

Chan-ho becomes the highest non-FA salary

KIA Tigers has completed all salary contracts.

KIA announced on the 25th, "We have finalized contracts with 46 people eligible for salary renewal for the 2024 season." There are 24 players who received raises amid contract renewals, 9 who were frozen, and 13 who were cut.

The team's highest raise rate went to pitcher Choi Ji-min. Choi Ji-min's salary was increased by 233% from the lowest salary of 30 million won to 100 million won.

Choi Ji-min played an active part as a key bullpen member of the team, playing 59½ innings in 58 games last season, recording 6 wins, 3 losses, 3 saves, 12 holds, and an ERA of 2.12. Rookie Yoon Young-cheol renewed his contract for 90 million won, a 200% increase from 30 million won. Last year, Yoon Young-cheol consistently played in the starting rotation, playing 122¾ innings in 25 games, leaving a record of 8 wins, 7 losses, and an average ERA of 4.04. Pitcher Im Ki-young renewed his contract for 250 million won, a 66.7% increase from 150 million won. Lim Ki-young recorded 4 wins, 4 losses, 3 saves, 16 holds, and an ERA of 2.96 in 64 games this year.

Infielder Park Chan-ho, who recorded a .301 batting average (0.301) for the first time in his debut, renewed his contract for 300 million won, a 50% increase from 200 million won. As a result, Park Chan-ho became the highest paid person among non-FA contract renewal recipients (excluding foreign players).

Kim Do-young, who was called 'the next Lee Jong-beom', was paid 100 million won, a 100% increase from 50 million won, and Byun Woo-hyuk was paid 60 million won, a 25 million won (71.4%) increase from 35 million won. Kim Do-young had a batting average of .303, 7 home runs, and 25 stolen bases in 84 games, and Byun Woo-hyuk had a batting average of .202, 5, and 7 home runs in 83 games.

Outfielder Lee Woo-sung signed for 130 million won, a 136% increase from 55 million won, and catcher Han Jun-su renewed his contract for 50 million won, a 19 million won (61.3%) increase from 31 million won.

Lee Woo-sung received a salary in the hundreds of millions of dollars for the first time since his professional debut, and Kim Do-young and Choi Ji-min were named in the hundreds of millions of annual salary in their third year of debut.

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