

2023 Midwest Mongrels

MAY Instructions at ZIO, COL, NBO

1562-1688-481

Wild Card Qualifier—2005, 2013, 2015, 2018-2020

Williams Division Champion—2009, 2012, 2014

Ruth Division Champion—2021

National Conference Champion—2009, 2014

TBL Champion—2009



Manager Adam Jones

GEN. MANAGER VICTOR MARTINEZ **SABERMETRICS** **RENE RIVERA**

Bench Coach Nick Punto *Hitting Coach* Oscar Salazar

Pitching Coach Ervin Santana *Bullpen Coach* Henry Blanco

1B Coach Nate McLouth *3B Coach* Mike Aviles

Player	TM	B	BC-MG	BC-CG	SSN	SPD	ARM	PB	TH	G	PA	REM SBA	J
Hanser Alberto	LAD	R	SA +2/-7	SA-2	14	13	34			73	159	1	3
Jorge Alfaro	SD	R	SA +3/-3	SA-2	25	9	33	3	-4	82	274	0	3
<i>Cody Bellinger</i>	LAD	L	PR -4/0	PR-2	32	17	34			144	550	17	1
J. P. Crawford	SEA	L	PR -2/-1	PR-1	24	13	33			145	603	4	1
Nelson Cruz	WAS	R	SA +2/-3	SA-2	34	4	31			124	504	4	2
Elias Diaz	COL	R	SA +3/-4	SA-2	14	6	31	1	-1	105	381	1	3
<i>Eduardo Escobar</i>	NYM	B	SA +2/-3	SA-0	9	11	34			136	542	2	2
Josh Harrison	CWS	R	SA -2/-1	SA-0	26	14	32			119	425	3	2
Eric Hosmer	BOS	L	PR +1/-2	PR-0	N	9	33			104	419	0	3
Trevor Larnach	MN	L	SA 0/-2	SA-0	N	13	36			51	180	0	4
Joey Meneses	WAS	R	SA +5/-4	SA-2	26	6	29			56	240	1	4
Cedric Mullins	BALT	L	SA -8/+2	SA-5	30	18	33			156	670	44	1
Rougned Odor	BAL	L	PR -5/0	PR-3	33	16	32			135	472	7	2
Victor Robles	WAS	R	SA +8/-6	SA-4	30	18	37			132	407	19	2
Julio Rodriguez	SEA	R	SA -2/-1	SA-0	30	15	33			132	560	30	2
Kyle Schwarber	PHIL	L	PR -6/+1	PR-4	35	6	34			155	669	10	1
<i>Pavin Smith</i>	ARI	L	SA -6/0	SA-3	26	6	30			75	277	1	3
Terrin Vavra	BALT	L	SA -6/-1	SA-3	14	13	30			40	103	1	4
PITCHERS	TM	T	GRADE	CTL	HR	FAT	WP	HB	BK	MF	ST	RIP	J
<i>Joan Adon—Innoc.</i>	WASH	R	1	-54	14	29	3		0	0	25		4
Javier Assad	CC	R	12	-53	16	20/7	2	0	0	0	8	1	4
Zach Davies	ARI	R	10	-22	-21	22	1		0	1	27		3
<i>Tony Gonsolin</i>	LAD	R	19Y	15	22	21	3		0	0	24		3
Rich Hill	BOS	L	7Y	14	0	22	0			0	26		3
<i>Dustin May—XC</i>	LAD	R	12Y	-42	16	23	0		0	0	6		4
Shane Bieber	TB	L	16XY	24	-11	23	3		0	0	28		3
Justin Verlander	HOU	R	18X	34	31	24	1		0	0	28		3
Garrett Whitlock	BOS	R	6/16*X	32	-13	20/9	2		0	0	9	39.3	3
White P-1 Orange P-2													
RELIEVERS	TM	T	GRADE	CTL	HR	FAT	WP	HB	BK	MF	ST	RIP	J
Hanser Alberto	LAD	R	9*	21	-25	7	0		0	0		11	3
Enyel de los Santos	CLEV	R	13*XY	12	36	6	3			0		42.7	2
Edwin Diaz	NYM	R	24KXY*	13	42	6	2		0	0		52.7	2
Tyler Duffey—Innoc.	MN	R	5	11	-26	7						72	3
Sam Hentges	CLE	L	17*XY	12M	43	6	3		0	0		52.7	2
<i>Adrian Morejon</i>	SD	L	8*	24	0	7	0		0	0		34	4
Cionel Perez	BALT	L	19*Y	14	51	6	2		0	1		51	1
<i>David Price</i>	LAD	L	12*Y	35	-16	6	0	0	0	0		30.7	3
<i>A.J. Puk</i>	OAK	L	13*X	13	14	7	3			0		55.7	2
<i>Brooks Raley</i>	TB	L	15*X	15	41	6	3		0	1		42	2
<i>Players in italics are not on the roster this month</i>											170	484.7	

