

Cabo del Sol 2023 PCL



2023 Instructions

Long hard year ahead for the boys, and goal is to beat last year's brutal road record of 12-33.

Hitting

Starting Line-ups

Lineup 1, vs L		Lineup 2, vs. R (bat L)		Lineup 3, vs. R		Lineup 4, vs. R (bat R)	
DH	Pujols	9	Peterson*	4	Rojas*	8	Slater
9	Betts	4	Rojas*	9	Betts	9	Betts
5	Suarez	8	Betts	3	France	3	France
3	France	7	Sanchez*	DH	Sanchez*	5	Suarez
7	Thomas 1	3	France	6	Cruz*	DH	Pujols
8	Slater	DH	Cruz*	5	Suarez	4	Arcia
6	Stott	5	Suarez	7	Peterson*	6	Cruz*
2	Nido	6	Stott*	2	Knizner	7	Thomas
4	Arcia	2	Knizner	8	Slater	2	Knizner
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 **Mike:** Josh Rojas starts in LF v Blake Snell

2 **Gordon:** Pujols for Sanchez in lineups 2 and 3 at Augusta

Guidelines on Positions

- **C: Andrew Knizner** (260ab) starts v righties, and **Tomas Nido** (284ab) against lefties. When you switch pitchers, Nido can come in against a lefty reliever, but Knizner does not replace Nido.
- **1B: Ty France** (551ab) starts every game and does not come out. If injury, Pujols.
- **2B: Josh Rojas** (443ab) plays when you need to bat lefty, and **Orlando Arcia** (206ab) when you need to bat righthanded and also for late defense. OK to switch one out for the other, but pull Arcia if we are down three or more after the 6th. (Note that Stott, Peterson, and even in a pinch France can play 2B if injury or for late PH).
- **SS: Oneil Cruz** (331ab) starts v righties, and **Bryson Stott** (427ab) against lefties. Stott also plays late with a lead for his glove. Leave Cruz in if I am losing, and leave Stott if I am winning. If close, use compare for mid game switches.
- **3B: Eugenio** ("Ay-U-Henio") **Suarez** (543ab) plays all day every day and does not come out except for injury. (Peterson, Arcia or Rojas can be compared as subs).

- **LF: Jesus Sanchez** (313ab) plays against righties when you need to bat lefty, and he never faces a lefty. **Jace Peterson** (288ab) also plays LF (with Sanchez at DH) when you really need to bat left, and he should avoid lefty relievers. **Lane Thomas** (498ab) plays LF versus lefties, or where you really need to bat right. Thomas is the utility OF and should not come out once playing except for a late lefty PH.
- **CF: Austin Slater** (277ab) plays v lefties and those righty pitchers where it is ok to bat righty. He needs to not play about 1/4th of the time. Mookie or Thomas back up the position.
- **RF: Mookie Betts** (572ab) starts every game and does not come out. He moves over to CF whenever Slater is not in. (with Peterson or Thomas to RF).
- **Pujols (307ab)** plays DH v lefty starters and does not come out for a righty reliever. He also plays DH against those righty starters where you want to bat right. He generally does not play against those righties where you really need to bat left.
- **Usage Limitations:** Arcia and Slater come out of any blowout

PLATOONS: See above, but notice that I have many players eligible at every position, so late pinch hitting comes down to compare if I am behind.

WHEN YOUR LEFTY STARTER EXITS THE GAME BEFORE THE 6TH See above

WHEN YOUR RIGHTY STARTER EXITS THE GAME BEFORE THE 6TH See above

Double-Switching

Not so much now with the DH position.

Defense Matrix – With a late lead (8th or 9th), if we are up by 1 or 2, bring in Thomas in LF, Arcia at 2B and Stott at SS. No defensive changes if we are losing, tied or up by 3 or more.

MISCELLANEOUS

Pitcher hitting / Pinch hitting / Pinch running

- **Pinch Hit Guidelines:** Generally, use “compare”, but be more aggressive if your reliever must stay in the game at that moment. In the 9th, if we are tied and there are two outs with no one on, I would PH a fast runner if the hitter is Pujols or Nido.
- **Pinch Run:** Pitchers Musgrove or Gomber. Must be for tying or winning run and 8th or later.

Game Strategies

- **Typical stealing decisions:** Steal 2nd at 70%; 65% if the batter has a combined DP risk of 30 or more. Steal to 3rd at 75% (but don't make 1st or 3rd out trying for 3B). Don't try for the lead with any of the “3 or 6%ers”, and don't run anyone where the pickoff risk is 10% or more.
- **Who to H&R and when:** Nope.
- **Sacrifice:** Only with Rojas or Nido and only if late and the runner is to tie or lead.
- **Squeeze Plays:** Same as the sac (above). I will definitely PH with them to get the tie or lead.
- **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 60% or. 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 40% or less. Same with the trailing runners.
- **Intentional Walks:** Use your best judgment. There are some comments under certain pitchers below. I will do it with 2 outs to avoid a clutch hitter (compare). I see lots and lots of boppers this year (I see that as being at or over “16”

combined between HRs and diamonds). Doesn't help to walk someone if you have two in a row.

Pitching:

Starting Pitcher Rotation

LOOK HERE!!!!

