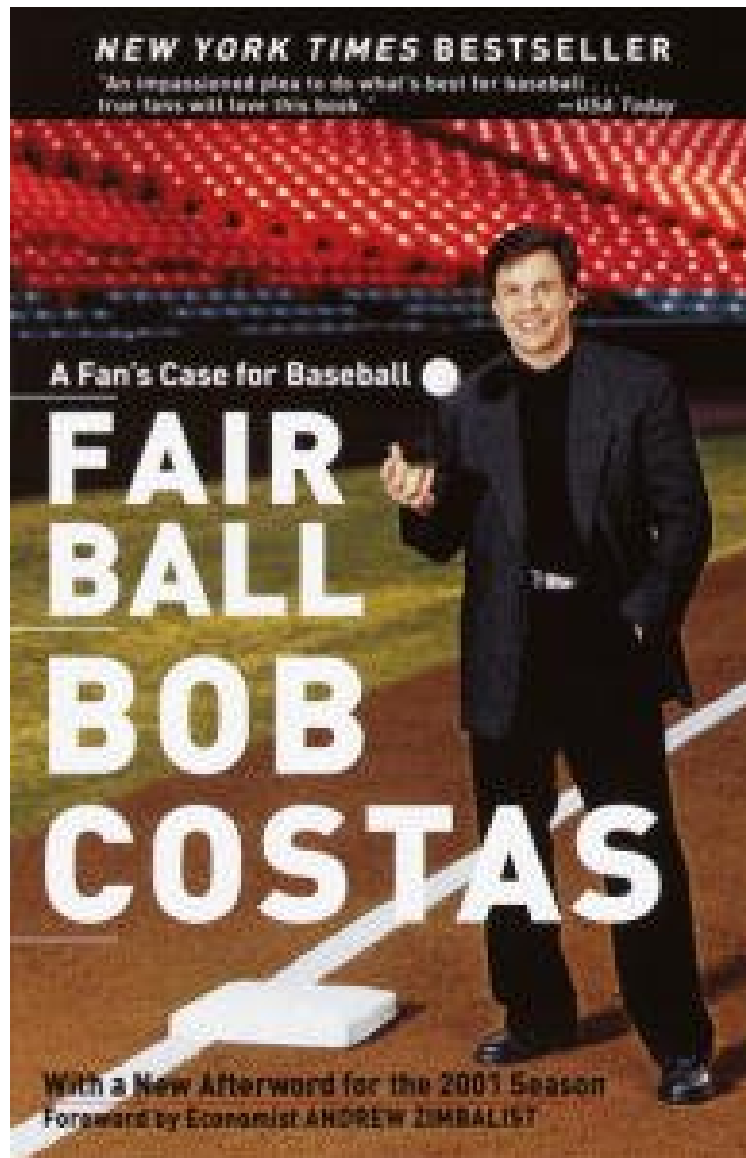


(Free and download) Fair Ball: A Fan's Case for Baseball

Fair Ball: A Fan's Case for Baseball

Von Bob Costas

ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF



 Download

 Read Online

Produktinformation Verffentlicht am: 2001-11-15Erscheinungsdatum: 2001-11-15File Name:
B000FC1HZK | File size: 74.Mb

Von Bob Costas : Fair Ball: A Fan's Case for Baseball before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fair Ball: A Fan's Case for Baseball:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Not original or workableVon Ein KundeBob Costas just rehashes old ideas which are not workable in today's baseball climate. Why should one owner be forced to share his team's revenue when he bought the team for a higher price than another owner's team? Presumably, the size of the market and the broadcast revenues were built into the price. Why

