



# OAKLAND ATHLETICS

## Game Information

Oakland Athletics Baseball Company • 7000 Coliseum Way • Oakland, CA 94621  
510-638-4900 • [www.athletics.com](http://www.athletics.com) • A's PR on Twitter @AsMedia Alerts

### OAKLAND ATHLETICS (2-0) VS. CHICAGO CUBS (0-0)

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2015 – SLOAN PARK – 1:05 P.M. MT  
A'S WEBCAST

**ABOUT THE A'S:** The A's have started the spring 2-0 for the first time since 2003...have not won each of their first three spring games since 1999...have tallied 18 runs on 30 hits over the first two games for a .375 batting average...this is the A's 47th Spring Training in Arizona...return to Mesa for the first time since 1978...after training in Bradenton in Florida in 1968, the A's moved to Arizona in 1969 and trained in Mesa from 1969-78...moved to Scottsdale in 1979 and then spent 33 seasons at Phoenix Municipal Stadium from 1982-2014...are scheduled to play 35 games this spring, including 30 games in Arizona, two in Las Vegas against the Cubs (March 13-14) and three in the Bay Area against the Giants (April 2-4)...the A's went 15-13-5 last spring, which marked their third consecutive spring with a winning record (17-13-3 in 2013, 15-7-2 in 2012)...the last time A's had three straight winning springs was from 2000-04 when they had five straight...the five tie games were the most by an Oakland team since moving to Arizona for Spring Training in 1969...the previous high was three in 2010 and 2013...have 16 tie games over the previous six springs...went 8-5-2 in the final spring at Phoenix Muni and 7-8-3 on the road...led the majors in walks (135), ranked second in runs (193) and on-base percentage (.358), tied for third in grounded into double plays (29), fourth in strikeouts (239) and tied for fourth in triples (11)...were fourth in most double plays turned (34) and most errors (33)...the A's pitching staff ranked fifth in the majors with 247 strikeouts...those are the most strikeouts by an A's team during the spring since statistics are available beginning in 1991...the previous high was 228 in 2013...allowed a Major League leading 44 home runs.

**YESTERDAY:** The A's defeated the Giants 9-2 in Scottsdale...Josh Reddick went 3-for-3 with a pair of RBI and Eric Sogard, Ike Davis, Marcus Semien and Bryan Anderson had two hits each...Semien is now 5-for-5 with a walk, two home runs and seven RBI over the first two games...the A's scored in each of the first five innings, beginning with a two-run single by Semien in the first inning...Reddick had a RBI single in the second and Anderson added a RBI single in the third before the A's scored four times in the fourth...Reddick, Semien and Anderson had RBI singles and Matt Olson drove in a run on a ground out...Mark Canha completed the A's scoring with a solo home run in the fifth inning...Jesse Chavez started for the A's and tossed 2.0 scoreless innings for the win (2 h, 1 bb, 1 so)...Eury De La Rosa, Dan Otero, Evan Scribner, Angel Castro, Arnold Leon and Kevin Whelan all tossed a scoreless inning of relief each.

**A's vs. CUBS:** This is the first of four meetings between the A's and Cubs this spring...meet in Las Vegas on March 13 and 14 and square off at Hohokam March 24...the A's lost two of three last spring, splitting two games in Phoenix and losing at Mesa.

**IN CAMP:** The A's have 62 players in camp, which does not include two players on the 60-day disabled list (Griffin, Thompson)...that includes 40 players on the 40-man roster and 22 non-roster invitees...the breakdown includes 32 pitchers, six catchers, 17 infielders and seven outfielders.

**COACHING STAFF:** Manager Bob Melvin, beginning his fourth full season with the A's, welcomes back four returning members of last year's coaching staff in pitching coach Curt Young (10th season), first base coach Tye Waller (9th season), third base coach Mike Gallego (7th season) and Darren Bush (3rd season), who moves from bullpen coach to hitting coach...Melvin has added three new faces to his 2015 staff, including bench coach Mike Aldrete, bullpen coach Scott Emerson and assistant hitting/catching coach Marcus Jensen...Aldrete, a native of Carmel who attended Stanford University, was on Melvin's staff as first base coach for Seattle in 2004 and hitting coach for Arizona from 2005-06...Emerson is in his 13th season in the A's organization, including the last two as minor league roving pitching instructor...Jensen, an Oakland native and graduate of Skyline HS, is in his ninth season in the A's organization and most recently served as minor league hitting instructor in 2014.

