

Will Yankees Give In To Cano's \$300-Million Contract Request?

by Anthony Caruso on October 4, 2013

New York Yankee's second basemen Robinson Cano is reportedly requesting a record \$300-million contract to be spread out over the next 10 years. If the Yankees decide not to meet Cano halfway during negotiations, the star player might consider becoming a free agent. However, if the team agrees, Cano is set to become baseball's first \$30-million-a-year player.

Cano's record puts him in a prime position as a free agent to seek the range in his contract request elsewhere, with the Dodgers being named as the most likely to meet his contract demands, CBS Sports reports. The Cubs were also listed as a potential team to pay out a large salary, but may be unlikely to sign such a lengthy contract with a player over 30. As each MLB team may factor various characteristics and qualities into their decisions about extending a lucrative sports contract, it's difficult to definitively pinpoint teams that may agree to historic salary amounts. While the Yankees may have the resources to pay top-dollar for All-Star players, past mistakes involving salary disputes with top-tier players may play a role in their negotiations going forward, analysts agree.

The gap between the player and Yankees is still large, and many sports commentators argue that the ongoing saga with Alex Rodriguez - who was given a record \$275 million deal with the team - may prompt negotiators to tread with caution when discussing a new talent agreement with Cano. The heavy investment into A-Rod was put in jeopardy after an investigation led by Major League Baseball linked the player with a performance-enhancing drug scandal. Rodriguez was given a record 211-game suspension in August, and has chosen to fight the punishment.

Although negotiations are still in progress, Cano noted that the home finale against the Tampa Bay Rays could be his final game at Yankee Stadium, at least as a member of the home team.

"Oh, yeah, who knows? Who knows what's going to happen," Cano said, according to ESPN. "I'm just enjoying being here, and I'm going to enjoy the last day, being here with all these guys. Nobody said I'm leaving; nobody said I'm staying. I haven't decided anything yet. Let's see what happens after the World Series."