Cuts-- Carded and XC—Williams Astudillo, Alex Claudio, Wilmer Difo, Jeurys Familia, Erik Gonzalez, Mickey Moniak, Steven Piscotty, Brent Rooker, Travis Shaw, Joe Smith

Uncarded—Shogo Akiyama, Josh Fuentes, Josh Reddick

Waiver Wire—Add Hanser Alberto and Tyler Duffey/cut Vimal Machin and Lewin Diaz

Monthly Player Roster

U—on roster

D—in minors

MONTHLY ROSTER	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	O	MONTHLY ROSTER	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	
	P	A	U	U	U	E	C	O	V		P	A	U	U	U	E	C	O	V
	R	Y	N	L	G	P	T				R	Y	N	L	G	P	T		
HITTERS			E	Y						PITCHERS			E	Y					
Hanser Alberto	X	U								STARTERS									
Jorge Alfaro	U	U								Joan Adon	D	D							
Cody Bellinger	U	D								Javier Assad	U	U							
J. P. Crawford	U	U								Zach Davies	U	U							
Nelson Cruz	U	U								Tony Gonsolin	D	D							
Elias Diaz	U	U								Rich Hill	U	U							
Eduardo Escobar	U	D								Dustin May	D	D							
Josh Harrison	U	U								Shane Bieber	U	U							
Eric Hosmer	U	U								Justin Verlander	D	U							
Trevor Larnach	D	U								Garret Whitlock	U	U							
Joey Meneses	D	U																	
Cedric Mullins	U	U								RELIEVERS									
Rougned Odor	U	U								Hanser Alberto*	X	U							
Victor Robles	U	U								Enyel de los Santos	U	U							
Julio Rodriguez	U	U								Edwin Diaz	C	C							
Kyle Schwarber	U	U								Tyler Duffey	X	U							
Pavin Smith	D	D								Sam Hentges	U	U							
Terrin Vavra	D	U								Adrian Morejon	D	D							
										Cionel Perez	U	U							
										David Price	U	D							
										A.J. Puk	U	D							
										Brooks Raley	U	D							
MAY ROSTER																			
15 hitters																			
11 pitchers																			

C=Closer S=Situational Lefty, 1-2 batters per outing to end an inning
 *Note that Hanser Alberto is a grade 9 reliever for 11 innings this season

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>April (20)</p> <p>1-4 @HOB 1284X 6-8 BRO 912X 10-13 KNX 8491 14-17 BH 2849X 19-23 @WHI 12849X</p> <p>May (21)</p> <p>1-5 MAR 12845 6-9 STM 1284X 11-14 @ZIO 5198 15-18 @COL 4519X 20-23 @NBO 8451</p> <p>June (19)</p> <p>1-4 @BRO 7345X 6-8 @KNX 193 9-11 HOB 451 12-16 RYE 93451X 18-21 @NW 9345</p> <p>July (21)</p> <p>1-5 @RIV 12345 6-9 @GC 1234X 11-14 IND 5123 15-18 LV 4512 19-22 RCK 3457X</p>	<p>August (20)</p> <p>1-4 HUD 2345 5-8 KAN 1234X 10-13 MLR 5123 14-17 @CAY 4512 18-21 @MUN 3451X</p> <p>September (19)</p> <p>3-5 @HOB XX237 6-9 BRO 5123 10-12 KNX 751X 14-17 WHT 2375 18-22 @STM 12375</p> <p>October (22)</p> <p>1-4* @BH 62345X 6-9 @MAR 6234 10-14 NW 56234 15-18 RIV 5623X 20-23 @WAR 4562</p> <p>November (20)</p> <p>2-6 GC X34512 7-10 @RYE 3451 11-13 @BRO 234X 15-18 @KNX 5123 19-22 HOB 4562X</p>
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STARTERS

- | | | | |
|--------|----------|------------|--------------|
| 1—Hill | 2—Davies | 3—Gonsolin | 4—McClanahan |
| 6—May | 7—Adon | 8—Assad | 5—Verlander |
| | | | 9—Whitlock |

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.

