

ELDERS OF ZION - Standard Instructions (2009)

ACTIVE ROSTER													IN MINORS:						
PITCHERS													Ap	M	Jn	Jl	Au	S	O
	GS	IP	St	Rel	Ctl	HR	WP	HB	BK	MF	Fat								
R-LA Maddux, Greg (M)	33	194		7		44	0	1			0	25							
L-AB Glavine, Tom (G)	13	63		7		-55	-24	0	0		3	25	x	x	x	x	x		
R-MT Baker, Scott (K)	28	172		12		24	-12	3	0		1	25					x		
R-DT Bonderman, Jer. (B)	12	71		10		-36	-12	1	0		3	27			x	x	x		
R-CC Marquis, Jason (Q)	28	167		8		-14	22	3			0	27/7*							
R-NM Pelfrey, Mike (P)	32	200		9		13	36	1	0		2	27							
R-FL Volstad, Chris (V)	14	84		13		-15	51	0	0		0	25/12*	x	x		x	x		
R-FL Sanchez, Anibal (S)	10	51		6		-33	-12	1	0		0	28	x	x	x		x		
R-AZ Cruz, J		51		20*		-62	14	1	0		2	6*		x					
R-TX Francisco, Frankie		63		16*		-21	-11	3	0	0	0	7*				x			
R-SL Perez, Chris		41		15*		-54	-11	3	0	0	0	6*	x		x		x		
R-FF Seanez, Rudy		43		13*		-43	43	3	0	0	0	6*		x		x			
R-AZ Qualls, Chad		73		14*		26	36	3	0	0	0	6*							
R-KC Nunez, Leo		48		12*		21	44	3	0	0	1	7*	x		x		x		
L-SD Hampson, Justin		30		11*		32	51	0	0	0	0	6*	x	x		x	x		
R-AZ Rauch, Jon		71		9*		33	-22	1	0	0	0	6*			x		x		
R-LA Park, Chan Ho (Pa)	5	95		16	9*	14	-12	1			0	21/8*			x		x		
Batter Shifts																			
POS. PLAYERS	G	AB	vs L	vs R	Comp.	SSN	Att.	Spd	Arm	Fldg.									
R-SD Hundley, Nick	60	198	-3	-1	SA-1	N			6	32	C7 (2/-2)							x	
R-SM Johjima, Kenji	112	379	0	-2	SA-1		31	2	4	33	C8 (2/-1)								
R-WA Loduca, Paul	67	173	-1	-1	SA-1		26	1	6	30	C6 (1/-4)							x	
R-AZ Jackson, Conor	144	540	+6	-4	SA-2		32	12	10	29	1B3/OF2								
L-CI Hafner, Travis	57	198	-1	-1	SA-1		20	2	4	29	1B2							x	
R-BJ Hill, Aaron	55	205	+4	-3	SA-2		23	7	15	35	2B8							x	
R-AB Escobar, Yunel	136	514	-6	+1	SA-0		12	7	8	36	SS9								
B-BO Roberts, Brian	155	611	0	-2	SA-0		31	50	17	32	2B8								
R-SM Beltre, Adrian	143	556	+9	-5	SA-3		31	10	12	32	3B5								
B-SL Lopez, Felipe	143	481	0	-2	SA-0		20	16	17	34	2B6	SS7							
R-BJ McDonald, John	84	186	+3	-4	SA-2		29	4	15	31	SS9	3B4						x	
R-CI Gutierrez, Franklin	134	399	+1	-3	SA-2		29	12	15	33	OF3								
L-NY Abreu, Bob	156	609	-1	-2	SA-1		26	33	16	36	OF2								
L-CI Choo, Shin Soo	94	317	-8	+1	SA-4		23	7	17	34	OF2							x	
L-FF Dobbs, Greg	128	226	-10	0	SA-5		29	4	11	32	OF1	3B3/1B2							
L-PP Morgan, Nyjer	58	150	-5	-1	SA-3		25	14	17	31	OF2							x	
B-SF Velez, Eugenio	98	275	-5	0	SA-0		28	21	18	34	OF1	2B6						x	
L-CI Sizemore, Grady	157	634	-8	+1	SA-4		34	43	19	30	OF3								
<b>Apr</b>		18-21	MW	P,M	K,V		14- 17	@	KAN	M,K,P,Q									
1- 4	HUD	M,P,B,Q	<b>July</b>				18- 22	@	RIC	V,M,P,K	Q								
6- 8	MUN	K,M,P	1- 5	@	WAK	S,Q	P,M,K	<b>Oct</b>											
10-12	MLR	B,Q,K	6- 9		HOU	S,Q	P,M	1- 4		WAK	S,V,M,Q								
14-17	@	POR	11-14		BRO	S,K	P,M	5- 9		NBO	P,S,V,M	Q							
19-23	@	KNX	15-18		LV	Q,S	K,P	10- 13		NW	P,S,V,M								
<b>May</b>		19-22	@	NBO	M,Q	S,K	15- 19	@	MW	P,S,V,M	Q								
1- 5	KAN	M,Q,P,K,B	<b>Aug</b>				20- 23	@	MAR	P,S,V,M									
6- 9	RICH	M,Q,P,K	1- 4	@	LA	P,M	Q,B	<b>Nov</b>											
11-14	@	WHT	5- 8	@	GOH	K,P	M,Q	2- 6		POR	Pa,K,Q	P,M							
15-18	@	BH	10-13	@	COL	K,P	M,Q	7- 10		KNX	Pa,K,Q	B							
20-23	@	RYE	14-17		DAL	B,K	P,M	11- 13	@	MUN	P,Pa,K								
<b>June</b>		18-21		GC	Q,B	K,P	15- 18	@	MLR	M,P,Pa	K								
1- 4	@	MUN	<b>Sep</b>				19- 22	@	HUD	Q,B,M,Pa									
6- 8	@	MLR	3- 5		HUD	V,M	K												
9-11	@	HUD	6- 9		MUN	P,Q	V,M												
12-16	MAR	P,M,K,Q,V	10-13		MLR	K,P	Q,V												

