



2023 Instructions –

The rotation is a little better than average and the back end of the bullpen is also better than average but with three good closers and no great closer. The offense will make or break the season, we will punch at times but other offenses will be more scary than this one.

While many teams will go to the pen early and often, this is still Augusta. Starters are expected to pitch six or seven innings although they don't have to if in dots.

Starting Line-ups

Lineup A vs Left ~ bat right	Lineup B Standard vs Left	Lineup C Vs L, bat L	Lineup D Vs R Screwballer	Lineup E Std Vs R	Lineup F Vs R, bat L
	6 Kim, Ha-Seong		D Bell, Josh	D Bell, Josh	D Bell, Josh
	2 d'Arnaud, Travis		5 Arenado, Nolan	5 Arenado, Nolan	2 Stephenson, Tyler
	D Bell, Josh		9 Morel, Christopher	4 Garcia, Luis	4 Garcia, Luis
	5 Arenado, Nolan		4 Garcia, Luis	9 Morel, Christopher	5 Arenado, Nolan
	3 Rizzo, Anthony		3 Leblanc, Charles	3 Rizzo, Anthony	3 Rizzo, Anthony
	8 Renfro, Hunter		8 Renfro, Hunter	8 Renfro, Hunter	8 Renfro, Hunter
	7 Duvall, Adam		7 Ozuna, Marcell	7 Tapia, Raimel	7 Tapia, Raimel
	4 Garcia, Luis		2 d'Arnaud, Travis	2 d'Arnaud, Travis	9 Morel, Christopher
	9 Tapia, Raimel		6 Kim, Ha-Seong	6 Kim, Ha-Seong	6 Kim, Ha-Seong
	All Leftys		Kirby, Gilbert, Flexen, Sampson, Oviedo, Musgrove, Woodruff, Gausman, Gray-Sonny, Darvish, Gallen, Nola	All Other Righties	Ohtani, Hicks, Webb, Eflin, Williams-Trevor

Platoon / Injury

- **Do not remove** Arenado, Garcia, Rizzo, Renfro, Kim, Bell, or d'Arnaud once they are in the game.
 - Only exception, if we are behind in the 9th you can hit for Rizzo vs a R or Garcia vs a L if the offensive improvement is big. Our defense will be a mess if we make it to the bottom of the 9th, so only for a big advantage.
- **Always remove** Stephenson from lineup F after his third at bat. He only starts vs 5 guys but has only 166AB.
- If **Lefty Starter comes out** and we are ahead the only change will be Bader for Tapia (Renfro to RF) if it is later in the game (no changes early in the game). If we are behind, Morel for Duval, Tapia to LF)
- If **Righty Starter gives way** to a lefty reliever we mostly stand pat until time for late Defense.
- Lineup D, **when Righty Screwball starter comes out**, Rizzo for Leblanc and somebody for Ozuna (could be Bader if later in the game (shift others), or Tapia in the middle, or Duval if Bader already in).

Positions:

C	d'Arnaud will get most starts with good offense and better D. Stephenson has even better hitting and will start against some R pitchers. d'Arnaud finishes all games unless he is injured
1B	Rizzo is the primary guy and the only one with decent defense. He starts in all but one lineup. Bell starts here if Rizzo is injured, but if Rizzo is injured during the game Leblanc comes in.
2B	Garcia starts all games at 2B and doesn't come out unless you are batting for him in the 9 th and we are behind. Morel is the injury replacement, Leblanc if we are in a deep mess.
SS	Kim starts all games and never comes out. Morel and then Garcia are the injury replacements.
3B	Arenado starts all games and never comes out. Morel and Leblanc if he is injured.
OF	Renfroe starts in center and finishes most games in RF. Morel starts in RF. Tapia or Duval in left. Bader comes into CF (Renfroe shifts to RF) in the 7 th or 8 th with a lead. Ozuna is a desperation LF-5 if injuries are killing us.
DH	Bell is the primary DH. Ozuna could be injury backup for him vs Righty. In an injury pinch Stephenson vs a lefty.

Player Usage Limitations:

- Stephenson comes out of any blowouts.

Pitcher hitting / Pinch hitting –

- **Pinch hitting** is only for late in the game or leading to a double switch due to pitcher change. PH versus LHP: Tapia to start the rally, Duval beef, Stephenson for the RBI especially in the clutch. PH versus RHP: Leblanc to lead off, Ozuna for beef, Stephenson in the clutch for the RBI. Tapia also.
- **Bunting:** a lost art. If injuries have caused us to pull the DH, then pitchers bunt in sacrifice situations, otherwise don't even think about it.

Baserunning

- Typical stealing decisions, 70%.
- Who to **H&R** and when: not really our thing.
- Score at 60%, or 40% with two outs
- Send trailers to second aggressively, to third conservatively.
- Send low percentage trailer when tying or go ahead run is coming to the plate at 70% or less.

Defense

- **Throwing Defense:** Use the chart below to guide you. Override to throw home on the winning run in the 9th. This chart should keep the double play in order more often, at least that is the intent.

Two Outs Throwing				Less Than Two Outs Throwing			
Play at	... on a	Throw if	cut if trailer	Play at	... on a	Throw if	cut if trailer
Home	Single	<70%	<40%	Home	Single	<60%	<40%
Home	Double	<75%	<40%	Home	Double	<70%	<40%
Third	Single	<85%	< lead runner	Third	Single	<70%	<40%

- Best Defense is in Bold, Garcia starts at 2b, not much reason to switch him out but if injured Morel comes in and the outfield gets better. Renfro moves to RF when Bader comes in for late D (Morel either out or to 2B).

