

# 2017 Midwest Mongrels

## Revised Emergency Instructions

1097-1181-.482

Wild Card Qualifier—2005, 2013, 2015

Williams Division Champion—2009, 2012, 2014

National Conference Champion—2009, 2014

TBL Champion—2009

**MANAGER**  
Pitching Coach  
1B Coach

**DAVID WRIGHT**  
Brandon Webb  
Jeff Reboulet

**Bench Coach**  
3B Coach  
Bullpen Coach

**Tony Graffanino**  
Frankie Menecchino  
Adam Melhuse

Player	TM	B	BC-MG	BC-CG	SSN	SPD	AR M	PB	TH	G	PA	REM SBA
<i>Ramon Cabrera</i>	CIN	B	-3/-1	SA-0	20	6	31	1	-4	61	185	2
<b>Juan Centeno</b>	MN	L	-8/+1	SA-5	N	6	31	2	-4	55	192	0
<b>Cheslor Cuthbert</b>	KC	R	+3/-3	SA-2	31	8	31			128	510	2
<i>Yulieski Gurriel</i>	HOU	R	-6/+2	SA-0	20	9	34			36	137	2
<b>Aaron Hicks</b>	NYN	B	-8/+3	SA-0	17	17	37			123	361	7
<b>Eric Hosmer</b>	KC	L	-7/+1	SA-4	25	12	33			158	667	8
<b>Tony Kemp</b>	HOU	L	-7/0	SA-4	26	17	31			59	136	3
<b>Victor Martinez</b>	DET	B	-2/-1	SA-0	N	4	30			154	610	0
<b>Rougned Odor</b>	TEX	L	-2/-1	PR-1	26	16	32			150	632	21
<b>Trevor Plouffe</b>	MN	R	+1/-2	SA-1	26	7	33			84	344	1
<b>Alexei Ramirez</b>	TB	R	+6/-4	SA-3	19	15	35			145	506	17
<b>Rene Rivera</b>	NYM	R	+12/-5	SA-4	N	6	32	2	0	65	207	0
<b>Andrew Romine</b>	DET	B	0/-2	SA-0	35	17	33			109	194	7
<b>Eddie Rosario</b>	MN	L	-6/0	SA-3	28	16	34			92	354	6
<b>Danny Santana</b>	MN	B	-11/+1	SA-0	23	18	35			75	248	21
<b>Trea Turner</b>	WAS	R	-9/+1	SA-0	32	19	33			73	324	32
PITCHERS	TM	T	GRADE	CTL	HR	FAT	WP	HB	BK	MF	ST	RIP
<b>Matt Andriese</b>	TB	R	7Y	32	0	25/10	2				19	22.7
<i>Jhoulys Chacin</i>	LAA	R	5/12	-13	25	26/12	3			1	22	28.7
<b>Mike Clevinger</b>	CLE	R	9Y	-62	-12	22/9	3		0		10	12
<b>Zach Davies</b>	MIL	R	8Y	24	0	25	1		0	2	28	
<i>Chad Kuhl</i>	PITT	R	7	15	21	23	2		0	1	14	
<i>Justin Nicolino-INN</i>	MIA	L	3R	25	21	27	1		0		25	
<b>Ricky Nolasco</b>	LAA	R	7	24	0	27	3		0	2	32	
<b>Braden Shipley</b>	AZ	R	4	-21	-32	28/21	1		0		11	7.7
RELIEVERS	TM	T	GRADE	CTL	HR	FAT	WP	HB	BK	MF	ST	RIP
<i>Scott Alexander</i>	KC	L	6*	-15	45	7			0			8
<i>Dario Alvarez</i>	TEX	L	6*K	33	-41	6	3		0	1		17.4
<i>Jose Berrios</i>	MN	R	1	-62	-22	27	1		0		14	58
<b>Edwin Diaz</b>	SEA	R	13*KY	21	24	6	3					51.7
<b>Carlos Estevez</b>	COL	R	8*X	-32	15	6	3		0			48.3
<i>Ryan Garton</i>	TB	R	6*Y	25	13	7	3		0	1		39.3
<i>Tommy Hunter</i>	BALT	R	9*	26	54	6	0		0			34
<b>Mike Morin</b>	LAA	R	9*Y	21	16	6	1			3		47
<b>Felipe Rivero</b>	PITT	L	11*XY	-23	23	6	3		0	3		73.3
<b>Fernando Rodney</b>	MIA	R	14*X	-54	32	6	3			1		58.3
<b>Kirby Yates</b>	NYN	L	7*XY	-33	15	6	2		0			41.3
<i>Players in italics are not on the roster this month</i>											166	565