At ZIO

May 11 vs Castillo		May 12 vs J. Gray		May 13 vs Mikolas		May 14 vs Gore	
Mullins	LF-3	Mullins	LF-3	Mullins	LF-3	Alberto	3B-4
Hosmer	1B-4	Hosmer	1B-4	Hosmer	1B-4	Rodriguez	CF-3
Rodriguez	CF-3	Rodriguez	CF-3	Rodriguez	CF-3	Schwarber	DH
Schwarber	DH	Schwarber	DH	Schwarber	DH	Meneses	1B-3
Larnach	RF-2	Larnach	RF-2	Larnach	RF-2	Mullins	LF-3
Odor	3B-3	Odor	3B-3	Odor	3B-3	Diaz	C-8
Alfaro	C-7	Alfaro	C-7	Alfaro	C-7	Larnach	RF-2
Harrison	2B-8	Harrison	2B-8	Harrison	2B-8	Harrison	2B-8
Crawford	SS-8	Crawford	SS-8	Crawford	SS-8	Crawford	SS-8
Verlander	P-2	Hill	P-1	Whitlock	P-2	Assad	P-1
	40/32		39/31		40/32		40/32

Starting catcher and first basemen never leave the game except when injured.

If Dawgs lead going into the bottom of the 8th inning, Alberto replaces Odor at 3B. Using platoons this month to get healthy in total games played, so no other moves are necessary.

At COL

May 15 vs Nola		May 16 vs Kelly		May 17 vs Sears		May 18 vs Springs	
Mullins	LF-3	Mullins	LF-3	Alberto	3B-4	Alberto	3B-4
Hosmer	1B-4	Hosmer	1B-4	Rodriguez	CF-3	Rodriguez	CF-3
Rodriguez	CF-3	Rodriguez	CF-3	Schwarber	DH	Schwarber	DH
Schwarber	DH	Schwarber	DH	Meneses	1B-3	Meneses	1B-3
Larnach	RF-2	Larnach	RF-2	Mullins	LF-3	Mullins	LF-3
Odor	3B-3	Odor	3B-3	Diaz	C-8	Diaz	C-8
Alfaro	C-7	Alfaro	C-7	Larnach	RF-2	Larnach	RF-2
Harrison	2B-8	Harrison	2B-8	Harrison	2B-8	Harrison	2B-8
Crawford	SS-8	Crawford	SS-8	Crawford	SS-8	Crawford	SS-8
McClanahan	P-1	Verlander	P-2	Hill	P-1	Whitlock	P-2
	39/31		40/32		40/32		41/33

Starting catcher and first basemen never leave the game except when injured.

If Dawgs lead going into the bottom of the 8th inning, Alberto replaces Odor at 3B. Using platoons this month to get healthy in total games played, so no other moves are necessary.

AT NBO

May 20 vs Hudson		May 21 vs Steele		May 22 vs Cortes		May 23 vs Ryan	
Mullins	LF-3	Alberto	3B-4	Alberto	3B-4	Mullins	LF-3
Vavra	2B-6	Rodriguez	CF-3	Rodriguez	CF-3	Hosmer	1B-4
Schwarber	DH	Schwarber	DH	Schwarber	DH	Rodriguez	CF-3
Cruz	1B-2	Meneses	1B-3	Meneses	1B-3	Schwarber	DH
Larnach	RF-2	Mullins	LF-3	Mullins	LF-3	Larnach	RF-2
Robles	CF-3	Diaz	C-8	Diaz	C-8	Odor	3B-3
Alfaro	C-7	Larnach	RF-2	Larnach	RF-2	Alfaro	C-7
Odor	3B-3	Harrison	2B-8	Harrison	2B-8	Harrison	2B-8
Crawford	SS-8	Crawford	SS-8	Crawford	SS-8	Crawford	SS-8
Assad	P-1	McClanahan	P-1	Verlander	P-2	Hill	P-1
	35/27		40/32		41/33		39/31

