

2019 Midwest Mongrels

Emergency Instructions

Wild Card Qualifier—2005, 2013, 2015

Williams Division Champion—2009, 2012, 2014

National Conference Champion—2009, 2014

TBL Champion—2009

MANAGER *DAVID WRIGHT*

Bench Coach

Tony Graffanino

Assistant GM/Hitting Coach Victor Martinez

Pitching Coach

Brandon Webb

Bullpen Coach

Adam Melhuse

1B Coach

Jeff Reboulet

3B Coach

Frankie Menechino



"In a soldier's stance, I aimed my hand
At the mongrel dogs who teach.
Fearing not I'd become my enemy
In the instant that I preach.
My pathway led by confusion,
Boats mutiny from stern to bow.
Ah, but I was so much older then,
I'm younger than that now."

Player	TM	B	BC-MG	BC-CG	SSN	SPD	AR M	PB	TH	G	PA	REM SBA
Cody Bellinger	LAD	L	-7/+2	PR-5	35	17	32			162	632	15
Yuli Gurriel	HOU	R	+5/-4	SA-2	32	10	34			136	573	6
Eric Hosmer	SD	L	-11/+4	PR-5	25	10	33			157	677	11
Bryan Holaday	MIA	R	-6/+1	SA-0	N	6	32	1	+6	61	166	0
Adam Jones	BALT	R	-2/-1	SA-0	34	15	32			145	613	8
Max Kepler	MN	L	-1/-2	PR-0	18	15	30			156	611	9
Sandy Leon	BOS	S	-2/-1	PB-0	26	4	36	3	-1	89	288	1
Victor Martinez	DET	B	-1/-1	SA-0	N	4	30			133	508	0
Joe Mauer	MN	L	-1/-1	PR-0	14	7	35	3	-4	127	543	1
Eduardo Nunez	BOS	R	-2/-1	SA-0	30	13	34			127	502	9
Rougned Odor	TEX	L	-3/0	PR-2	20	16	32			129	535	24
Victor Reyes	DET	B	-3/-1	SA-0	34	13	30			100	219	10
Eddie Rosario	MN	L	-4/0	SA-2	31	16	34			138	592	10
Magneuris Sierra	MIA	L	+5/-4	SA-0	24	19	33			54	156	5
Kevan Smith	CWS	R	+17/-9	SA-5	26	5	32	1	-4	52	187	1
Trea Turner	WAS	R	+1/-2	SA-1	32	19	33			162	740	52
PITCHERS	TM	T	GRADE	CTL	HR	FAT	WP	HB	BK	MF	ST	RIP
Jose Berrios	MN	R	12Y	12	0	25	1		0		32	
Chad Bettis	COL	R	6	-13	-15	27/9	2			2	20	11.3
Madison Bumgarner	SF	L	11	13	14	26	2				21	
Dylan Covey	CWS	R	5	-16	23	27/10	3		0		21	12
Zach Davies	MIL	R	5	21	0	24	1		0	3	13	
Gio Gonzalez	WAS	L	8	-34	21	25	2		0	2	32	
Chad Kuhl	PITT	R	6Y	-14	-21	25	3		0	2	16	
Eric Skoglund	KC	L	7	21	-21	25/10	3		0		13	2
RELIEVERS	TM	T	GRADE	CTL	HR	FAT	WP	HB	BK	MF	ST	RIP
Scott Alexander	LAD	L	11*Y	-23	35	12/6	2		0	1	1	62.7
Jose Alvarez	LAA	L	14*Y	11	45	5	1		0			63
Pedro Baez	LAD	R	13*Y	-16	33	6	0					56.3
Edwin Diaz	SEA	R	22*KXY	23	34	6	3					73.3
Chad Green	NYG	R	14*XY	34	12	7	3		0	1		75.7
Sean Kelley	OAK	R	15*X	35	-16	6	3		0			49
Richard Rodriguez	PITT	R	14*XY	24	31	6	3		0			69.3
Edgar Santana	PITT	R	10	41	13	6	3		0	1		66.3
Sammy Solis	WASH	L	1*Y	-24	-23	5	3		0	1		69.7
Felipe Vazquez	PITT	L	12*XY	13	41	6	3		0			70
Kirby Yates	SD	R	18*KY	16	16	6	2		0			63
											169	744
<i>Players in italics are not on the roster this month</i>												

Cuts-- Carded—Bartolo Colon, Yadiel Rivera

Uncarded—Cheslor Cuthbert, Jose Lobaton, Trevor Plouffe, Danny Santana, Justin Nicolino

Waiver Wire:

September Trade:

