

Alex Rodriguez Likely To Play Rest of Season Pending Suspension Appeal

Written by Maury Brown
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Barring injury, Alex Rodriguez will likely play out the remainder of the 2013 season

On Wednesday, the Major League Baseball Players Association formally filed a grievance regarding Alex Rodriguez' 211 game suspension for PED use associated to the Biogenesis scandal. While the suspension is slated to kick in today, based upon provisions in the drug agreement between the players and the league, Rodriguez' suspension is stayed until the grievance is heard by an independent arbitrator.

First reported by The Associated Press, the process of having the grievance heard by independent arbitrator Fredric Horowitz would not occur until November or December. If so, barring injury, Rodriguez would be allowed to play for the Yankees through the rest of the 2013 regular season, and should the Yankees rise in the standings, any postseason play. Should Horowitz uphold part or all of the league's suspension it would begin being served at the start of the 2014 season.

The remaining 13 players that were suspended as part of MLB's investigation into Biogenesis, including former MVP Ryan Braun, and All-Stars Nelson Cruz, Jhonny Peralta, and Everth

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Cabrera all accepted suspensions without appeal and thus will all serve their suspensions in the 2013 season. Rodriguez was the only player to receive such a high number of games under suspension that would carry over into the 2014 season. It is unclear how Horowitz will rule, but he does have the option of lowering the number of games served and thus, any ruling may not have Rodriguez serving 211 games beginning in 2014 and carrying over into the 2015 season. In 1992 former commissioner Fay Vincent suspended pitcher Steve Howe for life after his seventh drug violation but an arbitrator knocked that down to 119 games.



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