Cuts-- Carded— Aviles, Paredes, Bailey, Hughes, Simon

Uncarded—Guerrero, D. Wright, Duensing, Y. Garcia, B. Gomes, Graham, Harang, Lohse, Owens, Perkins, W. Rodriguez,

Waiver Wire: Cut Jordan Lyles; add Yulieski Gurriel

September Trade:

## Monthly Player Roster

U—on roster

D—in minors

MONTHLY ROSTER	A	P	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	O	MONTHLY ROSTER	A	P	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	
HITTERS	P	R	Y	N	L	U	E	T	O	V	PITCHERS	P	R	Y	N	L	U	E	T	O	V
<b>Ramon Cabrera</b>	U	D									<b>STARTERS</b>										
<b>Juan Centeno</b>	D	U									<b>Matt Andriese</b>	U	U								
<b>Cheslor Cuthbert</b>	U	U									<b>Jhoulys Chacin</b>	D	D								
<b>Yulieski Gurriel</b>	-	D									<b>Mike Clevinger</b>	U	U								
<b>Aaron Hicks</b>	U	U									<b>Zach Davies</b>	D	U								
<b>Eric Hosmer</b>	U	U									<b>Chad Kuhl</b>	U	D								
<b>Tony Kemp</b>	U	U									<b>Justin Nicolino-INN</b>	D	D								
<b>Victor Martinez</b>	U	U									<b>Ricky Nolasco</b>	U	U								
<b>Rougned Odor</b>	U	U									<b>Braden Shipley</b>	U	U								
<b>Trevor Plouffe</b>	U	U									<b>RELIEVERS</b>										
<b>Alexei Ramirez</b>	U	U									<b>Scott Alexander</b>	L	D								
<b>Rene Rivera</b>	U	U									<b>Dario Alvarez</b>	L	D								
<b>Andrew Romine</b>	U	U									<b>Jose Berrios</b>	D	D								
<b>Eddie Rosario</b>	U	U									<b>Edwin Diaz</b>	D	C								
<b>Danny Santana</b>	U	U									<b>Carlos Estevez</b>	U	L								
<b>Trea Turner</b>	U	U									<b>Ryan Garton</b>	D	D								
											<b>Tommy Hunter</b>	D	D								
											<b>Mike Morin</b>	U	U								
<b>MAY ROSTER</b>											<b>Felipe Rivero</b>	U	U								
14 hitters											<b>Fernando Rodney</b>	C	U								
11 pitchers											<b>Kirby Yates</b>	D	L								

C=Closer L=Long Man (Blowouts)  
 SLH=Situational Lefty, 1-2 batters per outing  
 \*Pitching in relief only, not starting

Number = Maximum innings per series (if no numbers, rotate the innings for all the non-closing pitchers as evenly as you can)

