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Comp 101

11/1/21

Compare and Contrast: Boston vs New York Sports

Since 2014 most of the Boston sports teams have made the playoffs or the championship of their respective leagues. At the same time, the farthest that the New York teams have come was the Buffalo Bills in 2020 making it to the AFC championship game. But that is just the tip of the iceberg. There is a lot to compare New York and Boston's sports teams over the past two decades. Each team from the leagues has gone through its respective ups and downs, and it has made their rivalry all the sweeter.

Let's start in the NFL. New York has three teams, the Buffalo Bills, the New York Jets and the New York Giants, meanwhile Boston has only one team, the New England Patriots. More teams means more of a chance for success, right? Well, the last time one of the New York football teams went to the Super Bowl was the Giants in 2011, which they won, but since then they have only been to the playoffs one more time in 2016 as a wild card team. The Jets have fared worse, having not been to the playoffs since 2010, and have not been to the Super Bowl since Super Bowl III in 1969. The Bills on the other hand have done quite well making it to the playoffs in 2017, 2019, and 2020. However, the Bills have not made the Super Bowl since 1994. The Patriots have been to the most Super Bowls of any team in the NFL, and since 2011 have been to five super bowls, (2011,2014, 2016,2017,and 2018) and have won 3 of them (2014,2016, and 2018).However they have not been to the Playoffs since 2019.

Boston and New York have a much bigger rivalry when it comes to baseball. The Red Sox and Yankees are bitter rivals, when the two teams play the tension between them is there because most years the two teams are in contention for the world series. In the 2000s the Red Sox have won four world series titles (2004,2007,2013, and 2018). The Yankees have only won two World Series since (2000, 2009) , winning both. In 2004, 2018, and 2020 the two teams met in the playoffs recently and Boston has won all of them. New York's other team the Mets who have been to two World Series (2000,2014), with the Mets not winning either. Sometimes having more teams does not make it easier to win a championship.

In the NHL the Bruins are fairly consistent. They won the Stanley Cup in 2011 and made the Cup finals in 2018, they have made the playoffs most years. The New York Rangers, on the other hand, have not been as fortunate. They made the Cup Final in 2014 but lost it, and they haven't done very well in the playoffs. That is not the same story about the Islanders who have not made it to the Cup final since 1994 but they have started to become a big playoff threat and could reasonably make the Cup Finals within the next few years. Making it to the Eastern Conference Finals this past year. The Buffalo Sabers have not done as well the last time they made the playoffs since 2011 and they are one of 11 teams to not win the Stanley Cup.

In the NBA, the Celtics have the second most NBA Finals wins of all time and their last win was in 2008. The Brooklyn Nets have never won the finals and their last appearance was in 2003 though the Nets may be ready to win one soon. The Knicks have won two, their last appearance

was in 1999 with their last win being in 1973. They made the playoffs last year so they might have a good future. The Celtics have come fairly close over the past few years as well.

Since 2000, the Boston sports teams have won: six Super bowls, four world series titles, one NBA Final and one Stanley Cup. In the same time New York has won: two Super Bowls, two World Series titles, no NBA Finals and no Stanley Cups. New York has nearly double the teams Boston has, so why don't they have more championships? It comes down to more than just the players on the teams. It comes down to whether people want to play there, or what the owners of the team are like. Boston has made the right moves nowadays, but a few of the bosses in New York have not been living up to expectations. There is no I in team, and I is also not in the word sport. But it feels like we are moving in that direction. Single players get as much money as they want, and when they change teams it is a big deal, but no one asks about the small players who were traded to make that Big Deal happen. It seems like the big stars are what makes these leagues go round but it wasn't how these sports or teams were originally founded.