



## Player Usage Information

<b>MONTHLY ROSTER</b>	<b>APR</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUG</b>	<b>SEPT</b>	<b>OCT</b>	<b>NOV</b>
Mike Aviles	Down				Down	Down		
Henry Blanco								
Alexi Casilla								
Raul Chavez	Down	Down	Down	Down	Down	Down	Down	
Adam Everett								
Carlos Gomez								
Chris Gomez		Down	Down	Down			Down	
Edgar Gonzalez	Down	Down	Down	Down	Down	Down	Down	
Ramon Hernandez	Down	Down						
Micah Hoffpauir	Down	Down	Down	Down				
Adam Jones								
Adam Kennedy								
Mark Kotsay								
Adam LaRoche								
Derrek Lee								
Mitch Maier	Down	Down	Down	Down	Down	Down	Down	
Victor Martinez			Down	Down	Down	Down	Down	
Nate McLouth								
Nick Punto								
Oscar Salazar					Down	Down	Down	
David Wright								
<b>Pitcher</b>	<b>APR</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUG</b>	<b>SEPT</b>	<b>OCT</b>	<b>NOV</b>
<b>STARTERS</b>								
Ryan Dempster								
Paul Maholm								
Ervin Santana								
Johan Santana								
Brandon Webb								
<i>Homer Bailey</i>	Down	Down	Down	Down	Down	Down	Down	Down
<b>RELIEVERS</b>	<b>APR</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUG</b>	<b>SEPT</b>	<b>OCT</b>	<b>NOV</b>
Taylor Buchholz	3	3	3	3	Down	Down	3	1
Joey Devine	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
Damaso Marte	3	3	3	3	Down	Down	Down	2
Justin Miller	2	2	2	2	3	3	Down	1
Scott Schoeneweis	Down	Down	Down	Down	5	5	3	1
Russ Springer	Down	Down	Down	Down	4	4	3	2
Billy Wagner	2	2	2	2	Down	Down	Down	1
Dan Wheeler	Down	Down	Down	Down	4	4	5	3
	<b>Down = Not on roster</b> <b>Number = Suggested maximum innings per road series</b> <b>C = Closer, see instructions for use</b>							

## MIDWEST PITCHING ROTATION

### April

1-4	@WAK	ABCE
6-8	KNX	ABC
10-12	RIC	DAB
14-17	NBO	CDEA
19-23	@MAR	BCDEA

### May

1-5	HUD	BCDEA
6-9	POR	BCDE
11-14	@HOU	ABCD
15-18	@BRO	EABC
20-23	@LV	DEAB

### June

1-4	@KNX	CDEA
6-8	@RIC	BCD
9-11	WAK	ABC
12-16	MUN	DEABC
18-21	@ZIO	DABC

### July

1-5	@KAN	DEABC
6-9	@MLR	DEAB
11-14	RYE	CDEA
15-18	BH	BCDE
19-22	WHT	ABCD

### August

1-4	@GC	EABC
5-8	@NW	DEAB
10-13	KAN	CDEA
14-17	GOH	BCDE
18-21	LA	ABCD

### September

3-5	@WAK	ABC
6-9	KNX	DEAB
10-13	RIC	CDEA
14-17	MAR	BCDE
19-23	@POR	ABCDE

### October

1-4	@HUD	ABCD
6-9	@DAL	EABC
10-14	@NBO	DEABC
15-19	ZIO	DEABC
20-23	COL	DEAB

### November

2-6	MLR	CDEAB
7-10	@MUN	CDEA
11-13	@KNX	BCD
15-18	@RIC	EABC
19-22	WAK	DEAB

A—J. Santana (34)  
E—Maholm (28)

B—Webb (34)

C—Dempster (33)

D—E. Santana (33)

### STARTING LINEUPS

*Use only if you do not hear from me by the start of each month. I will be sending lineups to match up against your starters this year. These are drop dead heart attack for Darrell lineups only!*

### Board Game

#### STARTING LINEUP vs LHP on Road

Jones	CF-3
Aviles/Punto*	SS-8/2B-8
McLouth	LF-3
Wright	3B-4
Lee	1B-5
LaRoche	DH
Blanco/Martinez**	C-8/C-7
Punto/Everett*	2B-8/SS-9
Gomez	RF-3

#### STARTING LINEUP vs. RHP on Road

Jones	CF-3
Kennedy	2B-8
McLouth	LF-3
LaRoche	DH
Lee	1B-5
Wright	3B-4
Hernandez/Blanco**	C-8
Punto	SS-8
Gomez	RF-3