### MIDWEST PITCHING ROTATION

<p><b>April (20)</b></p> <p>1-4 @KNX 1234X                  6-8 @BRO 512X                  10-13 @HOB 3451                  14-17 RIV 2345X                  19-23 GC 12345X</p> <p><b>May (21)</b></p> <p>1-5 @BH 12364                  6-9 @DET 1236X                  11-14 MUN 4123                  15-18 STM 6412X                  20-23 KAN 3641</p> <p><b>June (19)</b></p> <p>1-4 BRO 7368X                  6-8 HOB 173                  9-11 KNX 681                  12-16 @IND 73689X                  18-21 @NW 7368</p> <p><b>July (21)</b></p> <p>1-5 MAR 27368                  6-9 WHT 2736X                  11-14 @CAY 8273                  15-18 @NBO 6827                  19-22 @RYE 3682X</p>	<p><b>August (20)</b></p> <p>1-4 LV 7368                  5-8 MLR 2736X                  10-13 @GC 8273                  14-17 @ZIO 6827                  18-21 @WAR 3682X</p> <p><b>September (19)</b></p> <p>3-5 @KNX XX736                  6-9 @BRO 8273                  10-12 @HOB 682X                  14-17 IND 7368                  18-22 NW 57368X</p> <p><b>October (22)</b></p> <p>1-4 HUD 5736X                  6-9 BH 8573                  10-14 @RIV 68573X                  15-18 @COL 6857                  19-23 RYE 36857</p> <p><b>November (20)</b></p> <p>2-6 @WHT X36857                  7-10 @MAR 3685                  11-13 BRO 736X                  15-18 HOB 4573                  19-22 KNX 6457X</p>
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|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1—Shipley (11) | 2—Andriese (19) | 3—Nolasco (32)  | 4—Clevinger (10) |
| 5—Kuhl (14)    | 6—Davies (28)   | 7—Nicolino (25) | 8—Chacin (22)    |
| 9—Berrios (1)  |                 |                 |                  |

### **Default Lineup if I don't send instructions**

<u>Vs LHP</u>		<u>Vs RHP</u>	
Rosario	LF-2	Hicks	CF-3
Odor	2B-7	Odor	2B-7
Martinez	DH	Martinez	DH
Cuthbert	3B-3	Hosmer	1B-5
Hosmer	1B-5	Cuthbert	3B-3
Rivera	C-7	Rosario	LF-2
Ramirez	RF-1	Centeno/Cabrera	C-6
Hicks	CF-3	Ramirez	RF-1
Romine	SS-8	Romine	SS-8

**The Dawgs will play the board game this year as always. Please wait for instructions each month; I will send them by the first of the month always.**

## **Midwest on Offense**

**Bunt:** Yep, we still like it. You should bunt any time the leadoff batter is on 2B, NO EXCEPTIONS. I want that runner at 3B. You can also bunt with no outs, runner on first, score +/- 1-2 runs in the fifth inning or later. Do not bunt in these situations, however, if Odor, Martinez, Hosmer, or Turner is up to bat. With those four, look to see if you can hit and run instead.

**Hit and Run:** We will need to manufacture runs this season, so do this a bunch. Any two-31 hitter with a runner on first who has SBA can do so throughout the game. Especially consider doing this when the runners with double digit stolen base attempts are on base. *It is OK to H-R with runners on first and third as long as there is only one out.*

**Stolen Base:** Any runner who still has double digit SBA can steal in the 7<sup>th</sup> inning or later if the score is -1 run and getting one of these guys to 2B increases my ability to tie the game up. Otherwise, continue to hit and run.

**Runner Advancement and Throws:** Use the chart for advancing on the bases, and throw to bases as you would for your own team. I trust your judgment. Do not be afraid to be aggressive and possibly lose base runners; I like my runners to try for an extra base in a close game if their success rate is 41 or higher. The only runners who should play station to station are my three catchers and the aged Victor Martinez. *In computer play, don't advance if the runner is not well around the base, and do not take extra bases on balls to left field.*

**Infield In:** I never have good luck with this. So, limit this to the 8<sup>th</sup> inning or later, less than two outs, and Dawgs ahead by one to three runs.

**Hold Runners/Stretch:** Hold all runners at first as long as game is within four runs. If more than that, do not hold with LH batters at the plate. Always stretch with runners on base.

### **Player Usage:**

**Catchers:** Rivera, Cabrera, and Centeno are all limited by games. They play the entire games they start.

**DH:** Victor Martinez for 154 games, *including all on the road.*

**1B:** Eric Hosmer for 158 games, *including all on the road.* Against left handers, if there is no one out and a runner on base, he can bunt to offset that bad shift.

**2B:** Rouned Odor for 150 games, *including all on the road.* He does not bunt—swing for the fences with him at bat, and he can also steal second in the last three innings of the game if his run would tie the game.

**3B:** Cheslor Cuthbert for 128 games, *including all on the road.* Trevor Plouffe will see the majority of his action at home, but you can use him for defense in the seventh if the Dawgs lead by any amount.

**SS:** Andrew Romine for 109 games, *including all on the road.* Danny Santana and Alexei Ramirez will man the spot at home.

