



2015 Kansas Koyotes

GM: Bill Schwartz (8th season)

Minor League Affiliates: AAA - Wichita Wranglers, AA - Topeka Capitals, A - Rapid City Chiefs, Rookie - Winner Pheasants

Coaching Staff: Manager- Casey Stengel, Bench Coach – Yogi Berra, Pitching Coach- Whitey Ford, Bullpen coach: Elston Howard, Hitting Coach- Don Mattingly, 1st Base Coach- Mickey Mantle, 3rd Base Coach – Willie Randolph

Kansas pre-season cuts: **Uncarded:** T. Blackley, J. Marquis, V. Mazzaro, An. Torres, M. Tuiasosopo, J. Vitters, V. Wells. **Carded:** K. Correia (LAD), Ji. Johnson (DET),

Waiver Wire: TBA

Game Type: All Kansas home games will be played “the way that God intended it” with the boards and dice.

Emergency Lineups:

VS.	LHP (comp)	VS.	RHP (comp)	VS.	LHP (board)	VS.	RHP (board)
1.	Pedroia – 2b-9	1.	Crisp – cf-3	1.	Pedroia – 2b-9	1.	Crisp – cf-3
2.	Gomes – c-7	2.	Pedroia – 2b-9	2.	Gomes – c-7	2.	Pedroia – 2b-9
3.	Springer – lf-3	3.	Gomes – c-7	3.	Springer – lf-2	3.	Gomes – c-7
4.	Puig – rf-2	4.	Puig – rf-2	4.	Puig – rf-2	4.	Puig – rf-2
5.	Granderson – cf-2	5.	Granderson – lf-2	5.	Granderson – cf-2	5.	Granderson – lf-2
6.	Smoak – 1b-4	6.	Reynolds – 1b-4	6.	Smoak – 1b-4	6.	Reynolds – 1b-4
7.	Reynolds – dh	7.	Brown – dh	7.	Pena – 3b-5	7.	Brown – dh
8.	Pena – 3b-5	8.	Moustakas – 3b-4	8.	Brown – dh	8.	Moustakas – 3b-4
9.	Segura – ss-8	9.	Segura – ss-8	9.	Segura – ss-8	9.	Segura – ss-8

Notes: I will contact road managers by e-mail each month to give individualized lineups or the go-ahead to use the above lineups. **Very seldom will these lineups be used, though.** The chart showing those in the minors each month is included on the roster sheet, but may be revised, especially late in the year. Please contact me if you'd like to start early and I'll try to accommodate.

Player Usage:

C: **Yan Gomes** will play all of his allowed 135 games and **Miguel Montero** will play the rest. Even without a third catcher on the roster, we will be able to utilize a PR at times in crucial situations late.

1B: “King of Swing” **Mark Reynolds** will use most of his 130 games here, but can play 3B & OF to provide flexibility and even can play 2B in a pinch. Newcomer **Justin Smoak** will play most of the rest. **Chris Colabello** is available.

2B: **Dustin Pedroia**, with more injury problems this year, will be penciled in for his allowable 135 games. Fourth round draft choice **Enrique Hernandez** will provide most of the other games.

SS: **Jean Segura** will man the shortstop position for 146 games. **Ramiro Pena (SS-7)** will play the remaining 16 games.

3B: Mike Moustakas, with his anemic .212 average but occasional power (66-1), will be the main option (140 g.), but Pena (3B-5) will play many of his 81 games here as a platoon vs. LHP.

OF: Coco Crisp, Curtis Granderson & Yasiel Puig will constitute the “normal” OF, but injury plagued Crisp has only 126 games. First round draftee George Springer will provide Crisp with a platoon vs. LHP’s. Lots of “mix and matching” again. All are CF-eligible.

DH: Domonic Brown will man the DH slot most of the time, up to 144 games, with an assortment of others filling that role vs. some LHP’s.

Defensive Replacements:

Not a whole lot of defensive moves to be made. There may be possible options later in the year that will be covered by the monthly instructions.

Don’t be tempted to use Crisp to replace an OF-2 and “waste” a start, although that may happen some at home, especially later in the year. Same thing for Pena relieving Moustakas at 3B – maybe at home or later in the year.

Offense:

Pinch Hit/Run: No PH’ing or PR’ing unless spelled out in monthly series instructions.

Steal Attempts: Koyotes don’t have as many SBA’s as last year, and will run less. Crisp will have the green light in the 9th on if the game is tied or Koyotes are within a run either way. Brown, Pedroia & Granderson will get their attempts at home until later in the year.

Hit & Run: H&R anytime allowed with Crisp on 1st & Pedroia up and with Brown on 1st & Segura up, Koyotes tied or within a run either way. **Steal instructions take precedence over the H&R’s.** Any other options will be spelled out in the monthly instructions.

Sacrifice: VERY RARE. NEVER SQUEEZE!

Offensive Runner Advancement:

Board Game: Consult Adams Table.