**HOW THE A'S WERE BUILT:** Of the 40 active players on the 40-man roster, only two were drafted by the A's (Doolittle, compensation pick following the 1st round in 2007, and Gray, 1st in 2011)...one other (Nuñez) was signed as a non-drafted free agent...five were claimed off waivers (Freiman, Hassan, Otero, Scribner, Smith) and four were signed as free agents (Butler, Crisp, Kazmir, O'Flaherty)...the other 28 were all acquired in trades.

**OFF SEASON MOVES:** The A's made nine trades this offseason involving 27 players...15 of the 17 players the A's acquired in those trades are in camp...the two exceptions are Yunel Escobar, who was traded four days after being acquired, and Franklin Barreto, who is in the A's minor league camp...in addition to the players acquired in trades, the A's also signed

free agent Billy Butler to a three-year contract and claimed Alex Hassan, Chad Smith and Taylor Thompson off waivers.

**CONTRACT STATUS:** The A's have three players under contract beyond the 2015 season...Coco Crisp is signed through 2016 with a vesting option for 2017, Billy Butler is signed through 2017 and Sean Doolittle is signed through 2018 with club options for 2019 and 2020.

**A's TOP PROSPECTS:** Seven of the A's top 10 prospects according to Baseball America are in major league camp this spring: Matt Olson (#2), Renato Nuñez (#4), Chris Bassitt (#5), Kendall Graveman (#6), Sean Nolin (#7), Rangel Ravelo (#8) and Raul Alcantara (#10)...the other three are Franklin Barreto (#1), Matt Chapman (#3) and Dillon Overton (#9)...five of the top 10 were acquired in trades this offseason.

**MINOR LEAGUE DATES:** Minor League mini camp is currently underway...pitchers and catchers report March 7 with the first workout scheduled for March 8...position players report March 13 with the first workout scheduled for March 14...Triple-A and Double-A games begin March 14 and Single-A games start March 21.

**MEDIA INFORMATION:** The A's clubhouse at Hohokam Stadium will be open to members of the media with proper credentials beginning at 8:00 am...the clubhouse may close for team meetings, etc. at certain times...please do not lounge or conduct interviews in the weight room/exercise area...once games begin, the clubhouse will also open to media who need access to players who have completed their work for the day...A's manager Bob Melvin will be available to the media in the first base dugout at approximately 9:15 am...Melvin will also be available in front of the dugout immediately following the game...media are permitted in the dugout area and foul territory behind home plate extending down to (but not past) first and third base until the batting cage is removed from the field of play, at which point media will need to leave the field...the A's dugout will remain accessible to the media until 45 minutes before game time...TV camera crews and still photographers with proper credentials must stay in assigned areas at all times...no roving is permitted...TV camera crews are not allowed in the clubhouse pregame, or in the training room or weight room at any time...still photographers are not allowed in the clubhouse, training room or weight room at any time...lunch is available for \$8 to media members with proper credentials at the patio area in the right field corner of Hohokam Stadium...the A's provide complimentary parking to members of the media in the Center Street Lot (Lot D), located behind home plate.

**A's MEDIA ALERTS:** The A's Media Relations Department will provide as up-to-date information as possible through its media-only Twitter account...for clubhouse hours, interview times and various media alerts, please follow @AsMediaAlerts...player transactions and other relevant game information will continue to be posted at @Athletics.

**A's ON THE AIR:** The A's radio network and flagship station 95.7 FM The Game will broadcast 12 games this spring, including nine from Arizona and all three games against San Francisco in the Bay Area in April...the schedule includes all Saturday and Sunday games and the night game against the Giants on March 26...Ken Korach returns for his 20th year in the broadcast booth and will be joined by Vince Cotroneo (10th) and Ray Fosse, who enters his 30th season in the booth...Comcast SportsNet California will televise two games, including March 7 against the Angels (1:05 pm) and April 2 against the Giants in San Francisco (7:15 pm)...Glen Kuiper joins Fosse in the broadcast booth for those telecasts...all games not broadcast over the air can be heard live via the club's web site...in addition, 15 games will be televised by MLB Network...12 of those will air in the Bay Area, including five live broadcasts and six tape delayed.

