

2021 LAS. VEGAS. GAMBLERS INSTRUCTIONS AND PLAYGUIDE

OVERVIEW - 2020 was such a crap sandwich for, basically, the entire planet. But, in TBL, the Gamblers franchise had a great year. They battled a strong Melrose team all summer to take the Aaron division title by three games. They squeaked past a tough Detroit (now Rocky Mtn) crew and fell to a superior Munich squad in the NC conference championship. The prize there was a date with the wood chipper that was the 2020 Barbarians. Nobody and nothing was going to keep them from their title. As good as 2020 was for Las Vegas, 2021 should be even better. Some strong MLB output and a few good trades built the best pitching staff in Gamblers history. Combining that with a powerful offense, now with more base stealing, should lead them back to the playoffs and maybe, in our 25th anniversary season, our first trip to the TBL World Series!

STARTERS - The numbers tell the story. All 162 starts are covered by a GR8 or better. 154 starts will be made by GR13's or better and 138 starts will go to GR15's or better. Easily the best crew Las Vegas has ever fielded. Lucas Giolito (GR16, 32 starts) is the staff ace, ably supported by newcomer Steve Brault (GR16, 27), former Gambler Tyler Mahle (GR15, 24), lefty veteran Rich Hill (GR16, 22), trade acquisition Adbert Alzolay (GR16,11) and sophomore sensation Zach Plesac (GR17, 22). These six form the backbone of the rotation. They are supported by Eliesser Hernandez (GR13, 16), Homer Bailey (GR8, 5) and reliever Austin Brice (GR8, 3). There are some control issues and some low fatigue ratings, but they will have good support from a stacked bullpen. Most days the starter should make it to the fifth, so try for that, but don't be afraid to go to the relief corps.

RELIEF - A great collection of grades, lefties / righties variety and good peripherals make for a vital support system for the starting staff. Here are the pitchers and their proposed roles:

CHRIS MARTIN - His grade (GR*18X) and his peripherals (46/42) make him the logical choice to close games. Treat him as a traditional closer, 9th inning, 3 outs.

LUCAS SIMS (GR*23X, -26/16) - A great righty set up man. Should be used in the 7th or 8th innings, leading up to "Martin Time".

ZACH BRITTON (GR*19Y, -12/62) - The same as Sims, but from the left side. He's still negative on control, but nowhere near as bad as last year. His HR rating is sublime.

JIMMY HERGERT (GR*17, -62/26) - Can go anywhere from the 5th thru the 8th innings. Try to give him a " clean" inning, due to his poor control. He may make Austin Brice's three November starts.

AARON LOUP (GR*16Y, 41/14) - A crafty lefty who is so much more than a LOOGY. His grade, peripherals and number of innings (69) means he can face both lefties and righties Mainly thru the 5th thru 8th innings.

SHAUN ARMSTRONG (GR*15Y, 33/36) - Just like LOUP, but as a righty. Treat him like a "situational righty", as he is limited in innings (42).

JAMES HOYT (GR*14X, -35/41) - If a starter gets pounded out, but Las Vegas is still in the game, use Hoyt to try to keep us in that game. He too is limited in innings, but he can go up to 2 innings a game if needed.

OLIVER DRAKE (GR*11), TIM HILL (GR*8) AND AUSTIN BRICE (GR*8) - These three, when active, will mostly see time in blowouts. Tim Hill can be used as another situational lefty.

HIT AND RUN - Any batter with 2 "31's", and LeMahieu with his 3, can H&R with the following runners on base: QUINN, BERTI, BOGAERTS, BRADLEY AND HAGGERTY.

STEALING - In the 7th or later, score -1 to +1, the following runners can try to steal 2nd if the H&R is not in order: QUINN, BERTI, BOGAERTS, BRADLEY, HAGGERTY. In the 9th inning or later in the same conditions, add these runners to the steal list: LEMAHIEU AND WARD. All steal attempts should have, at least, 25 or more chances after all adjustments. Use the Adams Table to look to steal or runner advancement.

PINCH HITTING - Very limited as the best players are usually in the lineup. Hit HAGGERTY for BRAUN in a close game late vs. a LHP.

PINCH RUNNING - QUINN is the best option here. He is the fastest runner in the card set (F20). He can run for CANO, BRAUN and ALONSO late in a close game. If QUINN is already in the game, HAGGERTY can also pinch run if needed.