Computer Game: always send runners who are “well around third”, hold runners who are “rounding third”, unless a Fast runner and OF arm <31. Be conservative going for third, more aggressive going home, especially with two outs. General Rule for computer: be aggressive with Fast runners and conservative with Slow runners. Also on the computer, if a batter gets an extra base hit and “hits second base with a full head of steam” do **not** consider going for the triple.

Send Runner on Third: With infield in, hold runner if combined 2b/3b/ss fielding rating >18. Any lesser combination, or runners on first and third, Go Go Go!

Outfield Throws: Make all throws <34 chances. Otherwise hold trailing runners. Throw for trailing runners attempting advancement if lead runner is not tie/lead run and trailer is 10+ chances lower.

Computer Game: Make all throws. If you try to advance a trailing runner along with a runner “well around third” cut the throw home and go for the trailer.

Hold Runner on First: For all 1B’s hold runner if SSN >24 or a PL batter at bat. Otherwise let ‘em roam.

Intentional Walk: Never.

Pitch from Stretch: Only pitch from stretch if 2 outs, 8th inning on, tying or winning runner on third base has an adjusted SSN > 9.

Infield In/Deep: Never play in with two outs or before the 7th inning. Only play infield in if the tying/winning run is on third base, 7th inning on and less than two outs. If the double play is a possibility, always play deep.

For computer managers, when in doubt about any of these computer instructions, play it as you would your own team – I’m admittedly ignorant about the computer game (and intend so stay that way!)

Pitching:

General Philosophy: We are starting to recover from the epidemic of TJ injuries, with **Neftali Feliz, Joakim Soria & Jason Motte** back and **Matt Harvey** chomping on the bit for next year. But once again, it is a bit of a scramble after the four dependable starters, **Sonny Gray** (grade 13), **Max Scherzer** (gr. 12), **Dallas Keuchel** (gr. 11) & second round draftee **Matt Shoemaker** (gr. 11) provide their 115 starts. Utilizing the innocuous allowables with late round draft choices **Scott Carroll** (grade 4) and **Liam Hendriks** (gr. 2) along with holdover **Anthony Swarzak** (gr. 3) will fill out the remaining 47 starts and will provide the opposition many opportunities to fatten their averages. High grade relief innings are practically non-existent, as only Feliz' 31.3 RIP's of grade 21 (with bad peripherals) are above grade 14. Pen will have to be managed well, as only 415 RIP's plus mopup innings from Swarzak and Motte are available. If game is close in 7th on, one of the relievers should usually be in the game. The innocuous grades will often be asked to go till "pounded" out. General rule will be to try to get 6 innings out of the four top starters. No starter should pitch more than 11.2 innings. Don't remove any starting pitcher if he's pitching a shutout.

Starting Pitchers Bio's:

Gray, Scherzer, Keuchel, Shoemaker – 115 dependable starts, will normally go till fatigued.

Carroll – 20 innocuous starts of grade 4.

Swarzak – 20 more innocuous grade 3 starts with decent peripherals (CTL+14, HRA+33).

Hendriks – More innocuousity with 7 grade 2 starts with decent peripherals (CTL+25, HRA+14).

Discretion will be needed with the latter 3 starters in deciding when the game is still winnable and when the starter needs to absorb punishment will be crucial to any hopes for Koyote wins and preserving relief innings.

Bullpen: With about 415 decent RIP and 47 bad starts, there will be many decision times when it comes to applying the hook. A minimum of 6 relievers will usually be on the active roster. One key to the season: wise management of the pen. I will try to manage the minor league roster so that regardless of RIP allowable, all relievers except closer and 25 inning men (Motte and Delabar) can be used equally in any particular month as need be.

Bullpen Bio's:

Feliz: The closer, but with only 31.3 RIP, so only for 9th inning when Koyotes are up 1 or 2 runs. NEVER let him go more than one inning.

Quackenbush: Eighth inning man when Koyotes are up 1 or 2.

Duke: Primary seventh inning man in close games.

Soria, Delabar Redmond, Matusz, Huff: Interchangeable grade 9's and 10's to get game to 7th inning with lead or to eat up innings if starter is fatigued or "pounded". Two lefties & three rightys, so use appropriately. Delabar has limited innings (25.7), so use sparingly (batter or two per game – never more than an inning.)

Motte: Mopup man, but only 25 innings, so cannot go indefinitely – an inning or so apiece.

Swarzak: Will be used in mopup role at times when up and not starting.

Summary: In 2014, the Koyotes didn't quite accomplish their goal of a .500 season, falling short at 77-85, but did improve on 2013's 104 losses. After getting off to a dismal 25-40 start, they actually played 7 games over .500 baseball the rest of the way. 2015's pitchers won't have last year's stellar defense behind them, with Segura losing his SS-9 and only Crisp retaining his OF-3 rating. Both catchers dropped to C-7's and their arms also dropped off. Puig's 38 arm in RF should still prevent baserunners from running wild, but overall the defense will not be much help to the pitching staff. One thing remains the same – the lack of power. 2015 may have the least power of any Koyote team, with only Puig having more than three power numbers, and could make it tough to put games in the win column – even for the "Semi-Big 4" starters.