Releases (Carded): M Anderson, Kobayashi, Fasano

## 2009 ELDERS OF ZION – Standard Instructions

Emergency Lineups (lineups for subsequent months to be supplied at beginning of month):

(April): vs any LHP – Abreu 9 Jackson 3 Roberts 4 Beltre 5 Gutierrez 7 Lopez 6 Hill DH Sizemore 8 Johjima 2  
1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> RHP of series – Sizemore 8 Roberts 4 Escobar 6 Choo 7 Abreu 9 Jackson 3 Dobbs DH Beltre 5 Johjima 2  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> RHP of series – Sizemore 8 Roberts 4 Escobar 6 Abreu 9 Choo 7 Dobbs 3 Beltre 5 Hundley 2 Velez DH  
3<sup>rd</sup> RHP of series – Sizemore 8 Escobar 6 Roberts 4 Dobbs DH Jackson 3 Abreu 9 Beltre 5 Johjima 2 Velez 7

### GENERAL GUIDELINES – OFFENSE/POSITION PLAYERS

There will only be five Elders on the offensive bench each month, who should offer a fair amount of flexibility, though the cast changes from month to month:

**1B – JACKSON** is the primary starter here, with **DOBBS** taking some starts vs. RHP. JACKSON can be used off the bench as a defensive replacement for DOBBS, or as a PH vs. LHP. DOBBS is a candidate to be PH for vs a LHP, whether playing here or at 3<sup>rd</sup> or DH.

**2B – ROBERTS** is the full-timer here. Hard to think of a reason to sit him down.

**SS – ESCOBAR** starts vs. all RHP, and will almost certainly come in the game when not starting if a RH comes on to pitch (unless it's a blowout). Although he has a sizable lefty shift, he'll typically hit thru it unless it's a key AB and there is a much better choice on the bench. He is a candidate to be PR for late if a steal is needed in a 1-run game.

**LOPEZ** and **McDONALD** will split up the starts vs. LHP, depending on who's active. Both are candidates for late game substitution (LOPEZ for D or basestealing, McDONALD for his weak stick).

**3B – BELTRE** will typically start and finish at the hot corner every day. **DOBBS** will probably pick up the handful of games he has to sit.

