

Pebble Beach Crooners 2023

PCL



2023 Instructions

Peb's life in the West is really going to be hard this year. The ballpark was turned into a "more like Arizona" yard that favors lefty hitters. Two good starters and a strong pen are the best foot forward. Again, they will need solid starts and effective relief to give them a shot at a winning record.

Hitting

Starting Line-ups

Lineup 1, vs L		Lineup 2, vs. R (bat L)		Lineup 3, vs. R		Lineup 4, vs. R (bat R)	
5	Moore	DH	Hiura	DH	Hiura	DH	Hiura
9	Haggerty+	9	Suwinski*	9	Suwinski*	4	Moore
3	Alonso	8	Tucker*	8	Tucker*	3	Alonso
2	Contreras	3	Alonso	3	Alonso	8	Tucker
8	Tucker*	5	Wendle*	5	Wendle*	5	Yepez
7	Profar+	7	Profar+	7	Profar+	2	Contreras
DH	Yepez	2	Contreras	2	Contreras	9	Suwinski
6	Crawford*	4	Albies+	4	Albies+	7	Profar
4	Albies+	6	Crawford*	6	Crawford*	6	Crawford
All Lys		JGray, Bassitt, Eflin, Syndergaard, TWalker, Ohtani, PLopez, Elder, Webb		Stroman, Buehler, Gallen, Peralta, Gibson, LCastillo, Scherzer, Strider, Burnes, Greinke, Wheeler, Cobb, Morton, Taillon, DPeterson, Wainwright		Mahle, deGrom, Cessa, Quantrill, Greene, RContreras, Darvish, Oviedo, Sampson, Mikolas, SGray, Nola, Woodruff, Gausman, Alcantara, ERamirez	

1 **Gordon: At Augusta:** Moore in at 2B and bats 2nd with Suwinski dropping to 8th in lineups 2 and 3

Guidelines on Positions

- **C: Willson Contreras** (413 AB) plays all day every day and does not come out. **Garrett Stubbs** (106ab) is the sub if there is an injury, but he otherwise may not start a game and Contreras is the better fielder, so Stubbs is basically only a good PH option.
- **1B: Pete Alonso** (597 AB) plays all day every day and does not come out. Yepez and Hiura are the injury sub options.
- **2B: Ozzie Albies** (247 AB) plays against lefties and those righty starters where you want to bat left (about 75%'ish). With AB limits he will platoon with **Vaughn Grissom** (141ab) who cannot start. So! After the 5th, Grissom comes in against all lefties; or if we are tied or losing, unless it is better to bat left. Albies stays in if we are ahead for the glove or if you really need to bat left. Albies comes out of routes. In case of injury, Grissom is not eligible to start, so go with Dylan Moore or Wendle, or Haggerty if a lefty has

come in. OK, that was a breath-full.

- **SS: Brandon Crawford** (407 AB) sucks this year, but nobody else wanted him in the WWW, so he plays all day every day and does not come out. Grissom or Moore if injured.
- **3B: Joey Wendle** (347ab) plays against most righties and he is clutch, so leave him in there v lefty relievers unless it is late and your loogy crushes lefty batters. Yenez, with his horrific fielding rating, is the caddy.
- **LF: Jurickson Profar** (575 AB) plays all day every day and does not come out.
- **CF: Kyle Tucker** (544 AB) plays all day every day and does not come out.
- **RF: Jack Suwinski** (326ab) plays against all righties, and **Sam Haggerty** (176ab) plays against all lefties. Haggerty cannot stay in versus a righty reliever, so Suwinski cannot be replaced when a lefty reliever comes in unless you do not have the option to remove the reliever. Do PH with Haggerty, though, if the lefty reliever must stay in and the game is close.
- **DH: Keston Hiura** (234ab) and **Juan Yenez** (253ab) share the DH role. Both are righties. You can feel free to platoon/PH one for the other where your reliever must pitch to the spot, but not if you have the option to change pitchers – just live with it if so.
- **Dylan Moore** (205ab) is the “jack-of-all-trades” option to fill in anywhere in the field, except catcher. PH/PR, he literally covers whatever hole is created from injury or platoon problems.

