

2020 LAS VEGAS GAMBLERS PLAY GUIDE

OVERVIEW - Las Vegas came within one game of the World Series in 2017. 2018 and 2019 were down years as we built towards the next winning crew and that time has arrived with the 2020 edition. We sacrificed our 2021 draft, but this version is a great blend of established talent and bright new rookies that should launch the Gamblers back into the postseason.

STARTERS - Only seven starters are needed to cover the entire 2020 season, and they cover it very well. Veterans Charlie Morton (14XY) and Rich Hill (15XY) were brought in to stabilize a young rotation including Lucas Giolito (15XY) and Caleb Smith (11X). Zach Plesac (12), taken in the recent draft, represents even more youthful talent. Crafty vet Homer BAILEY (9Y) should provide much better work than last year and Felix Pena (9Y) makes the final seven starts, while spending most of the year in the bullpen. All starts covered by a GR9 or better, 124 starts of GR11 or better and 75 starts of GR14 or better. Not too shabby. All starters should try to get thru 5 innings, if feasible.

BULLPEN - Yeah, we got one of those too. The closer in 2020 will be Felipe "Global Pariah" Vazquez (*19K). He's on a work release program and he will be monitored carefully during the season. Use him as a traditional closer, 9th inning, one inning saves only. Zach Britton (*23Y) is the lefty setup man in the 7th or 8th innings. His -55 control means he should start innings clean. Oliver Drake (*18XY) is Britton's righty counterpart, setting up Vazquez in the 7th or 8th innings. That makes 177 innings of GR*18 or better. There is a gulf here that should be another reliever of GR*17 - *15 range, but that couldn't be arranged. There is a plethora of middle relievers in the GR*11 - *13 range. Matt Bowman, Austin Brice, Trevor Gott, Tim Hill, Tim Mayza, and Chris Newberry provide 255 innings. Use them in waves to try and keep any leads we get. Mike Morin (*9R) will be up in April. His main job is to act as Felix Pena's caddy / valet. He has great peripherals (33/22), but he has an "R" strikeout rating, so keep an eye on that. Eliesser Hernandez (8Y) failed to make the rotation, but could provide bulk relief innings late in the year if things get tight.

HITTING STRATEGIES - Seven of the nine positions are manned by one player each for the entire season - Walker (1B), LeMahieu (2B), Bogaerts (SS), Donaldson (3B), Bradley (CF), Braun (RF) and Alonso (DH) all have 144 or more games available. The only platoon positions will be at catcher, with Vogt (-0) vs RHP'S and Carson Kelly (+12) vs. lefties. Left field will be held down most of the year by Dickerson (-0) vs. righties and Duvall (+8) vs. LHP'S. In these platoons each can sub for the other if the pitcher's arm changes. Kris Bryant is languishing on the bench, just waiting for playing time. Use him vs. tough lefty relievers.

H&R - RUNNERS - Berti, Braun, Bradley, Walker and Quinn on 1B.

BATTERS - Any batter with 2 "31's". LeMahieu has 3 "31's".

STEALS - Not a lot for much straight stealing, but in the 8th inning or later, the score -1/+1, the following runners can try for 2nd base: Berti, Braun, Walker, Quinn and LeMahieu. Bradley can be added here if his adjusted SSN is 26 or higher.

BENCH - Jon Berti to can run for either catcher, 8th inning of later, score -1/+1. Roman Quinn can run for either left fielder under the same conditions, and then stay in for defense. Basically, feel free to use anyone off the bench if it's advantageous to the Gamblers.

BASERUNNING - Use the Adams Table here.

SACRIFICES - Don't. There's too much power here for "small ball".

OVERALL OFFENSE - Power everywhere! 12 of the 17 position players on the roster have 4 or more power numbers. Bogey and Vogt have 5 and Dickerson has 6! The Gamblers expect to slug their way to the playoffs and a long run in the postseason.

GAME VERSION - I always have used the board game and, hopefully, always will.

In conclusion use your best baseball judgement to cover anything I may have overlooked.

Yours Sincerely,

Paul J. Harrington

General Manager

Las Vegas Gamblers

Rotation & Lineups

2020 LAS VEGAS GAMBLERS ----- PITCHING ROTATION AND SCHEDULE						
APRIL (20)				AUGUST (20)		
1 – 4 (5)	MLR	A G B C X		1 – 4	NWW	C D A E
6 – 8 (9)	AT KAN	A G B X		5 – 8 (9)	GCB	B C D A X
10-13	AT IND	C A G B		10 – 13	AT CAY	E C D A
14 – 17 (18)	AT NBO	D C A G X		14 – 17	AT HOB	B E C D
19 – 23 (24)	CAY	B C A G D X		18 – 21 (22)	AT BRO	A B E C X
MAY (21)				SEPTEMBER 1 (2) (20) - ALL STAR BREAK		
1 – 5	ZION	B C A D E		3 – 5	MLR	A B D
6 – 9 (10)	HUD	B C A D X		6 – 9	AT KAN	C E A B
11 – 14	AT MID	B C A E		10 - 12 (13)	AT IND	D C E X
15 – 18 (19)	AT KNX	D B C A X		14 - 17	AT ZION	A B C D
20 – 23	AT WAR	E B C A		18 - 22 (23)	NBO	E A B C D X
JUNE (19)				OCTOBER (22)		
1 – 4 (5)	KAN	D F B C X		1- 4 (5)	BHM	A B C D X
6 – 8	IND	A F B		6 – 9	COL	A B C D
9 – 11	AT MLR	C D A		10 - 14	AT MUN	E A B C D
12 – 16 (17)	AT DET	F B C D A X		15 - 18	AT STM	E A B C
18 – 21	MUN	B C F A		19 - 23	WAR	D E A B C
JULY (21)				NOVEMBER (20)		
1 – 5	AT COL	D B E F A		(1) 2 – 6	AT HUD	X F E D A C
6 – 9 (10)	AT RIV	D B E F X		7 – 10	DET	F E D G
11 – 14	WHT	A B D E		11 – 13 (14)	KAN	B F E X
15 – 18	MAR	F A B D		15 – 18	IND	D G F E
19 – 22 (23)	RYE	E F A B X		19 – 22 (23)	AT MLR	A D C F X
	HOME	ROAD	TOTAL		HOME	ROAD
MONTH				MONTH		
YTD				YTD		
	PITCHING KEY			EMERGENCY LINEUPS		
A	MORTON	33 STARTS		VS. RHP's		VS. LHP's
B	BAILEY	31 STARTS		1 BRAUN	RF	1 BRAUN
C	GIOLITO	29 STARTS		2 LeMAHIEU	2B	2 LeMAHIEU
D	C. SMITH	28 STARTS		3 BOGAERTS	SS	3 BOGAERTS
E	PLESAC	21 STARTS		4 ALONSO	DH	4 ALONSO
F	R. HILL	13 STARTS		5 DONALDSON	3B	5 DUVALL
G	F. PENA	7 STARTS		6 C. WALKER	1B	6 DONALDSON
	TOTAL	162 STARTS		7 DICKERSON	LF	7 BRYANT
				8 VOGT	C	8 C. WALKER
X	OFF DAY			9 BRADLEY	CF	9 C. KELLY