

MLB Steroid Players Shouldn't Be Excluded From The Hall Of Fame

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The MLB association is currently excluding great players from the baseball HOF due to their alleged use of steroids. Great players such as Barry Bonds, Mark McGwire who had remarkable careers are not being considered for the HOF because of these accusations. It's often portrayed that players who use steroids are gaining an unfair advantage on guys who don't use steroids and research shows that hasn't been the case. According to the research the number of homeruns that were hit before steroid use they are the exact same numbers that are presented after steroid use (Arthur. D, 2011). The amount homeruns hit in a total season have changed but there are more games now then there were back then. Its normal for numbers to add up because there is a larger time frame for them to. The number of homeruns hit per player has not changed they have stayed the same over a 40-year time frame. All in all, some may argue numbers have increased in a major way during the steroid era but that hasn't been the case.

The MLB Hall of Fame is about acknowledging the greatest players that ever lived and recognizing the history they made when they were playing. Barry Bonds has the 7th most MVP awards, fourteen all-star selections, 8-time gold glove winner, and is the only player in MLB history with 500 homeruns and 500 stolen bases (Ventresca. M, 2007). A player like Barry Bonds should be a no brainer for the Hall of Fame but outside factors are what's being considered and not his resume in the baseball world. Bonds troubling relationship with the media has a major impact on why he's not in the Hall of Fame. Steroid use has followed Barry Bonds name ever since his spectacular record-breaking season in 2007. Although he has been

accused of using steroids by multiple people it's a fact that he has never failed a drug test and he openly denies using steroids at all. With his denial of these allegations and public criticism followed his name and made his relationship with the media worse than it already was. Barry Bonds is prime example of why MLB steroid use players shouldn't be excluded from the HOF. He was a phenomenal athlete who put up numbers better than players who are in the Hall of Fame. Which leads to suggestion that outside factors determines whether a player gets inducted into the Hall of Fame and that shouldn't be the case at all (Miceli. TJ &Volz B.D, 2012). The statistics should be the only thing considered and that's not what's going on. Bonds like many other athletes linked to the steroid use case never tested positive so what's keeping him out of the Hall of Fame?

There is no doubt that the numbers in the MLB during the steroid era were so unbelievable that lead others to believe that the users of steroids were gaining an unfair advantage on the other players. There are also outside factors in baseball that aren't being taken into suggestion when coming up with a reason to why the numbers increased like they did. Factors such as the configuration of certain ball parks and the wind direction inside of these ball parks, changes in the composition of the ball and bat which causes the ball to travel with a higher arc, and also the expansion of the league during that time frame which bought better players to teams (Piquero. A.R, 2009). Great players produce great stats its common since as to why the numbers shot up. There are so many factors involved into why the numbers shot up the way they did and occurred around the same time as steroids that you can't narrow it down to one. The MLB is filled with great talent and was filled with great talent if you go back years

and years ago which makes it obvious that the competition between these players were through the roof. Its normal for the athletes to try to gain an edge on their talented competition (Fox sports, 2010). The players work shouldn't be discredited before all the facts are known. Steroids are receiving all the blame but really, it's the only factor as to why these players shouldn't be into the Hall of Fame. In conclusion, there are other factors unaccounted for during the steroid era that led to phenomenal play by these players.

The MLB Hall of Fame voters' decisions make less and less sense with each passing class that gets elected. There are players in the Hall of Fame that have used steroids, which makes it confusing as to why they're excluding other players. Jeff Bagwell and Ivan Rodriguez who are both members of the 2017 Hall of Fame class are suspected to have used steroids, but it was never confirmed (Rosenthal. K, 2017). These are the exact same conditions that are keeping the likes of Roger Clemens and Barry Bonds out of the Hall of Fame which shows the inconsistency with the voting scheme. If your going to induct a former steroid user what is the point of putting the narrative out there that steroid users should be excluded from the Hall of Fame. Many of the steroid era players haven't tested positive for steroids, which shows the votes for the Hall of Fame are being withheld based off suspicion and hearsay and that's totally unfair. The reality of the situation is that there is no evidence to show exactly who used and who didn't use (Rosenthal. K, 2017). This brings the thought that Hall of Fame voting committee is randomly electing players. If you going to vote one player that used steroids the rest should be able to get elected especially if their resume shows that their deserving.

There's a perception that if you used steroids you became this world beater when that really wasn't the case. Numbers before the steroid era matched up equal to the ones during the steroid era which confirms it didn't set an unfair advantage against former and current players. The Hall of Fame is about acknowledging great players who are rare athletes hard work and dedication. The statistical resume should be the only thing acknowledge and if their deserving let them in.

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