**LF:** Eddie Rosario and Tony Kemp, *with Rosario playing all games on the road.* Whoever starts stays in the game all the way.

**CF:** Aaron Hicks for 123 games, *including all on the road.* Alexei Ramirez will post out the games needed at home in CF.

**RF:** Alexei Ramirez for 145 games, *including all on the road;* ***Trea Turner mans right field and does not play on the road*** unless injuries make it necessary. He is a home player only so that I can control his usage tightly.

***As you can see, the offense allows for little use of the bench on the road.*** Follow the lineups listed in the instructions each month, do your best within their constraint, and whatever happens on the road happens. I will manipulate the usage at home to try to win as many games as I can on my home turf.

**Everything else is your judgment.** Play my team as you would yours. Within the restrictions listed above, play to win today's game.

## **Midwest Pitching**

The starters will be better than last year. So much for good news. They are still not good enough to make this team truly competitive over 162 games. Most months, there will be 11 or 12 pitchers on the roster. Milk the starters for as many innings as you can get, and go to the pen often as needed to try to win when I am actually in the game.

### ***Basic parameters (not rules, but strong suggestions) for starters***

Nicolino, Shipley, and Chacin are gruesome for 58 starts. They should go a minimum of three innings, and then, follow these patterns for their use:

- If the game score is +any/-3, let them pitch through the fourth inning and each inning thereafter until the minus is greater than 3 or they are actually fatigued.
- If the score has the Dawgs down by more than 3, use any of the blowout/early relievers (usually there will be two in the bullpen), each for two innings, and then the lowest rated reliever in the 8<sup>th</sup> inning to finish the game.
- If they make it through five, then use the relievers as outlined below in the effort to keep me in the game.
- And of course, if they are pitching a shutout, they stay in the game until that changes.

Andriese, Kuhl, Nolasco, Davies, and Clevinger are all about the same level of competence, and they will sometimes be good and other times not so much. They should go a minimum of five innings and then follow these patterns of use:

- If the game score is +any/-3, let them pitch through the sixth inning and each inning thereafter until the minus is greater than 3 or they are actually fatigued.
- If the score has the Dawgs down by more than 3, use any of the middle relievers and set up men, even if the Dawgs trail, each for one inning at a time.
- The closer only enters the game if the Dawgs lead at the start of the ninth or in extra innings; if he yields the lead, bring in the blow out relievers immediately in order to save quality innings.
- And of course, if they are pitching a shutout, they stay in the game until that changes.

These patterns are not set in stone; if you have a hunch about how to win me a game, feel free to countermand the instructions, and you will get no complaint from me for any such decision.

***Bullpen roles are as follows:***

- Edwin Diaz will now be the closer and Fernando Rodney will fall back to 8<sup>th</sup> inning set up.
- Rivero, Estevez, Morin, and Hunter will be the set up men. Rivero has 77 innings, so you can lean on him a bit. Any of these relievers can enter as early as the sixth when I lead, assuming you will use the closer for two innings.
- Chacin and Clevinger will occasionally be listed as relievers, and they will assume set up roles and be used as Rivero, Estevez, Morin, and Hunter in the above lines.
- Alvarez, Alexander, Andriese, Berrios, Garton, Lyles, and Yates are the early guys, long men for blow out situations. **Estevez will also serve in this role in May.** As described earlier above, when they come in, they pitch two innings and then hand off to the next long man in losing situations. They are also the relievers to be used when the closer gives up the tying run and the game goes into extra innings. Berrios is a starter, so he does not get the 5 point bump as a reliever.
- Altavilla has replaced Lyles on the roster. He will not pitch until November.

Different men will be on the roster from month to month, and I will try to give you both lefties and righties to use. You should mix and match in all situations, divvy the innings equally as much as possible among the set up men as one group, and again but at a higher level in the blow out group. I have lots of relief, so it really IS NOT necessary to staple a starter to the mound. Follow the starter instructions above to get fresh arms into the game to give me a chance to fight my way back into the game.

That's it, gents. Play my team as well as you can. Play to win today's game and worry about tomorrow's game tomorrow. If a move appears to jump out at you in the proper moment, seize the day, take the chance, and give it your best shot. Best of luck to you all this season. You won't need much against my boys!!

Darrell