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White Sox Fan's Guide: Postseason Rooting

By: [Claire Zulkey](#)

Come on, White Sox fans, don't be that way.

We're not in the playoffs.

It stinks. But are you going to be babies and close your eyes and ears and go "la la la la la" all throughout the postseason, or are you going to be mature about it and follow along to see who we'll pass the torch to?

Keep in mind, we're still technically the champions for a few more weeks, so let's enjoy it. And if you're going to really enjoy baseball, you have to find someone to cheer for.

Here are my thoughts on picking the lesser of several evils:

NATIONAL LEAGUE

NEW YORK METS

Pros: White Sox fans can sort of identify with Mets fans. They're the much less beloved, high profile and moneymaking team in a major city. We cheered for them when they played the Yankees in the World Series. And we'll always have some love for Jose Valentin (and El Duque, too.) **Cons:** They still are a New York team, though. Can a Chicogoan really cheer for a New York team? No. The chip on our collective shoulders is too big.

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

Pros: Those White Sox fans who derive pleasure from Cubs losses love the Cards, as they are the Northsiders' most hated enemy. (Even though the Cubs actually took the season series from the Cards, somewhat miraculously.)

Cons: They still stink like McGwire.

But let's face it, you're not going to cheer for the National League, are you? It just doesn't feel natural. So moving on...

AMERICAN LEAGUE

OAKLAND A's

Pros: The A's are not a completely obnoxious organization, unlike their counterparts in Anaheim. Plus, it's nice to see Big Frank experience a mini Renaissance ... right? **Cons:** Oh, forget it. Frank had his chance with us — and he got a ring with us as well. While we don't technically wish him ill, we wouldn't go so far as to wish him well. And the A's always nail us in the regular season.

Plus, West Coast games tend to mess with the sleep cycle. It's just not natural.

DETROIT TIGERS

Pros: You've got to hand it to the Tigers. They played like champions most of the regular season, and with very little flashiness or fanfare.

And who is going to begrudge the people of Detroit a little joy in their lives? I mean, look at the city. Plus, let Maggs have his due.

Cons: It's hard to suddenly cheer for the Tigers when we've been cheering against them all season long.

But what are you going to do? Let the trophy go to the East Coast, the West Coast or the National League? Hell no. Let the division show that it is not to be trifled with, even if ESPN hardly ever picks up our games.

ANSWER: Tigers. Sigh. But, as my Dad notes, "We swept St. Louis and won the season series with Detroit, so we can still vicariously think we are the best."

For this season, that'll have to do.

Claire Zulkey lives in Chicago and edits the blogs Zulkey.com and MBToolBox.com. Email her at clairezulkey@hotmail.com.

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