Monthly Player Roster

U—on roster

D—in minors

MONTHLY ROSTER	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N		MONTHLY ROSTER	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	
	P	A	U	U	U	E	C	O			P	A	U	U	U	E	C	O	
	R	Y	N	L	G	P	T	V			R	Y	N	L	G	P	T	V	
HITTERS			E	Y						PITCHERS			E	Y					
Cody Bellinger	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U		STARTERS									
Yuli Gurriel	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U		Jose Berrios	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
Eric Hosmer	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U		Chad Bettis	U	U	D	D	D	U	U	U	U
Bryan Holaday	U	U	U	U	U	D	D	U		Madison Bumgarner	U	D	D	U	U	U	U	U	U
Adam Jones	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U		Dylan Covey	D	D	U	D	U	U	U	U	U
Max Kepler	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U		Zach Davies	D	U	U	U	D	D	D	U	U
Sandy Leon	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	U		Gio Gonzalez	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
Victor Martinez	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U		Chad Kuhl	D	U	U	U	U	D	D	U	U
Joe Mauer	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U		Eric Skoglund	U	D	D	D	D	D	D	U	U
Eduardo Nunez	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U											
Rougned Odor	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U		RELIEVERS									
Victor Reyes	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	U		Scott Alexander	U	V	V	V	V	D	D	V	V
Eddie Rosario	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U		Jose Alvarez	v	D	D	U	v	v	v	v	v
Magneuris Sierra	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	U		Pedro Baez	v	v	v	D	v	v	v	v	v
Kevan Smith	D	D	D	D	D	U	U	U		Edwin Diaz	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
Trea Turner	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U		Chad Green	U	U	U	U	D	D	D	U	U
										Sean Kelley	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
										Richard Rodriguez	D	D	D	U	U	U	U	U	U
										Edgar Santana	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
APRIL ROSTER										Sammy Solis	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	S
Hitters--12										Felipe Vazquez	V	V	V	D	D	V	V	V	V
Pitchers--13										Kirby Yates	D	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
C=Closer V=Valet 1 for weak starters v=Valet 2 O=Valet 1 or 2 based on starter S=Situational Lefty, 1-2 batters per outing									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

April (20)			August (20)
1-4	KNX	9724X	1-4
6-8	@BRO	937X	5-8
10-13	@HOB	2493	10-13
14-17	@NW	7249X	14-17
19-23	MAR	37241X	18-21
May (21)			September (19)
1-5	GC	37286	3-5
6-9	RIV	3728X	6-9
11-14	@HUD	6372	10-12
15-18	@DET	8637X	14-17
20-23	@RYE	2863	18-22
June (19)			October (22)
1-4	BRO	7286X	1-4
6-8	HOB	572	6-9
9-11	@KNX	865	10-14
12-16	@BH	72865X	15-18
18-21	WHT	7286	19-23
July (21)			November (20)
1-5	@STM	47286	2-6
6-9	@ZIO	5728X	7-10
11-14	CAY	6572	11-13
15-18	KAN	8657	15-18
19-22	MLR	2865X	19-22

STARTERS

- | | | | |
|-------------|------------|----------|-------------|
| 1—Alexander | 2—Berrios | 3—Bettis | 4—Bumgarner |
| 6—Davies | 7—Gonzalez | 8—Kuhl | 5—Covey |
| | | | 9--Skoglund |

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.

No electronic gamesheets necessary from computer managers. Please play the games personally with your computer **without** using a computer manager.

Vs LHP		Vs RHP	
Turner	SS-9	Turner	SS-9
Jones	DH	Mauer	C-5
Gurriel	3B-3	Gurriel	3B-3
Rosario	LF-3	Rosario	LF-3
Bellinger	CF-3	Bellinger	CF-3
Smith	C-7	Jones	DH
Nunez	2B-7	Odor	2B-9
Hosmer	1B-5	Hosmer	1B-5
Kepler	RF-3	Kepler	RF-3
Pitcher	P-1-2	Bumgarner	P-1-2
41-42/32-33		41-42/32-33	

Midwest on Offense

Bunt: Yep, we still like it. You should bunt any time the leadoff batter is on 2B, UNLESS the batter is Rosario. The power is down this year, so if a runner reaches first in the fifth inning or later, you can also look to bunt. It is a good hit and run team, however, so look first to do that.

Hit and Run: I like this play a bunch. If an eligible runner is on first and the game is +/- two runs, hit and run with Gurriel, Hosmer, Jones, Martinez, Mauer, Nunez, Odor, Rosario, Smith, Turner at bat. Try to H-R two to three times a game, but not with runners on first and third.

Stolen Base: Turner can straight steal starting in the fifth inning if the score is tied and he gets on base. Bellinger and Rosario can straight steal in a tie game in the ninth inning or later. Victor Reyes is on the bench for his base running ability and can pinch run for any of the catchers or Martinez if one of them gets on base 7th inning or later in a tie game.

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 the 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: Since I have a better defense this year, we can be a little more aggressive here. In the sixth inning or later, in a game that is +/- 2 runs, pull the infield in with runners on third, second and third, or first and third with 0 or 1 outs. If my pitcher has good control peripherals, feel free to walk your hitter in that situation to set up a double play; if bases are loaded and it is 0 out situation, play in even then; with one out, play back for the DP in that situation.