Starting catcher and first baseman (Hosmer or Meneses) never leave the game except when injured. In game one, Hosmer can pinch hit for Cruz and stay in to play 1B the rest of the way once you relieve Hudson, or he can play defense starting in the sixth inning if the Dawgs are tied or lead by any score.

If Dawgs lead going into the bottom of the 8th inning, Alberto replaces Odor at 3B, and Odor moves to 2B to replace Vavra in game one. Using platoons this month to get healthy in total games played, so no other moves are necessary.

Midwest on Offense

The Dawgs will be more competitive this season, so offensive moves are possible in a way that they were not last season.

Hit and Run: Runners include Bellinger, Mullins, Robles, Rodriguez, and Schwarber with Hosmer, Escobar, Crawford, Harrison, or Diaz hitting. Do not hit and run with men on first and third, and only H-R twice per game in general, usually in the final three to four innings of a game that is +/- one run and less than two outs.

Bunt: After a lead off double with any hitters except Schwarber, Rodriguez, Bellinger, Larnach. You can suicide in the top of the ninth if the game is tied with Harrison or Mullins batting. Otherwise, swing away and hope for a hit or sacrifice fly.

Stolen Base: Let's start the season cautiously, with a preference for the hit and run first. SB can take place in the eighth inning or later when game is tied, and any runner with a corrected SSN of 31 or higher is at first base. Do not steal third base or home.

Mullins can attempt two stolen bases in this series, starting in the fifth inning of a game that is +/- two runs.

Runner Advance: Only if runner is “well around” for you computer players. For MG players, play S runners safe, but others may attempt the extra base if the value factor is 26 or greater and the game is +/-2 two runs. If one or both of these conditions is not met, the runner plays safe. When a runner tries to move up, trailing runners do not try for an extra base. We have some power on the team this year and don't mind playing a bit safer on the bases.

Everything else: Use your judgment and play my team as you would your own. Roll the dice and enjoy the games!

Midwest on Defense

This is not a strong defensive team this season. The bench is going to be generally thin when it comes to defensive replacements, so most often the starters will play the entire game. Alberto is on the roster to replace Escobar at 3B in games the Dawgs lead in the eighth inning or later. Any OF-3 on the bench can replace any OF-1 or OF-2 in the same situation. Catchers start and finish their games unless injured, as do the second basemen as the season starts. Special instructions for the month will give you an idea of what to do when the Dawgs lead and Cruz is starting at 1B.

As for game situations, generally speaking play my team as you would your own. Here are some things to consider as you play the games:

I still hate the infield in play. If score is +/-2 runs, play infield deep with zero or one out. If the score is tied, play the infield in for those situations; but if you DO score and there is still a runner on third base, go back to playing deep.

Let fast runners take an extra base when running if the final valuation number is greater than 24. Make the throw if it is 24 or less. Generally do not make the throw to attempt to catch the trailing runner. If you are unsure what to do, play my team as you would your own if it were in the field. Again, emphasis is on having fun instead of following these instructions to the letter of the law.

Catchers always make the throw to try to stop a stolen base.

Everything else is your judgment. Like MLB, keep the game moving along with your decisions so that my fielders are alert and ready to make the few plays they will be capable of making this season—LOL!

Midwest Pitching

We have an actual honest to goodness pitching staff this season. Only two starters need to be handled with care: Joan Adon and Garrett Whitlock. See the chart on the next page when they start a game in our series. The rest of the starters are solid and you should try to get 5 or 6 innings out of Rich Hill and Zach Davies, and 6 to 7 innings out of everyone else. Bullpen roles are listed in the chart on the next page as well.

The decision to remove a starter is always difficult. Go with your gut and give me the best chance to win a game. There will always be seven guys in the pen, so you can mix and match with the goal to get to closer Edwin Diaz for the save. Don't be afraid to bring in relievers in the middle of the inning to get a five point bump.