ROAD GAMES <u>YOU</u> PLAY				
<u>Opp.</u>	<u>Game #1</u>	<u>Game #2</u>	<u>Game #3</u>	
BAG	Gonsolin	Musgrove	Steele	
PBC	Kirby	Lodolo	Steele	
SBM	Gonsolin	Musgrove	TWilliams	
SCT	Gonsolin	Musgrove	TWilliams	
LVB	Gonsolin	Musgrove	Lodolo	
UTP	Gonsolin	Musgrove	Steele	
OBB	Gonsolin	Musgrove	Steele	
CDS	XXXXXXX	XXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXX	
CHI	Gonsolin	Musgrove	Lodolo	
AGN	Gonsolin	Musgrove	TWilliams	
STL	Gonsolin	Musgrove	Lodolo	
VBS	Gonsolin	Musgrove	Kirby	
Divisional Games – ROAD GAMES				
<u>Opp.</u>	<u>Game #1</u>	<u>Game #2</u>	<u>Game #3</u>	<u>Game #4</u>
LVB	Gonsolin	Musgrove	Steele	Lodolo
UTP	Gonsolin	Musgrove	Steele	Lodolo
OBB	Gonsolin	Musgrove	Steele	Lodolo

Home Games – I Play			
<u>Game #1</u>	<u>Game #2</u>	<u>Game #3</u>	
Lodolo	Steele	Kirby	
Kirby	Gomber	Flexen	
Lodolo	Steele	Kirby	
Gonsolin	Musgrove	Steele	
Gonsolin	Musgrove	TWilliams	
Lodolo	Steele	Kirby	
Lodolo	Steele	Kirby	
XXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	
TWilliams	Steele	Kirby	
Gonsolin	Musgrove	Steele	
Lodolo	Steele	Kirby	
Gonsolin	Musgrove	Steele	
Divisional Games – Home Games			
<u>Game #1</u>	<u>Game #2</u>	<u>Game #3</u>	<u>Game #4</u>
Gonsolin	Musgrove	Steele	Lodolo
Gonsolin	Musgrove	Steele	Lodolo
Gonsolin	Musgrove	Steele	Lodolo

Starts: Musgrove (20); Gonsolin (20); Steele (19), Lodolo (15), Kirby (9), Trevor Williams (5), Gomber (1), Flexen (1)

Starters Summary

Eight-man rotation (!). 56 starts from the right side and 34 from lefties.

Tony Gonsolin 130 IP	He is our #1 starter and he goes until dots. Gonsolin can go 7 innings max, and I will monitor at home to keep his max at 130 IP.
Joe Musgrove 181 IP	#2 starter and goes until dots, unless it is the 8 th or 9 th in ballparks with Ry HRs >7. If so, and only to protect a narrow lead, and only if a stretch of Ry hitters are due up. If so, look to a righty reliever with a better comparison v Ry hitters for fewer HRs allowed (i.e. Floro or Hicks – see below). Otherwise, no innings limit.
Justin Steele 119 IP	#3 lefty starter, goes 19 times with a 6-ning limit. Out if dots. Beginning in the bottom of the 5 th or later, if you have a string of lefty-mashing righties coming up, he becomes “batter-by-batter” and consider yanking him for: Trevor Williams or Dylan Floro or Jordan Hicks (see relief discussion below). However, maybe a little more patience in those small bandbox parks since he does not yield HRs.
Nick Lodolo 103 IP	#4 lefty starter will go 15 times with a 7-inning limit. Same instruction as Steele.
George Kirby 130 IP	#5 starter will go 9 times, but only once on the road v VBS where I will handle in our usual head-to-head games.
Trevor Williams 90 IP	#6 starter will go 5 times with a strict 6-inning limit. Beginning in the 5 th he is batter-by-batter if your lineup has several lefty hitters. If so, super quick hook.
Austin Gomber and Chris Flexen	Both only start once and both at home only. So, no instruction needed.

Bullpen

After deducting innings used as a starting pitcher, this 7-man pen has 533 innings! As in: waste away to get the best matchups per inning. Look at each inning separately. Maximize the “2 out of 3 match-up” ending with several relievers in each game. I am perfectly willing to switch any time after the required 3 batters, or after each inning, or particularly to get the last out in a crucial inning. All these pitchers should be viewed as 1-inning relievers unless they cruise through an inning and the next looks like a good matchup for them. I would also like to try to go back and forth from Ly to Ry each switch as possible. This is a pile of situational pitchers without a real firm traditional role.

Closer	Not really
Setup	Slash stuck being closers often are the “Dylans”: Lee (51 IP from the left side) and Floro (54 IP

	from the right). Maybe both cover the 8 th and 9 th if I am leading. Matt Brash (51 IP) gives up lots o' walks, but is balanced and has a decent hold rating.
Righty gets the Ry	Floro is the best option for later, with Trevor Williams (60-65 IP after deduction for his 5 starts), and Jordan Hicks (61 IP) being more mid-game choices. This role is optimal for being the first out of the pen for any starter, and can stay in until you start PH'ing with lefty hitters.
Righty gets the Ly	Chris Flexen (138 IP) is the only option, and he is the long/mop solution along with Gomber (below)
Lefties (both loogies)	Austin Gomber (125 IP) is the earlier option with the above-mentioned Dylan Lee saved for later in the game.
Lefty gets the righty	Nope. Gotta live with a loogy if a lefty is needed

Have fun! Buenos dias!