- **Platoon summary:** Alonso, Crawford, Contreras, Profar and Tucker do not come out. 2B, 3B and RF and DH are the platoons.

WHEN YOUR LEFTY STARTER EXITS THE GAME BEFORE THE 6TH

If I am way ahead and you do have a later lefty reliever available, then all stay in with no changes. If it is close OR if you have no lefty relievers, then go ahead and make the platoon switch at 3B (bringing in Wendle) and RF (bringing in Suwinski).

WHEN YOUR RIGHTY STARTER EXITS THE GAME BEFORE THE 6TH

If I am way ahead, then no changes before the 7th. If it is close or in the 7th or later, see position by position discussion above.

Double-Switching: See above guidelines. Probably less this year with the DH. I do like this with those players above who platoon, as applicable.

Late Defense: Albies at 2B, if applicable. Don't worry about the rest.

MISCELLANEOUS - Game Strategies

- **Pinch Hit Guidelines:** Generally, use “compare”. Best clutch hitters are Wendle and Haggerty if not already in.
- **Pinch Run:** Not really.
- **Typical stealing decisions:** Steal 2nd at 70%; 65% if we went through the order once and have had trouble getting going; Steal to 3rd at 75% (but don't make 1st or 3rd out trying for 3B).
- **Who to H&R and when:** Nope.
- **Sacrifice:** Not really.
- **Squeeze Plays:** Not really.
- **Scoring:** Same as your team. Run home at 65%, 60% if tying or leading run, 50% with two outs, 40% if weak hitter or pitcher coming up. If I am down 4 or more, hold the runner.
- **Advancing to 3B:** always try to tag up to go to 3B on a flyout unless the “out” percentage is more than 10%. Advance to 3B on singles at 65% unless it would be the 1st or 3rd out.
- **Trailers:** To second 50% and above, but to third at 65%. Send the trailer only when we are down by a run or tied, from the 7th inning on.
- **Throwing Guidelines:** Cut the throw off from the outfield early in the game unless runner is heading home with a safe chance at less than 55%. Let the throw through even if the runner is as high as 65% with two outs and the 8th or 9th hitter is due up.
- **Defense:** Always get the sure out on Defense Option plays, unless runner represents the go-ahead run and his safe chance is less than 40%. Same with the trailing runners.
- **Intentional Walks:** Use your best judgment. I will do it with 2 outs to get to a much more favorable hitter. I also see lots of “boppers” (8+8 or more HRs); so, in key situations I would walk that bopper, but only 7th or later. Doesn't help to walk someone if you have two in a row.

Pitching

Starting Rotation

ROAD GAMES YOU PLAY				
Opp.	Game #1	Game #2	Game #3	
BAG	Wright	Kelly	Suarez	
PBC	XXXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	
SBM	Wright	Kelly	Gilbert	
SCT	Wright	Kelly	Cabrera	
LVB	Wright	Kelly	Suarez	
UTP	Wright	Kelly	Suarez	
OBB	Wright	Kelly	Suarez	
CDS	Cabrera	Suarez	Gonzalez	
CHI	Wright	Kelly	Cabrera	
AGN	Wright	Kelly	Cabrera	
STL	Wright	Kelly	Gilbert	
VBS	Wright	Kelly	Gilbert	
Divisional Games - ROAD GAMES				
Opp.	Game #1	Game #2	Game #3	Game #4
BAG	Gilbert	Wright	Kelly	Suarez
SBM	Gilbert	Wright	Kelly	Cabrera
SCT	Gilbert	Wright	Kelly	Cabrera

Home Games - I Play			
Game #1	Game #2	Game #3	
Cabrera	Gonzalez	Gilbert	
XXXXXXX	XXXXXXX	XXXXXXX	
Wright	Kelly	Gilbert	
Wright	Kelly	Gilbert	
Suarez	Gonzalez	Gilbert	
Suarez	Gonzalez	Gilbert	
Suarez	Gonzalez	Gilbert	
Cabrera	Gonzalez	Gilbert	
Wright	Kelly	Gilbert	
Wright	Cabrera	Gilbert	
Suarez	Gonzalez	Gilbert	
Kelly	Cabrera	Gilbert	
Divisional Games - Home Games			
Game #1	Game #2	Game #3	Game #4
Gilbert	Wright	Kelly	Gonzalez
Gilbert	Wright	Kelly	Cabrera
Gilbert	Wright	Kelly	Cabrera