**OF** – Two of the three OF spots are cast in stone with **SIZEMORE** and **ABREU**. The former's MG -8 vs lefties may make him a candidate for a PH if a hit is needed more than a walk; but Abreu is shift neutral this year, so it's hard to even conceive of a way he gets replaced. The third spot is mostly a platoon with **GUTIERREZ** against LH, **CHOO** vs RH. However, **CHOO** has only 94 G, so **MORGAN** and **VELEZ** and even **DOBBS** will show up in left from time to time. CHOO should typically NOT play when he does not start.

**DH** – Many will pass thru this spot, depending on the matchup. Just remember that if the matchup no longer favors the starter, the odds are there is someone else on the bench who might do better.

**C – JOHJIMA** and **HUNDLEY** have 172 G between them, and similar shifts. **LODUCA** adds another 67 games but at present is slated to be active for only two months, bringing the total to a little more than 200 G. This means that the starter will – mostly – go the route, and that we will only switch out here for a late game PH in a close game RBI spot. This instruction may be loosened as the year progresses.

## GENERAL GUIDELINES – PITCHING STAFF (Part A – The Starters)

Grades are up this year, with part seasons of a 13 and 10, and near full season 12, and a 9/8/7/6 back end. 162 right handed starts. The bullpen contains some better grades, but there are only 490 innings out there overall. As a result, these guys will be candidates for replacement from the 6<sup>th</sup> on if it's close (7<sup>th</sup> on for Volstad and Baker), but may have to take one for the team when we're down by three or more.

The four rules to follow absolutely are as follows: 1) no starter leaves before the sixth unless forced out by runs, unless he is fatigued AND we lead AND long man PARK is up; 2) no starter pitches after being fatigued if the game is within 2 runs 6<sup>th</sup> on; 3) that any starter should be replaced 7<sup>th</sup> on if they put the tying/lead (T/L) run on base; and 4) that Cruz should be in to protect any 1-2 run lead in the 9<sup>th</sup>, and can come on in the 8<sup>th</sup> with 2 outs to stop a jam if the score is 0/+3, and he will steal more hits than the P that is in. Everything else is under your discretion, within the reliever guidelines discussed below.

## GENERAL GUIDELINES – PITCHING STAFF (PART B – The Relievers)

There are three parts to the 2008 Zion bullpen:

1) “The Titular Closer” – **Juan Cruz** is a fairly dicey 20\* with -62 control. He does have the benefit of a 7 fatigue, so on occasion he can try to get us out of an 8<sup>th</sup> inning jam as well as work the 9th. He never pitches more than 1.1 innings per outing; in extras, go to another option. Also, though he will be the guy trying to be the stopper in the 9<sup>th</sup>, there may be occasional moments with men on where a lesser grade with better peripherals (Qualls/Nunez) might have a better shot at the last 1 or 2 outs. Use good baseball judgment, and we'll have no complaints.

2) The set-up men. **QUALLS** is a good 14 with 73 innings and good peripherals, and FRANCISCO adds another 63 innings of a 16 with modest negatives. These two are the primary 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> inning guys when we're tied or leading. They are supported to a lesser extent by another 78 good peripheral innings of LH 11 **HAMPSON** and RH 12 **NUNEZ**, and two better grade RHP from the wild and crazy school in **Chris PEREZ and SEANEZ**. These latter four are more ‘mix and match’ guys to be used for short stints (1-3 batters, maybe a full inning) 6<sup>th</sup> on; err on the side of aggressiveness on switching in and out if an edge is there to be taken. If it takes two or more guys to get us out of an inning, so be it. There should be 6 relievers up every month, so there are choices to be had.

3) The middle/long men – **RAUCH** and **PARK** are both RH 9s with a lot of innings, decent control, poor HRs. At least one is available every month, and both are up in April/May/August. They will pitch primarily if we need relief before the 6<sup>th</sup>, or when we're trailing, though like the others they may appear as a second or third option in a tough inning. If the game is on the line, there are other, surer hands to turn to.

## DEFENSIVE STRATEGY OPTIONS

**INTENTIONAL WALK** – Rarely, if ever.

**HOLD RUNNERS** – Always vs. PL batter; otherwise, only hold runners with adjSSN of 23+.

**INFIELD IN/DEEP** – Play IN 8<sup>th</sup> on with <2 out if runner on 3<sup>rd</sup> is T/L run; otherwise, play DEEP.