\*Check availability to see if Aviles is up or down and start 2B/SS accordingly

\*\*If Hernandez is down, Martinez starts vs LHP and Blanco against RHP

## Computer Game

<u>STARTING LINEUP vs LHP on Road</u>		<u>STARTING LINEUP vs. RHP on Road</u>	
Jones	CF-3	Jones	CF-3
Casilla	2B-7	Casilla	2B-7
Lee	1B-5	McLouth	LF-3
Wright	3B-4	Lee	1B-5
McLouth	LF-3	Wright	3B-4
LaRoche	DH	LaRoche	DH
Hernandez	C-8	Hernandez	C-8
Aviles/Everett*	SS-8/SS-9	Punto	SS-8
Gomez	RF-3	Gomez	RF-3

\*Check availability to see if Aviles is up or down and start SS accordingly

## THE DAWGS PLAY THE MASTER BOARD GAME AT HOME!

### Midwest On Offense This Year

Little ball changes a bit this year. The Dawgs still love it, but we can probably bunt less often this year, depending more on the hit and run, the stolen base, and some more power than we usually have. That being said, the sacrifice remains part of the overall arsenal. Maybe not 100 plus times this year!

**CATCHER:** Victor Martinez and Henry Blanco share starting duties in April and May. After that, just say “Ramon Hernandez.” Blanco becomes the late inning defensive replacement starting in June, replacing Hernandez in the 8<sup>th</sup> inning when Midwest leads by two or more runs. You can also run for Hernandez in the 8<sup>th</sup> inning or later if he is the tying or winning run. Raul Chavez does not play for now.

**1B:** Derrek Lee for 155 games. Adam LaRoche in the other seven. Lee will always start on the road and never come out of the game.

**2B and SS:** Ah, so many options. Like Clay says at Hudson, use my bench. Always on the roster are Alexei Casilla, Adam Kennedy, Nick Punto, and Adam Everett. Some times on the roster are Mike Aviles and Chris Gomez. Never active, at present, is Edgar Gonzalez. The monthly instruction sheet will choose starters for all games, matched to your starting pitchers. If the Dawgs lead by one or more in the 8<sup>th</sup> inning, make sure that a 2B-8 and SS-9 is in the game.

**3B:** David Wright for 160 games, just as in the past year. Two starts will go to Punto at home this year. He always starts on the road. Wright plays all the way all the time on the road. Punto will only be used to spell him at home. On the road, cement him to the field.

**OF:** No Mutts this year for the Dawgs. The starters can all run, catch the ball, throw it (well, not McLouth), and they can even hit this year. What happened to the typical Dawg outfielder???

**LF:** Nate McLouth—152 games, including all 81 on the road. He never comes out.

**CF:** Adam Jones—132 games, including all 81 on the road. He never comes out.

**RF:** Carlos Gomez—153 games, including all 81 on the road. He never comes out.

Should injuries occur, Mark Kotsay is available to start. If a lefty pitcher starts a game that Kotsay must play, start Punto in CF and adjust the SS.2B position as necessary.

**DH:** Adam LaRoche for all 81 road games, coming out only for a pinchrunner in the 8<sup>th</sup> inning or later when LaRoche is the tying or winning run.

**TOY CARDS:** Either Oscar Salazar or Micah Hoffpauir will always be on the roster. They can be used once in every game, 7<sup>th</sup> inning or later when a hit will tie or produce a lead with at least one runner on base. Generally they will hit for a 2B/SS platoon and be replaced by another SB/SS.

### Pinch-hitting/Pinch-running:

Make moves as you see fit, but never remove Wright, Lee, or the outfielders. Pinch-runners for LaRoche and Hernandez as listed above. Move the players in an out of 2B and SS as needed to give me the competitive edge.

**Hit and Run, Straight Steal:**

You know I love both. The boys have 178 SB attempts this year, so do not be afraid to run. Success rates are high for most of my men, so generally feel free to steal in the sixth inning or later of games that are +/- one run. Stolen base attempts can be from 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> with any number of outs, and from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> with one or two outs.

Now let's look at the hit and run. Everyone has two 31s except for Blanco, Chavez, Carlos Gomez, Hoffpauir, Jones, LaRoche, and Maier. So always hit and run with runner on first when any of them are up and the guy has SBA attempts left during the first five innings of the game, when legal. After that, check the SB first as outlined above. If the number of SB attempts declines too rapidly, I will amend this on the monthly sheets, but for now, I want to see this team moving on the basepaths. This is a strength that must be utilized.