DEFENSE - Whichever catcher starts the game should finish the game, unless there is an injury or ejection. If the Gamblers lead after they bat in the 8th or later, make the following moves: Bring GUZMAN in to play 1B. Bring QUINN in to RF for BRAUN. If CANO starts at 2B, bring DONALDSON into the game in his spot, playing 3rd and move BERTI to 2B. If there is an injury or ejection, use the most logical moves available.

GAME VERSION - Las Vegas uses the cards and dice for home games, of course.

In conclusion if there is anything I forgot cover here, just use your best baseball judgement. Or contact me at: pjh5000@hotmail.com.

Good luck this season to all! Paul J. Harrington / Las Vegas Gamblers

2021 LAS VEGAS GAMBLERS ----- PITCHING ROTATION AND SCHEDULE						
APRIL (19).				AUGUST (20)		
1 - 4 (5)	AT MLR	H A B C X		1 - 4	AT GCB	G. D. C. A
6 - 8 (9)	AT IND	H A B X		5 - 8 (9)	AT MAR	E. G. D. C. X
10 - 12 (13)	AT KAN	C H. A. X		10 - 13	AT DET	E. G. D. C
14 - 17 (18)	WAR	B C H A. X		14 - 17	BRO	A. E. G. D
19 - 23 (24)	MUN	B C G. H. A. X		18 - 21 (22)	HOB	C. A. E. G. X
MAY (21)				SEPTEMBER 1 (2) (20) - ALL STAR BREAK		
1 - 5	AT CAY	B C. D A E		3 - 5	AT MLR	X. X. A. D. F
6 - 9 (10)	AT HUD	B C D A X		6 - 9	AT IND	B. E. A. D
11 - 14	MID	B C D. A		10 - 13.	AT KAN	F. B. E. A
15 - 18 (19)	KNX	E. B. C. D. X		14 - 17 (18)	CAY	D. F. B. E. X
20 - 23	ZION	A. B. C. D		19 - 23	HUD	A. F. B. E. D
JUNE (19)				OCTOBER (22)		
1 - 4 (5)	IND	F A. B. C. X		1 - 4.	AT WHT	A. G. F. E
6 - 8.	KAN	F. A. B		5 - 9.	AT ZION	B. A. G. F. E
9 - 11.	MLR	C. D. F		10 - 14	COL	B. A. G. F. E
12 - 16 (17)	AT NBO	A B. C D F. X		15 - 18 (19)	STM	B. A. G. F. X
18 - 21	AT COL	A B C. D		20 - 23	NBO	B. A. G. E
JULY (21)				NOVEMBER (20)		
1 - 5	DET	E. A. B. C D		(1) 2 - 6	AT WAR	X. F. J. D. A. E
6 - 9 (10)	RIV	E. A. B. C. X		7 - 10	AT MUN	F. C. D. B
11 - 14	AT BHM	E. A. B. C		11 - 13 (14)	IND	E. J. C. X
15 - 18	AT RYE	D. E. A. B		15 - 18	KAN	B. F. E. C
19 - 22 (23)	AT NWW	C. D. E. A. X		19 - 22 (23)	MLR	D. A. J. F
	HOME	ROAD	TOTAL		HOME	ROAD
MONTH				MONTH		
YTD				YTD		
	PITCHING KEY			EMERGENCY LINEUPS		
A	GIOLITO	32 STARTS		VS. RHP's		VS. LHP's
B	BRAULT	27 STARTS		1 BERTI	3B	1 BRADLEY CF
C	MAHLE	24 STARTS		2 LEMAHIEU	2B	2 LEMAHIEU 2B
D	PLESAC	22 STARTS		3 CANO	DH	3 CANO DH
E	R. HILL	22 STARTS		4 DUVALL	LF	4 DUVALL LF
F	HERNANDEZ	16 STARTS		5 BOGAERTS	SS	5 BOGAERTS SS
G	ALZOLAY	11 STARTS		6 BRAUN	RF	6 ALONSO 1B
H	BAILEY	5 STARTS		7 ALONSO	1B	7 DONALDSON 3B
J	BRICE	3 STARTS		8 BRADLEY	CF	8 HAGGERTY RF
	TOTAL	162 STARTS		9 HIGASHIOKA	C	9 STALLINGS C
X	OFF DAY					

