

Comparative Study of the Performances between Foreign Domestic Infielders in Chinese Professional Baseball League

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed to compare the input and output performance of the foreign and domestic players of Chinese Professional Baseball League (CPBL). The CPBL fielders' technical performance and salary data from 2009 to 2010 were obtained. The monthly salary and at bats were the input items, while the run batted in, total bases, on base percentage, and batting average were the output items. Through the data envelopment analysis (NCN Model) the technical efficiencies of the foreign and domestic infielders were evaluated. The results show that: 1. the efficient foreign infielders' ratio was more or less same as that of the domestic infielders', but the domestic infielders' overall salary only accounted for 50% that of the foreign infielders', which is significantly lower; 2. the salary paid by the team to the foreign infielders, to some extent, failed to reflect the players' offensive and defensive performance. In addition, the recommended down revision of the average salary accounted for 48% to 55% of the original monthly salary, thus indicating quite a high revision range. Hence, in terms of baseball organization management, suggestions in two aspects were put forth in this study: 1. Long-term goal: under the principle of fairness, baseball organizations can gradually narrow the gap between the salary levels of foreign and domestic infielders. A salary raise can boost domestic players' skills and physical fitness. Or the over-investment in foreign players' salaries can be gradually turned into investment for training domestic players, so as to enhance the performance of local players and the pursuit of excellence on the part of the baseball organization; 2. Short-term goal: In order to quickly increase a team's combat power, the baseball organization should further increase the salary level of the imported foreign players, emphasize on quality instead of quantity when recruiting players who are at least 2A players of Major League Baseball (MLB), so as to provide better technical reference and standards for the teams and enhance the techniques and skills of the CPBL and the team development.

Keywords : infielder、performance、data envelopment analysis

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