Wright (20), Kelly (20), Gilbert (20), Cabrera (12), Gonzales (8), Jose Suarez (10)

Starters Summary

So, my aces, Woodruff and Nola, were stolen by St. Louis for a total of \$69. Ouch. Pretty tough to replace considering I paid less than half that last year. Still, we got good coverage by Merrill Kelly (notwithstanding his performance in the WBC this year). And Logan Gilbert is evolving. My #2, Kyle Wright, went for \$28 after the "mad" money was spent. Part time starter, Edward Cabrera, and lefties Marco Gonzalez and Jose Suarez, round out the 6-man rotation. Pretty solid #1 and #2 and the others are all better against the Ly batter. Lots of innings in the 7-pitcher pen which is above average, so I don't hesitate to go there in close games. I like to make frequent changes to try to take advantage of splits from the 5th- 7th inning with the others, particularly in the small parks where diamond HRs are 9 or more.

Starting Pitcher Notes

Kyle Wright 180 IP	#2 starter. He and Woodruff have the best cards. He goes 20 times, and is generally "long and hard". Goes until dots, but batter-by-batter in 8 th or later if we are tied or up only 1.
Merrill Kelly 200 IP	#1 starter. Also goes 20 times. Same instruction as Wright.
Logan Gilbert 186 IP	#3 starter. Like Suarez and Cabrera, he is weaker against the righty, so beginning in the 6 th , go batter-by-batter with a quick hook if a string of righties is coming up, especially at AGN, CHI, BAG, SCT and UTP where the quick hook instruction can be as early as the 5 th . I don't want to leave him in there until we are way out of the game.
Edward Cabrera 72 IP	#4 starter. 12 starts with a strict 6-inning limit. Same instruction as Gilbert above.
Jose Suarez 109 IP	#5 starter/swingman lefty will start 10 times with a strict 6-inning limit, and use the same instruction as Gilbert above, especially against lefty mashing hitters. His other 49 innings will be in relief as a loogy (see below)
Marco Gonzales 183 IP	#6 starter and the other lefty. Only 8 starts and only at home, so no instruction needed. Wish I could take him out back and shoot him...
Specific innings limitations	Only Cabrera and Suarez as noted above. Generally, I don't leave a starter in even if he is pitching a no-no. Tough noogies.

Bullpen

Peb's pen again has 7 pitchers totaling 385 innings (after the 10 for starts by loogy, Jose Suarez), and I feel this is a strength of the team, so don't hesitate to use and abuse. I have decent balance here, but with the "3 batter minimum" rule in play, when I do switch pitchers, I am looking for help against the immediate hitter, and/or 2 of the next three hitters and/or 3 of 5. Lots of reasonably

balanced relievers so splits are not as critical.

Closer	Andres Munoz (65 IP) in the 8 th or 9 th tied or with a lead.
Setup	Ryan Tepera (57 IP). Kind of a 7 th or 8 th inning guy, and he is the alternate closer if Munoz is unavailable.
The Lefties	Tyler Matzek (44 IP) is the lefty who gets the righty out, and Jose Suarez (49 remaining IP after 10 starts) is the loogy to face the tough lefty batter.
Righty gets the Lefty	Hayden Wesneski (33 IP) is intended to be a situational option early to quell a rally where a string of lefties is coming up. 1-inning per game max, and 2 per series. An “in-and-out” reliever.
Righty gets the Righty	Yimi Garcia (61 IP) and Ty Rogers (76 IP) both 2 inning pitchers and <u>good “first in” options for any of the #3-#6 starters early or mid-game.</u> These are the early or midgame options for a starter who gets knocked around.
General comments	Munoz and Tepera late, and everyone else for earlier situations. Matzek, Yime and Rogers are all good “first-in” options for the #3-#6 starters. More patience with Wright or Kelly, but use-and-abuse the pen for the other starts.

Have fun!