**RETURN TO HOHOKAM:** The A's and the City of Mesa reached a 20-year agreement for the team to return to Mesa in March of 2013...Oakland also holds two five-year options that could extend the contract to 30 years...the deal includes \$26.9 million in renovations to Hohokam Stadium and Fitch Park...Hohokam Stadium will seat 10,000 fans, including approximately 7,500 seats and space for approximately 2,500 additional fans to sit on the grass berms surrounding the outfield...among Hohokam Stadium's many new amenities will be the largest HD scoreboard in the Cactus League (26 x 56 feet).

#### TRANSACTIONS

Feb. 26	Chad Smith claimed off waivers from Detroit; Taylor Thompson placed on the 60-day disabled list (right shoulder strain).
Feb. 27	Alex Hassan claimed off waivers from Baltimore; A.J. Griffin placed on the 60-day disabled list (Tommy John surgery recovery).

Get the latest A's notes, full stat packets, clips, press releases, roster, updated media guide and more at <http://pressbox.athletics.com>

WORLD CHAMPIONS...1910 • 1911 • 1913 • 1929 • 1930 • 1972 • 1973 • 1974 • 1989

AMERICAN LEAGUE CHAMPIONS...1902 • 1905 • 1910 • 1911 • 1913 • 1914 • 1929 • 1930 • 1931 • 1972 • 1973 • 1974 • 1988 • 1989 • 1990

## TODAY'S AVAILABLE PITCHERS

### STARTING PITCHER

#### #75 BARRY ZITO LHP (Did not pitch in 2014)

The non-roster invitee is scheduled to make his first appearance and start of the spring...became a free agent following the 2013 season and did not pitch in 2014...went 5-11 with a 5.74 ERA in 30 games, including 25 starts, in his final season with San Francisco in 2013...struck out 86 batters while walking 54 in 133.1 innings...yielded a .318 opponents batting average...was 3-1 with a 2.75 ERA over his first seven starts through May 8...then went 2-10 with a 6.99 ERA over his final 23 appearances...was originally drafted by the A's in the 1st round of the June, 1999 draft and spent seven seasons with Oakland from 2000-06...ranks fourth on the Oakland career list in wins (102), strikeouts (1096) and games started (222), fifth in innings pitched (1430.1) and sixth in winning percentage (.618)...won the Cy Young Award in 2002 after going 23-5 with a 2.75 ERA in 35 starts...is a three-time All-Star, all with Oakland (2002-03, 06)...was 102-63 with a 3.55 ERA in 222 starts in seven seasons with Oakland before signing a seven-year contract with San Francisco Dec. 29, 2006...compiled a 63-80 record and a 4.62 ERA in 208 games, including 197 starts, in seven seasons with the Giants.

#### #56 FERNANDO ABAD LHP (2-4, 1.57 ERA with Oakland in 2014)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...posted a 1.57 ERA and allowed just 13.2% (5-of-38) of inherited runners to score in a career-high 69 appearances in his first full season in the majors last year with Oakland...the percentage of inherited runners scored was fourth lowest by an A's reliever since 1974 and the ERA was second lowest over the last 24 years (Brad Ziegler, 1.06 in 2008)...ranked third among American League relievers in percentage of inherited runners scored, fifth in ERA and seventh in opponents slugging percentage (.253)...in addition to games pitched, he also had career highs in wins (2), innings pitched (57.1) and strikeouts (51)...had career lows in ERA, opponents batting average (.175), on-base percentage (.247) and slugging percentage...walked just 15 for a strikeout-to-walk ratio of 3.40...had four losses and two blown saves...his opponents batting average included a .162 (17-for-105) mark against right-handed hitters compared to .191 (17-for-89) against left-handers...struck out 35 of the 100 lefties he faced (35.0%), 16 of the 116 righties (13.8%)...yielded a .100 average with runners in scoring position...entered the season with a .344 opponents average with RISP in his career.

