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

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HITT				_	E	Y		Т				PITCHERS				E	Y		Т		
	Ramon Cabrera		U	D			-			-		STARTERS									
Juan Centeno			D	U								Matt Andriese			U						
	lor Cuth		U	U								Jhoulys Chacin	D	D							
	ski Gur	-	-	D								Mike Clevinger	U	U							
Aaron Hicks			U	U								Zach Davies		D	U						
Eric Hosmer		U	U								Chad Kuhl		U	D							
Tony Kemp		U	U								Justin Nicolino-I	NN	D	D							
Victor Martinez		U	U								Ricky Nolasco		U U	U							
Rougned Odor Trevor Plouffe		U	U								Braden Shipley RELIEVERS			U							
			U	U								Scott Alexander			P						
Alexei Ramirez Rene Rivera		U U	U U								Dario Alvarez		L	D							
	ew Rom		U	U								Jose Berrios		L D	D D						
	e Rosari	-	U	U								Edwin Diaz		D	C						
	iy Santa	-	U	U								Carlos Estevez		U	L						
	Turner	uia	U	U								Ryan Garton		D	D						-
IIca	Turner		U	U								Tommy Hunter		D	D						
												Mike Morin		U	U						
M	AY ROS	TED										Felipe Rivero		U	U						
	itters											Fernando Rodney	7	C	U						
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Default Lineup if I don't send instructions

	<u> </u>		-
Vs LHP		Vs RHP	
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.

<u>Hit and Run</u>: 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 7th 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 8th 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: Rougned 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, <u>including all on the road</u>. Alexei Ramirez will post out the games needed at home in CF. **RF:** Alexei Ramirez for 145 games, <u>including all on the road</u>; **Trea Turner mans right field and <u>does not play on the</u> <u>road</u> 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 8th 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 minimu 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 8th 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