**THE SBA LISTED ON THE SHEET WILL BE AS OF THE START OF THAT MONTH.**

**Sacrifice:**

I still play little ball, and this year's team will be no exception. Leadoff batter on, look first to hit and run or steal as outlined above, but if the batter cannot do so, or the runner does not allow it, then bunt unless the hitter is Hoffpauir, LaRoche, Lee, McLouth, Salazar, or Wright. Leadoff batter on second, automatically bunt unless hitter is Wright/LaRoche/Martinez. With no outs and a runner on second, still bunt the runner to third if the hitter is anyone other than Lee, Wright, LaRoche, McLouth, or the toy card of Salazar or Hauffpauir. The suicide can be done by Punto, Kennedy, or Casilla. If they are up with less than two outs in the eighth or later, and the runner at third is the tying or winning run, lay the bunt down. If they get to two strikes, hit away.

**Running:** Use the Adams table and your judgment. In general, I need runners to advance, so don't be afraid to take a chance. Particularly if the runner would be the tying or go ahead run, if the Adams table looks good, send him in. You decide based on your gut as you play the game--I trust your judgment.

**Defensive replacements:**

Follow the information listed in the section on the players by position.

**Outfield throws:**

I don't generally play for the trailing runner. If the numbers are big for the runner going to third or home, don't throw there, and keep the batter at first or second by that decision. Play this as you would your team, and computer gamers play as you play yours for sure.

**Infield:**

Your judgment is fine here; play my boys as you would your own team. I do like to walk batters to set up a double play or force at home late in the game, so if it is the 7<sup>th</sup> or later and runners are on second or second and third, walk the 3-6 hitters and play for the DP.

**Hold runners:** Play as you would your team. I trust your judgment.

**Stretch:** Play as you would your team. I trust your judgment.

**Intentional Walk:** Use in the seventh or later to set up a double play to try to get out of an inning.

### **Starting pitcher/Relievers**

Five starters take all 162 starts, and they are all solid. The bullpen is strong. The Dawgs expect to be in most games and want you to be careful in how you use pitching in every game. Basically, remember what all the managers say—don't remove a starter pitching a shutout, and don't let a starter go more than 11.2 innings. Use this chart to see how to use pitching during the games.

Ryan Dempster Johan Santana	Grade 14 Grade 14	Try for 7 full IP <b>Relieve in 6<sup>th</sup> or earlier only if:</b> 1) Fatigued <b>AND</b> 2) Reduced two times in grade <b>AND</b> 3) Tying/leading run gets to plate <b>Relieve in 7<sup>th</sup> or later only if:</b> 1) Fatigued <b>AND</b> 2) Reduced one time in grade <b>AND</b> 3) Tying/leading run gets to plate <b>Before 6<sup>th</sup>, remove only if pounded</b>
Brandon Webb Ervin Santana	Grade 12 Grade 12	Try for 7 full IP. <b>Relieve in 6<sup>th</sup> or later only if:</b> 1) Fatigued <b>AND</b> 2) Reduced one time in grade <b>AND</b> 3) Tying/leading run gets to plate <b>Before 6<sup>th</sup>, remove only if pounded</b>
Paul Maholm	Grade 11	Try for 6 full IP. Relieve in 5 <sup>th</sup> or later only if: 1) Fatigued <b>AND</b> 2) Tying/leading run gets to plate <b>Before 5<sup>th</sup>, remove only if pounded</b>

### **Bullpen Usage**

The pen always has five relievers. In general, they are used in this order:  
Blowout/Pounding Justin Miller (also late in game if trailing 4+)

6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Innings Damaso Marte/Scott Schoeneweis

7<sup>th</sup> Inning Billy Wagner  
Plus trailing later Dan Wheeler  
Russ Springer

8<sup>th</sup> Inning Set Up Taylor Buchholz

Closer Joe Devine **Devine Rules**  
**One IP maximum**  
**Remove immediately if score gets tied**  
**Use Buchholz for save if Dawgs lead by 2 or**  
**3 runs to start 9<sup>th</sup>. Bring Devine**  
**only if tying run comes to plate**

See the roster chart for suggested maximum innings you can use each reliever in our series. Rotate the available relievers to keep close to IP limits. **BUT DO WHAT YOU HAVE TO IN ORDER TO GET ME A WIN.** I will monitor innings at home this year to make sure I have Adequate November coverage; if need be, I will trade in September to augment the pen. Wins supersede inning suggestions. Conversely, if I am being beaten badly, keep all relievers before the closer to about the same number of innings to finish a game.

Best of luck to you all this year. This should cover everything, and if it doesn't, use your own judgment. I will send instructions at the start of each month, so please wait for them. Roll some 66s for me!

Darrell Skogen