should an owner, such as the owner of the Twins who has probably more individual wealth than any other owner, be permitted to cry poverty while pocketing revenues and putting nothing back into the team? Why should the teams who have made good personnel decisions, such as the Yankees and Braves, be penalized when it is clear that other teams with equal or greater payrolls, such as the Orioles and Dodgers, have made dumb decisions? Why should teams owned by huge corporations, such as the Cubs and Mariners, be allowed to refuse to improve their teams? Finally, some cities should not have teams because they never have supported them, such as Montreal, Miami, and Tampa Bay. The real problem is the owner's greed in allowing expansion and dilution of talent for the quick buck of entrance fees. This where the real problem lies. Unfortunately, in the last ten years, Bob Costas has become unlistenable because of his know-it-all attitude, and it extends to this book. He still won't admit that the wild card has created excitement for most teams and fans, and has given them hope. Bob, the Fifties are over.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A blueprint for the survival of Baseball Von Eric V. Moyer In a succinct manner, Bob Costas sets forth the future of Baseball. It is not a rhapsody of why the game has been great over the generations; look elsewhere for that. But if you are concerned about what will happen to our game in the new millenium, it is at the very least worth the hour or two it will take to complete. The short answer Costas puts forth is that there must be a cure for the disparity between the haves and have nots. Costas understands (implicitly, because he never uses these words) that the free market and Baseball cannot co-exist. Just as (he notes) no one pays to see the Yankees intra-squad games, the game does not survive without strong teams for the whole 162 game season. He opines that what is needed is revenue sharing, at least in terms of national TV money and the short term benefits gleaned by teams that open new parks with sweetheart public/private deals (like the Rangers, who with their new Ballpark went from the bottom to become one of the most valuable franchises in the league due to new digs). Of course, with this also comes the need for a salary cap. His logic is simple and compelling: what difference does it really make if Derek Jeter makes fifteen million rather than twenty million? Large market teams will certainly yell the loudest, but as he notes, it is for The Good of the Game. Left relatively unexplored, however, is the long term impact upon the owners. What must they sacrifice? Will the rich continue to get richer? Will the rising tide lift all the boats? I think he assumes that the answer to this is yes, insofar as all teams will be able to compete (as opposed to the current system where half of the teams are practically, if not mathematically eliminated by the All Star break). Giving all of the teams an opportunity to succeed means giving the game this same opportunity to survive. The book is nothing if not thought provoking. The comparisons between the crisis in the game vis a vis the NBA and the NFL bear serious consideration. I am not sure about some of his ideas like those about interleague play, but he is on the money regarding so-called radical realignment. Like another critique, I think he is dead wrong about Rose (suggesting banning him from Baseball while at the same time letting him in the Hall Of Fame). The book is worth a read for those who love or at least are concerned about our National Pastime.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Thoughtful Von Ein Kunde I bought this book because last fall was the first time in 30 years I did not watch any of the World Series games. Costas' strength is that he ties the economic problems of baseball to the results: the fact that 2/3rds of the teams have no shot of competing with the way the business is structured. It's about competitive balance, because the product is the sport as a whole, not just the Yanks or the Braves. With revenue sharing, Stienbrenner and Turner have an economic stake in the attendance of an Expos-Pirates game or a kid in Puget Sound purchasing a Mariners jersey. Costas notes that these are smart businessmen, and revenue sharing will give them responsibilities beyond their own market. Costas is the kind of guy I'd like to have 13-14 drinks with and talk baseball until the bartender turns out the lights. He has solutions that are sensible...great idea to share local TV/radio revenues, the 3-0 playoff (which gets rids of that crappy Wild Card), and realignment (can't you just smell the radical disaster brewing in Selig's office as we speak). The only drawback to the book is the final chapter, where he throws in brief ideas about the DH, umpires and Pete Rose. His editors should have cut this as it weakens the rest of the book. Well worth buying as a gift for your favorite fan.

Kurzbeschreibung From his perspective as a journalist and a true fan, Bob Costas, NBC's award-winning broadcaster, shares his views on the forces that are diminishing the appeal of Major League Baseball and proposes realistic changes that can be made to protect and promote the game's best interests. In this cogent--and provocative--book, Costas examines the growing financial disparities that have resulted in nearly two-thirds of the teams in Major League Baseball having virtually no chance of contending for the World Series. He argues that those who run baseball have missed the crucial difference between mere change and real progress. And he presents a withering critique of the positions of both the owners and players while providing insights on the wild-card system, the designated-hitter rule, and interleague play. Costas answers each problem he cites with an achievable strategy for restoring genuine competition and rescuing fans from the forces that have diluted the sheer joy of the game. Balanced by Costas's unbridled appreciation for what he calls the "moments of authenticity" that can still make baseball inspiring, Fair Ball offers a vision of our national pastime as it can be, a game that retains its traditional appeal while initiating meaningful changes that will allow it to thrive into the next century. From the Hardcover edition..de This isn't a commentator's

diatribe against the sport, but rather a fan's case for baseball. What do I want? I think the same thing that most baseball fans want: To see the game prove worthy of our devotion. Bob Costas loves baseball. And he's worried about the state of the game--superstar players abandoning the teams that helped them rise to greatness, the awkward interleague play system, the pennant-race-weakening wild cards, and the payroll disparity that effectively eliminates two-thirds of the teams in the league from having any chance to win the World Series--even before opening day. Costas addresses these problems and offers provocative solutions in Fair Ball. Costas makes it clear from the outset that he's not a romantic, baseball-should-be-played-in-flannel traditionalist; indeed, some of his ideas--comprehensive revenue sharing and salary caps and floors--will be seen as radical by many team owners and players. Others are more standard--no more wild card, and farewell to the DH--but all are thoughtful and cogently argued. Throughout Fair Ball Costas's affection for the national pastime softens his occasionally strident tone. Ultimately, all baseball fans want the same thing; Costas's ideas, if adopted, would go a long way toward returning the game to full health. --Sunny Delaney.com

This isn't a commentator's diatribe against the sport, but rather a fan's case for baseball. What do I want? I think the same thing that most baseball fans want: To see the game prove worthy of our devotion. Bob Costas loves baseball. And he's worried about the state of the game--superstar players abandoning the teams that helped them rise to greatness, the awkward interleague play system, the pennant-race-weakening wild cards, and the payroll disparity that effectively eliminates two-thirds of the teams in the league from having any chance to win the World Series--even before opening day. Costas addresses these problems and offers provocative solutions in Fair Ball. Costas makes it clear from the outset that he's not a romantic, baseball-should-be-played-in-flannel traditionalist; indeed, some of his ideas--comprehensive revenue sharing and salary caps and floors--will be seen as radical by many team owners and players. Others are more standard--no more wild card, and farewell to the DH--but all are thoughtful and cogently argued. Throughout Fair Ball Costas's affection for the national pastime softens his occasionally strident tone. Ultimately, all baseball fans want the same thing; Costas's ideas, if adopted, would go a long way toward returning the game to full health. --Sunny Delaney