C	1B	2B	SS	3B	LF	CF	RF
d'Arnaud	Rizzo	Morel	Kim	Arenado	Duval	Bader	Renfro
Stephenson	Bell	Garcia	Morel	Leblanc	Tapia	Renfro	Tapia
	Stephenson	Leblanc				Duval	Morel

Intentional Walks

- Only the mega beef guys when men on and 1B open, or empty bases late and tied. If your DH is out and the pitcher is on deck, consider the IBB.



Warren Spahn
Last Lefty before Kershaw to Start a Game
for the Augusta Nationals

Pitching Rotation

Opp.	Away Games – Look here		
	Game #1	Game #2	Game #3
BAG	Mahle	Kershaw	Gray
PBC	Mahle	Kershaw	Gray
SBM	Mahle	Kershaw	Gray
SCT	Mahle	Kershaw	deGrom
CDS	Mahle	Kershaw	Stroman
OBB	Mahle	Kershaw	Stroman
LVB	Mahle	Kershaw	Stroman
UTP	Mahle	Kershaw	deGrom
CHI	Mahle	Kershaw	deGrom
STL	Mahle	Kershaw	deGrom
VBS	Mahle	Kershaw	deGrom

Opp.	Games at Augusta		
	Game #1	Game #2	Game #3
BAG	Gray	deGrom	Stroman
PBC	Gray	deGrom	Stroman
SBM	Gray	deGrom	Stroman
SCT	Gray	deGrom	Stroman
CDS	Gray	deGrom	Stroman
OBB	Gray	Mahle	Stroman
LVB	Gray	Mahle	Stroman
UTP	Gray	Mahle	Stroman
CHI	Gray	Kershaw	Stroman
STL	Gray	Kershaw	Stroman
VBS	Gray	Kershaw	Stroman

Divisional Games – ROAD GAMES				
Opp.	Game #1	Game #2	Game #3	Game #4
CHI	Kershaw	Gray	Stroman	Mahle
STL	Kershaw	Gray	Stroman	Mahle
VBS	Kershaw	Gray	Stroman	Mahle

Divisional Games – HOME GAMES				
Opp.	Game #1	Game #2	Game #3	Game #4
CHI	Kershaw	Gray	Stroman	Mahle/dG
STL	Kershaw	Gray	Stroman	Mahle/dG
VBS	Kershaw	Gray	Stroman	Mahle/dG

Starter Comments:	The starters all have a target number of innings per game. If we're blown out early and they are tired, let them go for a while to save the pen, if it is still a game, yank them. I mostly hide the lefty diamonds at home where they are a positive. Other than an early blowout, starters come out in dots or when they hit their innings max below. Starters can come out for a Stopper in their last inning of work with two or more on base and the Stopper is materially better.
Kershaw	Try to pitch 6. Can pitch the 7 th vs the East if the matchups are okay. If in dots early and blown out, let him pitch 5. Out in the 6 th or later if in dots. Can use a stopper if needed in the 6 th or later.
deGrom	Pitches 6 innings per game. No more. Don't use a stopper unless deGrom is in dots. If in dots and way behind, go to the mop up guys. Otherwise, he pitches 6 innings.
Stroman	Tries to go 7 innings per start, never pitches the 8 th . Out in dots. Can use Stopper in the 6 th (especially with a lefty batter, think Holderman) or a closer or stopper in the 7 th .
Gray	Tries to go 6, never pitches the 7 th . There are 5 cards in the pen that are clearly better.
Mahle	Very strong screwball card versus leftys and switch hitters. Tries to pitch 6 innings. Could start the 7 th if a lefty is hitting but should not face a righty in the 7 th . Either stopper or any of the closers are better vs R.
Mahle/dG	These three starts are for Mahle, unless deGrom has innings to burn due to injuries. If he has 4IP remaining he will start vs STL. If he has 9 or more innings available he will also start against CHI. If he has 14 or more IP (egads that would be a lot of injuries but he is a 6) he will start all three of these games.
Injuries:	Finnegan is the caddy for a starter that is injured early in the game. Santana can eat some innings in this role as well but is a 1. If Starter is hurt in the first or second inning, Finnegan and Santana need to eat a lot of innings.

BULLPEN There is no ace-closer here, but there are 197 innings in three cards of average-closer quality. Murfee, Sewald, and Robertson are the committee to pitch the last three innings of games where we are within a run or ahead. Holderman and Harvey are stoppers, low innings but can get a starter out of a jam in their last inning of work. Finnegan and Santana are injury long men or mop up guys.

Murfee	69	Closer Committee. Try to use two of them (but not all three) to cover the last three innings of a close game. Murfee is most balanced so likely the 9 th or 8 th and 9 th . Sewald is especially tough on rightys, pitches 7 th and 8 th . Robertson is especially tough on leftys, pitches 7 th and 8 th . If Murfee is tired then use both Sewald and Robertson if all three games were close.
Sewald	64	
Robertson	64	
Holderman	28	Stopper, especially against Leftys. Can bail out Stroman or Gray if men are on in their last inning and lefty will bat. 4 outs per series max. Can be Stopper for anyone with lefty batter.
Harvey	39	Stopper. Balanced. 4-5 outs per series. Often gets the last out of a tough inning late in the Starter's game. Don't use stoppers before the 6 th .
Finnegan	67	Injury Replacement or Early Dots. Finnegan comes in for an early injury to a starter and pitches 3-4 innings. Santana is a 1 but should pitch 2-3 innings in games where we are just trying to get to the finish line.
Santana	59	