



2023 Instructions

Welcome to Santa Barbara! We won the championship last year, but it came at a price. We had to totally retool the rotation and the bullpen. Great pitching continues along with an improved defense, but some of the hitting is weak. We will need to win games 2-1 and 3-2 this year. Have fun!

Path to the Playoffs (How to win with this team):

PITCHING NEEDS TO LEAD THE WAY!!!

Starting Line-ups

Lineup 1, vs. L		Lineup 2, vs. L		Lineup 3 vs. R		Lineup 4, vs. R		Lineup 5, vs. R		Lineup 6, vs. R	
7	Verdugo			7	Verdugo						
3	Bohm			3	Cooper						
6	Bogaerts			6	Bogaerts						
DH	Riley			DH	Riley	DH	Seager				
2	Contreras			5	McMahon						
5	Villar			9	Suzuki						
8	Grichuk			4	Guillorme						
9	Suzuki			2	Contreras						
4	McMahon			8	Marsh						
Standard vs lefty: All lefties				Standard vs righty: Most righties		If your righty is a 4R or greater or at OBB, STL					

Strategy vs lefty

Swing away. Nobody can steal, nobody can bunt, so just swing and hope.

Strategy vs righty

Swing away. The only shot at strategy is if Marsh gets on batting 9th. Verdugo is a B hit and run, so you can try that to get the offense going.

Prior to the 5th

If your **lefty** starter comes out and you are likely to bring in a lefty reliever later, leave Grichuk in. Replace Bohm with Cooper at his next AB. Move McMahon to 3B and PH Guillorme for Villar. Guillorme then goes to 2B.

If your **righty** starter comes out for a lefty, in a big AB you can PH Grichuk for Marsh.

After the 5th

If I have a 2 run lead or more, I am looking to keep my better defense in. But in big AB's you can pinch hit for the platoons in CF and 1B.

What about the 3 batter minimum when YOU bring in a reliever?

If I am behind, be aggressive with the platoons. If I am up by 2 runs or more, be less aggressive, keeping the best defense in. But if it is something like 2nd and 3rd with one out and you bring in the lefty vs 3 of 4 leftys like Guillorme and Marsh, then PH with the lefty lineup replacements.

Pinch Hitting

Since we now have the DH, it feels like pinch hitting will occur mostly with platoons when the starter comes out. Please look at the below breakdowns for guidance. 😊

1B Garrett Cooper against righty, Bohm vs lefty. Neither is balanced so if the handedness of the starter changes, make the switch to the other.

2B Guillorme plays vs righty, McMahon vs lefty. No need to PH for either one as I prefer to keep their defense in the game once they are in the game.

SS Bogaerts plays all day every day and doesn't come out except a blowout. Seager backs him up.

3B. McMahon vs righty and Villar vs lefty. Villar should not face a righty. In a CRUCIAL situation late in the game when a lefty pitcher comes in and is still in the 3 batter minimum phase, you can PH Villar for McMahon.

C Contreras all day every day and doesn't come out except for blowouts. Bart is backup

RF Suzuki all day every day and never comes out.

CF Grichuk vs lefty and Marsh vs righty. No balance either way, so make the change when the handedness of the starter occurs. If Marsh is hurt, replace with Thomas.

LF Verdugo all day every day and doesn't come out.

OF In general, the main guys are Suzuki, Marsh, and Verdugo.

DH Riley is the DH and never comes out. There will be a few times where Seager will start at DH. When that happens, he generally will stay in unless there is a big AB late and you bring in a lefty killer. Then you PH Riley for him. Seager may also PH for Riley vs the righty killer in a crucial situation. Make sure to use compare in that instance.

Platoon / Injury see the defensive chart for injury backups. Use compare for the best choice.

Do not remove: Bogaerts, McMahon, Contreras, Suzuki, Riley

Rarely remove: Guillorme once he is in the game, Verdugo (see below)

Always remove: Villar when a lefty leaves

What to do after the top of the 7th

If I have a 2+ run lead in the top of the 7th, bring in Thomas to CF in Verdugo's spot and move Marsh to LF.

Player Usage Limitations:

Guillorme has 297 AB's but only plays vs rightys and bats 7th, so he should be fine.

