



Leadership

By: Austin Rader

June 13, 2020 — What is good leadership?

What is the type of leadership that brings people together, and has a vision for what the future might look like? In business, it's the CEO of a large company who leads them into new markets (Elon Musk with SpaceX). In medicine, it is a doctor who has a plan to cure a rare disease.

In sports, it's a commissioner who can manage a diverse athlete base, a diverse fan base, and a litany of social issues that could make or break the sport. Think Adam Silver. and the NBA.

What is bad leadership?

Rob Manfred.

Yes, I said it. And I know you were thinking it. What the heck is going on with major league baseball? Here is a pandemic, with all major sports cancelled: the Masters, French Open, Wimbledon, NBA playoffs, NHL playoffs, and so much more....and baseball does what?

Nothing!!!

They spend the entire spring quarantine trying to negotiate between the players and the owners how many games they should play, and how much money they should send to the players.

Meanwhile, young fans don't even care about baseball anymore.

Their rankings of sports?

NFL. College football. NBA. Hockey. Soccer. Tennis. Olympics. And finally....Major League Baseball. Pitiful. Rob Manfred could have used this open window to bring in new fans to his sport. What did he do? NOTHING!!

Major League Baseball spent the entire time trying to figure out a plan. Meanwhile, college football in the SEC is already ready to go, the NBA is starting playoffs in Orlando, hockey is ready to drop the puck, and baseball can't figure out how to play the World Series after Christmas.

Once again, pitiful.

It disgusts me because I grew up a huge baseball fan. I was a St Louis Cardinals loyalist at four years of age! Yes, I also love Alabama football. I love the St Louis Blues and the Miami Heat. But when I was little, all I cared about was whether Albert Pujols got a home-run or not. I checked the standings, the statistics, the rankings every single day. I was obsessed.

I am exactly what baseball needs more of - a diehard, stat-checking, home run-counting young fan!



Mr. Manfred, you lost your chance. The summer of 2020 could have been yours. You wasted it. You are going to launch a half-season to compete with football, basketball, and hockey, and you will lose.

Leadership is about solving problems, and selling a vision. You didn't solve anything and you have no vision. I feel bad for baseball. You've just been passed up by basketball, hockey and now soccer.

At least you can still be part of the Olympics, I guess. Mr. Manfred, your leadership is the worst.