

pros and cons of being a professional athlete



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There are many pros and cons to being a professional athlete in our world today. These athletes dedicate their lives to the love of their sport. The pros are being able to make money doing the thing they love, and they are able to contribute to charities they love and care about. The cons that they face is that they can be traded to another team and having to move out of their state to live near the new team’s stadium, if their health isn’t up to par they have a possibility of losing everything they worked hard to get, and they always have to be the best they can be or else they’ll be cut and sometimes even their best isn’t even good enough.

An athlete begins their journey from the time they are young to the year they are drafted. They train vigorously and dedicate their lives to the love of the game and to stay in top shape. A QB always knows when his job is on the line, Steve Mclendon said “anytime you get a chance hit him. Put your body on him. Be physical.” When he was talking about to handle Tom Brady. These athletes are paid to play the game they love.

In today’s society a professional athlete is paid a high income. As stated on answers.com starters are generally paid around 35 million- 160 million dollars over the range of their contracts and sometimes more depending on the player and the sport. These athletes live a life of luxury as long as they stay healthy, do their job, and most importantly do it right.

Professional athletes do a large part in charity work, and they usually pick the ones closest to their heart. For example Martellus Bennett is a part of a charity that builds playgrounds for kids. JJ Watt when he helped Houston rebuild after Hurricane Harvey. Tom Brady has several charities like Best Buddies International and Crucial Catch. Athletes deserve the upmost respect for their donations to charities and trying to make the world a better place.

Although being a professional athlete have many pros there are also many cons. One of the first cons I would like to discuss is the fact the player is under the discretion of the team on where he and his family live. A player maybe traded at anytime and when he is drafted or traded he has to then move to where he was drafted or traded. This can be hard for a man with children who has to move them to new neighborhoods and towns. A player knows what he’s getting into though as a professional athlete he knows owners and coaches are only worried about the team not anything else and he could be traded at anytime.

Due to the impact on a athletes physical health being affected the could lose their job or possibly their career. A good example of this was this year when Zach Miller hurt his leg and he almost had to have it amputated, which inevitably would have ended his career, and another example was Jay Ajayi being traded this weekend due to the Dolphins being worried about his health, and one more example would be Derrick Rose being traded almost every year due to awful health. An athlete knows to stay a good player and make big money they have to stay healthy and fit or they could lose everything. Therefore they train regularly to stay healthy and confident all year.

They are always in danger of being traded from their due to other team needs, bad productivity, or health concerns. As stated by Robert Klemko in Sports Illustrated, “The average NFL career lasts just three seasons, and “the next man up” mentality, parroted in the face of injuries, is at root a of their mind of “will I make the cut”. This is a pressure that is definitely a pro athletes con.

In conclusion, everyone has their own perspective on whether or not an athlete is privileged or not. It’s my opinion that an athlete works hard to develop a talent in something they love. People who choose to be athletes train and choose to live a structured life. I feel they are blessed beyond belief making money doing what they love, like even the backups make a lot of money just to watch the game for the most part even though they always have to be ready to play if a starter gets injured , so yes I believe they are very blessed.