Hold Runners/Stretch: Do not hold with LH batters at the plate. You can hold against right handed batters, but if the runner is not a stolen base threat, don't hold—your judgment there is fine. Always stretch with runners on base.

Everything else is your judgment. Play my team as you would yours. Within the restrictions listed above, play to win today's game. The bench is small, but it is useful. The backup catchers are good defensively and should replace Mauer in the seventh inning or later when the Dawgs lead. Nunez/Odor can be seen as a platoon at 2B, and late in the games, one can pinch hit for the other to get a split advantage. Martinez can hit for Leon or Holaday when there are three catchers on the roster for any given month, and then one of the remaining catchers can enter the game to finish up. I will put series-specific substitution suggestions with the lineups for our individual series.

Midwest Pitching

The Dawgs have three viable starters (Berrios, Bumgarner, Gonzalez) and then are playing a variation of the opener game with the rest of the starters. They are good enough that they COULD go five innings and earn some wins, but they are all flawed, so the rules and the chart should be followed always when they start games. With Berrios, Bumgarner, and Gonzalez, play the game straight up and try to extend them into the sixth or seventh if they are pitching well and I have a chance to win. Some general guidelines:

- Berrios, Bumgarner can stay in the game when fatigued if Dawgs lead.
- If they are fatigued again or tying run gets on base, they leave immediately
- Use valet chart for Bettis, Covey, Davies, Kuhl, Skoglund
- And of course, if starters are pitching a shutout, they stay in the game until that changes.
- Never, ever let the weak starters stay in the game to take a pounding. I want rallies stopped early as noted in the valet chart—that is my best bet to get to the back end of the pen and win games—so be aggressive in your use of the valet system

Starter Valet System and Reliever Roles

The starters in the chart are all the weak links on this team. What I want to prevent is an early blowout situation as they start. Each of these starters is capable of throwing five good innings from time to time to turn things over to the bullpen for the final four innings. BUT they are more likely to pour gasoline on an early fire due either to a low grade, bad control, or a high homerun rating. Your job is to try to staunch the bleeding EARLY. So please follow these rules.

- 1) These pitchers stay in the game in the first inning unless they give up three runs. If that happens, they get the quick hook in the first and then use Valets 1 and 2 for up to 2 innings each as long as they are not fatigued.
- 2) If they make it through the first inning unscored upon, same idea for inning number two. Same usage of valets.
- 3) If they are still unscored upon after getting through the first two innings, the same removal rule follows in the third and again in the fourth innings. If they are removed in the third, use Valet #1; if they are removed in the fourth, use Valet #2 instead.
- 4) If they are still unscored upon in the fifth inning, same removal rule, but go right to the regular rotation of middle, late, and closing pitchers to try to preserve a lead and take a win.
- 5) The three run rule is cumulative—if one run scores in the first and two score in the third, remove the starter. ANY combination that adds up to three brings the hook. At this point in the season, this is an ALWAYS command. I will monitor and adjust as needed based on how things go in the opening months.
- 6) The artsy part of this—what if the three runs have not scored, but a big hit could score three or four to add to what has already been plated. In that case, go to the valet **BEFORE** the big hit comes to try to stop it from occurring. Your call, and I won't be upset if you guess wrong, but if you **ARE** guessing, **put the valet in.**

Starter	Valet #1 (1 st to 4 th innings)	Valet #2 (4 th to 6 th innings)	Comments
Chad Bettis	Felipe Vazquez	Pedro Baez	Diaz —closer, 4 out saves acceptable. Yates —secondary closer, 8 th inning man Green, Kelly, Rodriguez —set up men in sixth and seventh innings Solis —loogie in close games against high lefty splits; blowouts if the valets fail to save 6 th -8 th inning usage from better relievers If valets have not been used , they can be used to get a five point bump to get out of a rally in an inning or in extra innings as innings eaters Try to rotate relievers to have the non-valet usage roughly equal on the 8-man staff for the month
Dylan Covey	Felipe Vazquez	Pedro Baez	
Zach Davies	Scott Alexander	Edgar Santana	
Chad Kuhl	Scott Alexander	Edgar Santana	
Eric Skoglund	Edgar Santana	Jose Alvarez	
NEVER, EVER IT SHOULD TO CHANCE	LET THESE STARTERS ONLY HAPPEN ON AN LEAVING THE STARTER	GIVE UP MORE THAN 3 XB HIT WHEN YOU TRY IN FOR ONE MORE PA	

That is it for this year. Best of luck to all. Any questions, use your own judgment and play my team like you would your own. The Dawgs hope to be competitive this year, and we hope you have fun playing a team that is pushing the envelope a bit to see if you really can win in this league with an over 700 inning pen.

DARRELL