Starter	In case of pounding in first 4 innings	Bullpen Usage
Joan Adon 6 starts during the season	Adrian Morejon will be the caddy, going up to 2-2/3 innings. Remove Adon if he falls behind by three or more runs and go to Morejon	If Dawgs lead when the starter comes out, in general follow these usage patterns Morejon is reserved as a caddy for Adon and otherwise will see limited duty this season. Raley, Puk, and Price are all used in the fourth through 6 th innings, no more than one inning at a time. Wish I had a right hander here to balance them out, but I don't, although Whitlock IS available for 39 innings in this role when he is not starting. So it is best to take my lumps early here and hope they keep the game close. Price is reserved to be the control guy when runners are in scoring position in those middle innings. All three are in the minors this month. Starters are all going five minimum. Should there be a blow out in the first five innings, newly acquired Tyler Duffey goes 2-2/3 to eat up innings. Otherwise, in the sixth let's rotate de los Santos and Hentges equally.
Garrett Whitlock 9 starts during the season	Whitlock goes 5 innings regardless of fatigue. If Dawgs lead, he tries for a sixth inning but comes out when the tying/lead run gets on base.	de los Santos and Hentges work the seventh inning, rotating games so that they are available for the entire series and leaving at least one free for potential extra inning duty if need be. No extra innings for these boys this month. They also rotate in the seventh when needed. Your overall goal is to have both with the same number of relief innings at the end of your series with the Mongrels this month.
Rich Hill and Zach Davies	Both should go five innings this month. Hill can go through six if Dawgs lead; Davies is done after five always.	

<p>All other starters</p>	<p>Try to get them into the seventh inning. They can be fatigued twice before leaving the game.</p>	<p>Perez is the 8th inning set up man</p> <p>Diaz is the closer. One inning max, and if he yields the lead, remove him immediately. Two innings max this month. Only if the score is tied or Dawgs lead.</p> <p>In extra innings, anyone can be used as available. This month let's take a chance, play with fire, and go with Duffey to eat up innings. If I can't win in nine, I will take my lumps!</p> <p>Bullpen usage is a bit tight this season. It is imperative to ride Verlander, Gonsolin, and McClanahan into seven innings, through several fatigue points if necessary, to preserve innings for the season. If you are going to make an error, err on the side of letting those three starters ride along rather than the other guys. Verlander is back this month. Don't be afraid to let him go into the 8th to save some relief innings.</p> <p>I have 470 innings of relief at this point. There are 40 series. So roughly speaking, that means there are about 12 innings of relief available for each series. Try to stay as close to that number of innings as best you can. In a three game series, drop that limit to 9; in a five game series, raise it to 15. These are not hard and fast rules, but they are good guidelines for the way to optimize my pen for the entire season. If you can stretch the starters to make this work, yea! If you can't, don't let the starter get battered in a winnable game for the Dawgs. Your judgment and I won't question how you work this out! Duffey has been added to the pen to alleviate some of this pain. This month, however, I am sitting some guys to speed up their resting process, and I have 15 hitters on the roster instead of my normal 14 in order to keep hitters rested while hopefully boosting the offense. I need to see how this plays out, so we are shy of relief innings this month. In a perfect world, Verlander and McClanahan pitch like studs into the eighth or later. If you can get through 8 and hand off a save situation Diaz, go for it. If it blows up, don't worry. Generally think in terms of both of them staying on the mound as long as the Dawgs lead by two runs in the 8th. or if the game is tied. If the Dawgs lead by only one, relieve them with Perez. If they lead by more than two, let them try to finish the inning. If the score is tied, they finish the inning. And if they give up the lead, also let them finish the inning. Going for creative here, and I generally prefer to lose games in April and May in order to maximize my roster options in October and November, so don't be afraid to take a chance for me. Stuff happens, and if those guys fail, well, dang. They are my aces this year and I need them to stay in the game as long as they can this month. It's not a total staple suggestion, but it is close!</p>
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Best of luck to everyone in TBL this season. The Dawgs are better than last season, but as with most teams in the league, we have flaws. Try to win what you can for me on the road, and I will play hard at home to try to beat you as well!!

Darrell