The Koyotes' were elated again this year to see their #1 target, George Springer, drop to them at pick #10 and look for him to add needed power to the lineup in years to come. And they are practically salivating so see what might be next year with a rotation of Harvey, Gray, Scherzer, Keuchel & Shoemaker. Hopefully, a base is being set for the future. Winning may still be "the occasional thing", but hope springs eternal for the always optimistic Koyotes.

If you have any questions, use your best baseball judgment and do whatever gives Kansas the best chance at a win.

Have a Fun Season!

NOTE: Please provide scoresheets from road board games and boxscores from computer games (scanned and attached to an e-mail will be fine). **I keep GWH's and GWR's in my personal stats, so I would appreciate it if those who only supply boxscores would list those stats when you send the boxscores.** Thanks.

Do not use any automatic managers.

		2015 Kansas Koyotes Rotation						
		1	2	3	4	5		
1-1	Apr. 1-4	at Maracaibo	Keuchel	Scherzer	Shoemaker	Gray	Off	
1-2	Apr. 6-8	The Statesmen	Keuchel	Scherzer	Shoemaker	Off		
1-3	Apr. 10-12	Northborough	Gray	Keuchel	Scherzer	Off		
1-4	Apr. 14-17	Hudson	Shoemaker	Gray	Keuchel	Scherzer	Off	
1-5	Apr. 19-23	at Zion	Swarzak	Gray	Keuchel	Scherzer	Shoemaker	Off
2-1	May 1-5	at Melrose	Swarzak	Gray	Keuchel	Scherzer	Carroll	
2-2	May 6-9	Columbus	Swarzak	Gray	Keuchel	Scherzer	Off	
2-3	May 11-14	Whitman	Swarzak	Gray	Keuchel	Scherzer		
2-4	May 15-18	Gotham City	Carroll	Swarzak	Gray	Keuchel	Off	
2-5	May 20-23	at Midwest	Carroll	Swarzak	Gray	Keuchel	Off	
3-1	June 1-4	at Statesmen	Shoemaker	Carroll	Swarzak	Gray	Off	
3-2	June 6-8	at Northborough	Scherzer	Shoemaker	Carroll			
3-3	June 9-11	Maracaibo	Gray	Keuchel	Scherzer			
3-4	June 12-16	Las Vegas	Shoemaker	Carroll	Gray	Keuchel	Scherzer	Off
3-5	June 18-21	at Knoxville	Swarzak	Gray	Keuchel	Scherzer		
4-1	July 1-5	Taylorville	Shoemaker	Carroll	Gray	Keuchel	Scherzer	
4-2	July 6-9	Munich	Shoemaker	Carroll	Gray	Keuchel	Off	
4-3	July 11-14	at Detroit	Scherzer	Shoemaker	Carroll	Gray		
4-4	July 15-18	at Brobdingnag	Keuchel	Scherzer	Shoemaker	Carroll		
4-5	July 19-22	at Greater Ohio	Gray	Keuchel	Scherzer	Shoemaker	Off	
5-1	August 1-4	at New West	Swarzak	Keuchel	Scherzer	Carroll		
5-2	August 5-8	at Grand Cayman	Gray	Swarzak	Keuchel	Scherzer	Off	
5-3	August 10-13	at Hoboken	Carroll	Swarzak	Keuchel	Scherzer		
5-4	August 14-17	Blue Hill	Gray	Carroll	Swarzak	Keuchel		
5-5	August 18-21	Rye	Scherzer	Gray	Carroll	Swarzak	Off	Off
6-1	Sept. 3-5	at Maracaibo	Scherzer	Gray	Hendriks			
6-2	Sept. 6-9	The Statesmen	Shoemaker	Keuchel	Scherzer	Gray		
6-3	Sept. 10-13	Northborough	Hendriks	Shoemaker	Keuchel	Scherzer		
6-4	Sept. 14-17	Zion	Gray	Hendriks	Shoemaker	Keuchel	Off	
6-5	Sept. 19-23	at Munich	Gray	Scherzer	Hendriks	Shoemaker	Keuchel	Off
7-1	Oct. 1-4	Melrose	Swarzak	Scherzer	Gray	Carroll		
7-2	Oct. 5-9	Midwest	Shoemaker	Swarzak	Scherzer	Gray	Carroll	
7-3	Oct. 10-13	Warrenton	Shoemaker	Swarzak	Scherzer	Gray	Off	
7-4	Oct. 15-19	at Hudson	Carroll	Swarzak	Scherzer	Gray	Shoemaker	
7-5	Oct. 20-23	at Las Vegas	Carroll	Swarzak	Scherzer	Gray	Off	
8-1	Nov. 2-6	Knoxville	Keuchel	Swarzak	Scherzer	Hendriks	Gray	
8-2	Nov. 7-10	at Taylorville	Keuchel	Shoemaker	Scherzer	Hendriks		
8-3	Nov. 11-13	at The Statesmen	Gray	Carroll	Swarzak	Off		
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