auction. At auction time, Team One may keep both players, but is only obligated to keep one.

TRADES DURING THE OFF-SEASON

It is permissible to trade during the off-season as well. However, the rules are much more lenient as described below:

1. Positional requirements do NOT have to be met so unbalanced trades are permissible. You can make 5 for 1 or 1 for 5 player trades without having to worry about whether or not you have enough players at any given position.
2. Salary caps are NOT as issue during the off-season so it is permissible to go under the bottom cap and over the top cap without penalty. Trading \$1 worth of salaries and acquiring \$100 worth of salaries is not an issue.
3. As with in-season trading, both participating teams in a trade should be aware of the Rotisserie contract implications of players involved. Pay special attention to any long-term contracts (B,C,D, etc.) you may be acquiring as you will be responsible for these in coming seasons.
4. As with in-season trading, both participating teams in a trade should be aware of the major league contract status of players involved. A player may have an attractive Rotisserie contract, but he may be about to become a free agent in the major leagues leaving open the possibility that he will sign with an American League team.

To check the major league contract status of players on your Rotisserie team and those you may be interested in acquiring, try the following web site:

- [Cot's Baseball Contracts](#)

5. You may NOT trade a player back to a team from whom you acquired that same player until after the next auction. Your rosters show the Rotisserie team you have acquired a player from. If you still want to trade a player back to the team you acquired that player from, you must involve a third Rotisserie team in the trade to accomplish the task.
6. During the off-season, there is only one trading deadline, roster submission day. Once you submit your roster keeps to the commissioner two to three days before the auction, you may NOT make any trades until the completion of the auction.

WAIVER CLAIMS

Here are some notes that apply to making waiver claims during the season.

1. Waiver claims must be made by noon on the day after the last day of the waiver period. For example, if the waiver period runs from May 7 through May 13, you must make your claim before noon on May 14.
2. If multiple claims are received for the same player, the team with the highest priority will receive the player. Priority for waiver claims is based upon the prior week's standings with the fifth place team having first choice and the selection order progressing as follows . . . 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 4, 3, 2, and 1. The one exception to this rule is if you were the owner that waived the player in question. In that case, all other teams must pass on the player before you receive the claim.
3. Each team will receive five (5) waiver claims during the course of the season. You lose a claim only if you receive the player in question.
4. Provided you have enough claims remaining, you may claim as many players as you wish during one waiver period. Rank your claims in order of importance if you make more than one claim. Those owners with multiple claims during a waiver week have a chance to get one player per waiver round.

The MANILA FOLDERS want to claim two players on this week's six-man waiver list. They have three claims remaining for the season so they put in claims for both players: Shawn Estes and Marvin Benard. Estes is their first choice and Benard is their second choice.

Let's say the FOLDERS are successful in their attempt to claim Estes. If no other team claims Benard with their first pick, then the FOLDERS will also have a chance to get Benard in the second round provided they have the highest priority amongst teams that claim him.

Now, let's say the FOLDERS are unsuccessful in their attempt to claim Estes. Then Benard becomes their first pick and they will be successful in claiming Benard provided they have the highest priority amongst teams that claim him.

5. Be aware that a player with an 'A' contract status who clears waivers before August 31, will return to the free agent pool with a contract status of '1' and a salary of \$10. This means that if the player is later signed from the free agent list as a replacement or roster expansion pick, he can be kept the following year. The exception to this rule is when the player in question is on the disabled list or in the American League. In this case, the player will maintain their salary and contract status as they migrate to the free agent pool.

If that same 'A' player clears waivers after August 31, he will return to the free agent pool with the same 'A' contract status and CANNOT be kept for the following season.

6. Be aware that if a player on the disabled list or in the American League who has a salary over \$10 clears waivers, he will maintain his original salary and contract status as he migrates to the free agent pool.
7. Waiver lists will continue after the end of the season until no players are claimed or all teams use up their five claims for the year.

SEPTEMBER ROSTER EXPANSION

Here are some notes that apply to expanding your roster in September.

1. You can expand your roster by one player beginning on the first Tuesday following August 31 at a cost of \$5. Selections may be made at this time or delayed until later in the season.

2. You can expand your roster using the free agent list or by activating a reserved player from your roster and keeping his replacement.
3. Priority order for those wishing to expand their roster using the free agent list is based upon the prior week's standings with the fifth place team having first choice and the selection order progressing as follows . . . 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 4, 3, 2, and 1. Provide a prioritized list of the players you want to the commissioner.

Since roster expansion can take place at any time during the final month of the season, the selection order only applies to those who have not already expanded their rosters.

4. Roster expansion takes precedence over free agent signing for reserved players.
5. On September 1st, the salary top cap will be raised from \$320 to \$330 to allow for roster expansion (provided you expand your roster).

BREAKING YOUR SEASON ENDING STACKS

Here are some notes that apply to breaking your season ending stacks.

1. On the final day of the baseball season, all 'A' and 'S' players on your roster will be automatically sent to the free agent pool per league rules. They are no longer your property. These moves do NOT open roster spots for you to slide players from another stack you are trying to resolve. In other words, the openings created by season-ending rules are not due to injury, trade, minor league option, or release so they cannot be used to make waiver claims or sign free agents.
2. If you plan to waive 'A' or 'S' players in order to claim potential keepers for the following season, you MUST do so before the final waiver list of the season. That is the last time you will still own these players while working with a waiver list.
3. After all 'A' and 'S' players have been deleted from your roster, you may still have stacks of players on your teams from which you must decide who to keep. You MUST waive all but one of the players in each stack unless you have not used your roster expansion pick. Your roster expansion pick allows you to spend \$5 to expand your roster by one player. Thus, you may keep an extra player out of one of the stacks if you so choose.