Pinch hitting

- PH versus lefty: use compare
- PH versus righty: use compare
- **Bunters: nope**

Baserunning

- Stealing decisions, 70% Marsh and Suzuki
- Take the extra base at 1-14, but don't make the 1st or 3rd out at 3rd if you can help it. Use your judgment.
- Who to **H&R** and when: Verdugo in combo with Marsh. Really only use if we are struggling to score runs against a tough pitcher.
- 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.
- PR(s): Thomas
- Squeeze play. Not this year.

Defense best defense is highlighted.

C	1B	2B	SS	3B	LF	CF	RF
Contreras	Cooper	Guillorme	Bogaerts	McMahon	Marsh	Thomas	Suzuki
Bart	Bohm	McMahon	Seager	Guillorme	Verdugo	Marsh	
	McMahon			Riley		Grichuk	
	Riley						

Intentional Walks

Not a fan of this. Only for the monsters like Trout or Harper type players.

Pitching Rotation

You play these

Road Games			
Opp.	Game #1	Game #2	Game #3
BAG	Urias2	Burnes2	Wheeler2
PBC	Urias3	Burnes3	Wheeler3
SBM	none	None	none
SCT	Urias1	Burnes1	Wheeler1
CABO	Rodon4	Burnes10	Urias11
OBB	Rodon18	Burnes11	Urias12
UTP	Urias13	Burnes12	Wheeler15
LVB	Rodon7	Burnes13	Wheeler18
CHI	Urias14	Burnes14	Wheeler17
AUG	Rodon9	Burnes15	Urias16
STL	Rodon19	Burnes16	Wheeler19
VBS	Rodon20	Burnes17	Urias18

Home Games		
Game #1	Game #2	Game #3
Greinke1	Wheeler10	Rodon1
Greinke2	Wheeler11	Rodon2
None	None	none
Rodon3	Wheeler12	Urias10
Greinke4	Wheeler13	Burnes18
Greinke5	Wheeler14	Rodon5
Greinke6	Urias19	Rodon6
Greinke7	Wheeler16	Rodon8
Greinke8	Burnes19	Urias20
Greinke9	Burnes20	Urias15
Greinke10	Urias17	Rodon10
Greinke3	Wheeler20	Rodon17

Road Games				
Opp.	Game #1	Game #2	Game #3	Game #4
SCT*	Rodon14	Burnes4	Wheeler4	Urias4
PBC	Rodon15	Burnes5	Wheeler5	Urias5
BAG	Rodon16	Burnes6	Wheeler6	Urias6

Home games			
Game #1	Game #2	Game #3	Game #4
Rodon11	Burnes7	Wheeler7	Urias7
Rodon12	Burnes8	Wheeler8	Urias8
Rodon13	Burnes9	Wheeler9	Urias9

Burnes 20, Wheeler 20, Urias 20, Rodon 20, Greinke 10

(NOTES)

Starter#1 Burnes (long and hard)	This is my stud. He pitches a minimum of 7 innings . Exception in the game flow below. After 7, if he is NOT tired, he can pitch the 8 th . After 8, if he is NOT tired he can complete the game with a 2 run lead or more. In a one run game, compare with Adam.
Starter#2 Wheeler (long and hard)	This is stud #2. He pitches a minimum of 7 innings . Exception in the game flow below. After 7, if he is NOT tired, he can pitch the 8 th . Bring in a reliever in the 9 th . He should not complete games (153 innings) unless a no-no.
Starter#3 Urias (long and hard)	.Lefty alert!!!! He is a stud, but left-handed. He goes a minimum of 6 innings . Exception in the game flow below. After 6, if he is not tired, he can pitch the 7 th . After 7, if he is NOT tired, he can pitch the 8 th . He can complete games with a 2 run lead, but go batter by batter as Adam and McHugh are good choices.
Starter#4 Rodon (use patience)	Lefty alert!!!! He has a great card, even better than Urias but he gets tired sooner, and will be the first starter in road series. He will pitch until he is tired or has given up 4 runs. Anything from 5-7 innings is great. He has a max of 8 innings. Let's say Rodon goes 4 innings and has given up 3-4 runs. Jansen can come in to pitch 2 innings. McHugh can follow with 2 innings. If he goes 5 innings, then Jansen could go one inning, McHugh two. If he goes 6 innings, I prefer McHugh for 2 innings over Jansen. If he goes 7, then I am jumping for joy, and you can close with McHugh or Adam. If he is pitching great and we have a 2-3 run lead, you can go batter by batter and you can nurse him as far as you can.
Starter#5 Greinke (little patience)	All of his starts are at home, so no need to worry about him. He is my concern.
Specific innings limitations:	none
Additional comments:	Bullpen management is really all about Rodon and Greinke (Greinke is my concern). See below for my preferred thoughts on this. I am particularly concerned about at LVB. An early exit with a gauntlet

	of Jansen, McHugh, and Adam might be best here. Please don't let the Rodon game get out of hand! 😊
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BULLPEN