**OUTFIELD THROWS** – 1) ALWAYS throw if runner chance is < 33. 2) ALWAYS throw for lead runner, unless he is not T/L run, and trail runner chance is 7+ lower. Computer managers, play as you would your team, but never let the potential winning run cross the plate uncontested 7<sup>th</sup> on.

**DEF. REPLACEMENTS** – Less than usual. ESCOBAR or McDONALD at SS the games LOPEZ starts, GUTIERREZ for a OF-1, a defensive C for LODUCA the months he gets some starts. I would normally err on the side of better offense if a man is scheduled to appear the next inning, so these changes are mostly after a last AB (note that some of the defensive subs are also PR options who may PR and stay in the game afterwards for D).

## OFFENSIVE STRATEGY OPTIONS (Order of Preference – SB, H&R, sacrifice)

**STEALS:** In order to steal, I like to have an adjSSN (after all P and C adjustments) of 27+; however, if the SB is critical enough to the outcome of the game, I'll take a shot at 25 or 26 (especially if the batter can't H&R).

**WHO STEALS WHEN:** **SIZEMORE, ROBERTS, ABREU** and **VELEZ** have the largest number of attempts, and basically have the green light to steal 2<sup>nd</sup> any time 4th inning on score is +2/-2 (limit – 2x per series). **BELTRE, GUTIERREZ, and JACKSON** can steal in the 8<sup>th</sup> or 9th as the T/L run, but will probably get most of their attempts on busted H&Rs.

**HIT & RUN:** I'm a huge believer in the H&R, and love to use it every chance it's available. However as the team continues to transition, not all of our offensive players have either base stealing speed or 2 31s. And not everyone with 2 31s is a great H&R candidate. On the current team, **LODUCA, JOHJIMA, McDONALD, HILL, MORGAN, LOPEZ, VELEZ and ESCOBAR** should hit and run 1<sup>st</sup> or 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> anytime the runner on 1<sup>st</sup> has an adjSSN of 20+. **ROBERTS, BELTRE, DOBBS, and JACKSON** may H&R with a man on 1<sup>st</sup> only, adjSSN of 24+.

**SACRIFICE:** Sacrifice tying/lead run on 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> with exactly 0 outs 8<sup>th</sup> or later. (Exceptions: Never bunt with a serious power hitter unless all of his non-power hits are stolen)

**NEVER, EVER SQUEEZE!!! (Just say NOOOO!)**

**OFFENSIVE SUBSTITUTIONS** (Don't use **CHOO** when not starting except in a totally obvious GW situation where any other move would be lunacy).

**PINCH HITTING** – Traditionally, I PH a lot, especially to counter pitching changes, or to maximize our scoring chances in a rally situation.

**WHO TO PH FOR:** 1) Obvious platoon type players (SS, third OF, DH), if the general guidelines suggest that they can be replaced. 2) offensive black holes at the bottom of the lineup (JOHN McDONALD and the catching corps, this means you) if they come up late in a close game with men on.

**WHO to PH WITH:** Versus RHP, **VELEZ, DOBBS, MORGAN, and LOPEZ** all offer good shift options. Versus LHP, **HILL, LOPEZ and GUTIERREZ** can all match-up well.

**PINCH RUNNING** – In about half the month **VELEZ** will be on the bench; when he's not around **GUTIERREZ** is probably the best base-runner on the pine. At times, there may also be starters getting a day off who can serve this role as well. The two positions looking at PR options are SS (for ESCOBAR in a steal situation only) and the C.

**RUNNER ADVANCEMENT:** 1) **ALWAYS** go if chance is 28+. **NEVER** go if chance is less than 20, except home with T/L run 8<sup>th</sup> on and 2 out (15+). 3) Otherwise, use Adams tables to determine go/no go. When playing computer game, be aggressive with the fastest runners, and conservative with the lead-foots (the Cs and 1B). Otherwise, I'll rely on your knowledge of hit descriptions to try and match up with these general parameters, as your knowledge would greatly exceed my own on this topic.

**SEND RUNNER ON 3<sup>RD</sup>:** If your IF is in, HOLD runner unless the combined Fldg rating of your 2B and SS is < 15.

Zion will be using the boards again in 2009. This is a peculiar year, as the ballclub appears to be about the 8<sup>th</sup> best club in the league, but may be outside looking in at playoff time in a tough conference. Still, they should be able to put up a solid battle most days.