

# New WNBA agreement will boost typical salaries fourfold

BY DOUG FEINBERG  
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

NEW YORK — The WNBA will have its first million dollar players after the league and its players' union reached a deal in principle on a transformational new collective bargaining agreement early Wednesday morning.

Specifics still need to be finalized over the next few weeks as lawyers on both sides work on the new CBA. A term sheet should be done in the next day or two. It will then need to be ratified by the players and then approved by the league's Board of Governors.

"I just want to say we have aligned on key elements of a new collective bargaining agreement together. We still need to finalize a formal term sheet, but the progress made in these discussions marks a transformative step forward for players and the league," WNBA Commissioner Cathy Engelbert said. "It underscores a shared commitment to the continued growth of the game. So, we'll share additional details as they become available."

The landmark deal is expected to greatly increase player salaries, with top stars potentially making a supermax of \$1.4 million in the first year, according to the negotiations.

The salary cap for the 2026 season is expected to be \$7 million with average salaries more than \$585,000, according to the person. The minimum salary would be around \$300,000 as the league enters its 30th season. This would increase salaries fourfold from last season.

"For the first time player salaries are tied to a truly meaningful share of league revenue, driving exponential growth in the salary cap, increasing average compensation beyond half a million dollars and raising the standard across facilities, staffing and support," union president Nneka Ogumike said.

The agreement is set to reflect the league's skyrocketing growth and popularity. Attendance, viewership and investment from stakeholders has increased to historic levels over the past few years.

"The deal is going to be transformational," union vice president Breanna Stewart said. "It's going to build and help create a system where

everybody is getting exactly what they deserve and more from on the court and off the court aspects."

The deal came after the two sides spent the past eight days in intense in-person negotiations that lasted for

more than 100 hours. They came to the agreement at about 2:20 a.m. Wednesday after spending more than 10 hours of discussions on Tuesday.

"This is historical for women's sports. I told Cathy it's not just for the players that are entering the league or the players that aren't already here," Ogumike added. "We're just really

grateful to be able to come to a deal. We're proud of ourselves."

WNBA leadership and the union met with reporters together in the lobby of a New York hotel shortly before 3 a.m.

The deal comes 17 months after the players opted out of their previous agreement and five months after the previous deal was initially set

to expire, with talks often becoming contentious.

"We opted out because what we were giving to this league and what we were getting back didn't match," union executive committee member Alysha Clark said. "You could feel the growth everywhere, but it wasn't showing up for the players the way it should. So we stayed with it until it did."



**RADCLIFF PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING**  
The City of Radcliff Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, April 2, 2026, at 5:00 p.m., at Radcliff City Hall, 411 W. Lincoln Trail Blvd., 2 Floor, Radcliff, Kentucky. This hearing is being conducted to solicit information on the following:  
1. Case #260166: Rezone Application for the property located at 253 Battle Training Road, Elizabethtown, Kentucky, (PVA #181-00-00-031) from a Residential — 2 (R-2) Zone to a Residential-4 (R-4) Zone requested by Eddie Cato.  
2. Case #260177: Rezone Application for the property located on the south side of Battle Training Road (KY 434) between the intersections of N Dixie Highway (US 31W) and Blair Hill Lane, Elizabethtown, Kentucky, (PVA #181-20-00-006.02) from a Residential — 2 (R-2) Zone to a Residential-4 (R-4) Zone requested by Eddie Cato.  
3. Case #260178: Rezone Application for the property located at 3366 S Wilson Road, Radcliff, Kentucky, (PVA #181-10-00-076, Lewis Ray Estates Subdivision, Section 1, Lot 2A) from a Residential — 2 (R-2) Zone to a Commercial (C) Zone requested by Around Federal Credit Union.  
4. Case# 260147: City of Radcliff Zoning Ordinance & Development Regulations Amendment-Articles 2, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 23, 25, 27-A, 31 & Appendix A.

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