R'y closer:	Adam. 63 innings of fantastic card. He can be used for both the 8 th and the 9 th , particularly in the Rodon games. McHugh is the alternate closer
L'y closer:	Zack Thompson. 35 innings. In the Rodon start in particular, if he leaves early and you bring in a bunch of lefty hitters mid-game, Thompson is a great choice in innings 7-9 against your lefty replacements. Same in Urias starts if you have burned your bench of lefty killers and we are facing lefty hitters in the 9 th .
R'y setup:	McHugh. 69 very good innings and I would like to use and abuse him in the Rodon starts. In a perfect universe, Rodon goes 5-6 innings and then McHugh comes in for 2-3 innings. Adam can close it out with a lead.
L'y setup:	Zack Thompson. He has 35 innings, but lefty relievers rarely get used that much. One inning max per outing. He is great to bring in for the final out against a lefty like Harper, Freeman, etc
6-8TH INNINGS	Jansen, McHugh, and Wilson. Jansen is the best for a more righty dominant lineup. Not bad against a lefty, but NOT so much at UTP, BAG, or STL. McHugh is better ve leftys, and is a MUCH better choice at UTP, BAG, and STL.
Prior to 5th inning	Keegan Thompson and Wilson.
Situational:	
-R'y gets R'y:	Adam, McHugh, Jansen
-R'y gets L'y:	Adam, McHugh, Wilson
-L'y gets L'y:	Zack Thompson
-L'y gets R'y:	nope
Longman/mopup:	Keegan Thompson
Additional comments:	Based on my starter instructions in a <i>worst-case</i> scenario, my bullpen should only throw around 240 innings. When you add up Adam (63), McHugh (69), Jansen (64), and Zack Thompson (35) you get 231. What I am saying here is it should be a rare occurrence to see Wilson or Keegan Thompson in a road game. Keegan is really for the blowouts, which will most likely occur in the Greinke starts at home. In a <i>best case</i> scenario, my bullpen will throw 150 innings or less. In our league , this is doubtful but if Burnes throws 160, Wheeler 150, Urias 145, Rodon, 120, and Greinke 85 then it will be about 150 in the pen. The bullpen has 399 innings.
3 batter minimum guidelines	The big 4 of Adam, McHugh, Jansen, and Zack Thompson are balanced enough that I am not worried.

Pitcher injuries that are NOT a zero or a one:

Kegan Thompson 2 This should not impact him
Steven Wilson 2 This should not impact him

Game Flow preferences, but go with the best matchups:

Starter	Before 5th	5 th -7th	setup	Closer if needed
Burnes	Shouldn't happen	Shouldn't happen ever but in a blowout Keegan Thompson. Blowout is down 6 runs or more AND tired.	Might not be necessary, but McHugh, Jansen, or ZackThompson	Adam, ZackThompson if a lefty is best against leftys, McHugh or Jansen as backup

Wheeler	Shouldn't happen	Shouldn't happen ever but in a blowout Keegan Thompson or Wilson. Blowout is down 6 runs or more AND tired.	Might not be necessary, but McHugh, Jansen, or ZackThompson	Adam, ZackThompson if a lefty is best against leftys, McHugh or Jansen as backup
Urias	Shouldn't happen	Shouldn't happen but in a blowout Keegan Thompson. McHugh can come in as well as Jansen in any game within 2 runs either way in the 7 th .	Might not be necessary, but McHugh, Jansen, or Thompson	Adam, ZackThompson if a lefty is best against leftys, McHugh or Jansen as backup
Rodon	Wilson or KeeganThompson	Jansen	McHugh	Adam, ZackThompson if a lefty is best against leftys, McHugh or Jansen as backup
Greinke (not your problem)	Wilson or KeeganThompson	Jansen	McHugh	Adam, ZackThompson if a lefty is best against leftys, McHugh or Jansen as backup