#### #36 TYLER CLIPPARD RHP (7-4, 2.18 ERA with Washington in 2014)

Is scheduled to make his first appearance of the spring...was acquired from Washington Jan. 14 for Yunel Escobar...was named to his second National League All-Star team in 2014 with the Nationals...went 7-4 with a save and a 2.18 ERA in 75 relief appearances...it was his fifth consecutive season with 70 or more games pitched and his 371 appearances since 2010 are the most in the majors...is the only pitcher to appear in 70 or more games in each of the last five seasons...since 2010, he also leads Major League relievers in innings pitched (393.1), is tied with Matt Belisle for the lead in wins (29), ranks second to Craig Kimbrel (476) with 455 strikeouts and is sixth in opponents batting average (.185)...his 75 games pitched in 2014 were the second most of his career (78 in 2010) but he tossed just 70.1 innings, which were his fewest since 2009 (60.1)...surrendered just five home runs and his average of 0.64 home runs per nine innings was the best mark of his career...tied for fourth among National League relievers in games pitched, tied for fifth in wins, tied for eighth in innings pitched and ranked ninth in strikeouts (82)...allowed a .188 opponents batting average, which included a .130 (15-for-115) mark against right-handed hitters compared to .237 (32-for-135) against left-handers...first batters faced were 12-for-67 (.179) with seven walks and a hit by pitch (.267 on-base percentage).

#### #74 PATRICK VENDITTE SHP (0-0, 0.00 ERA)

The non-roster invitee is scheduled to make his second appearance of the spring...did not allow a run in his first outing Tuesday against San Francisco (0.2 ip, 1 so)...began the 2014 season at Double-A Trenton and went 0-1 with a save and a 0.82 ERA in 15 relief appearances before he was promoted to Scranton/Wilkes-Barre May 17...went 2-5 with a 3.36 ERA in 26 games, including two starts, with the Yankees Triple-A affiliate...combined for a 2-6 record and a 2.64 ERA in 41 games overall...struck out 83 batters in 78.1 innings for an average of 9.54 strikeouts per nine innings...allowed a .222 opponents batting average, including .206 (20-for-97) against left-handed pitching compared to .230 (45-for-196) against right-handers...surrendered five of his six home runs to righties...left-handers had just three extra base hits (two doubles) for a .258 slugging percentage...opponents went 0-for-17 with runners in scoring position at Trenton and hit .186 overall in that situation...including .154 with RISP and two outs...yielded a .250 batting average and four of his six home runs with the bases empty, .188 with runners on base...allowed 3-of-19 (15.8%) inherited runners to score...compiled a 1.74 ERA in nine games during the day, 2.97 in 32 night games.

#### #53 RYAN VERDUGO LHP (0-0, 0.00 ERA)

The non-roster invitee is scheduled to make his second appearance of the spring...tossed a scoreless fifth inning in his first outing Tuesday against San Francisco (1.0 ip, 1 so)...began the 2014 season on the disabled list recovering from hernia surgery...was reinstated May 17 and went 5-2 with a 4.24 ERA in nine starts for Triple-A Omaha in the Kansas City organization before he was traded to the Boston organization July 16 for cash...was assigned to Triple-A Pawtucket where he went 2-1 with two saves and a 3.45 ERA in 10 games, including three starts...combined for a 7-3 record and a 3.48 ERA in 19 games overall...allowed a .233 opponents batting average, including .203 (13-for-64) against left-handed hitters compared to .242 (51-for-211) against right-handers...surrendered seven of his eight home runs to righties...yielded a .296 average with runners in scoring position...compiled a 2.25 ERA in the first inning but combined for a 7.33 ERA in the second and third inning...allowed 1-of-2 (50.0%) inherited runners to score.

### UPCOMING PROBABLES

#### March 5 at Chicago (NL)

**Cubs:** LHP Travis Wood, RHP Donn Roach, RHP Anthony Carter, RHP Neil Ramirez, LHP Drake Britton, LHP Francisley Bueno, RHP Gonzalez Germen

#### March 6 at Arizona

**A's:** RHP Kendall Graveman, RHP Matt Buschmann, RHP R.J. Alvarez, RHP Fernando Rodriguez, LHP Jim Fuller, RHP Brock Huntzinger, LHP Eury De La Rosa

**Diamondbacks:** LHP Robbie Ray, RHP Randall Delgado, RHP Allen Webster, LHP Will Locante, RHP Jake Barrett, RHP Enrique Burgos

#### March 7 vs. Los Angeles (AL)

**A's:** RHP Chris Bassitt, LHP Rudy Owens, LHP Eric O'Flaherty, RHP Ryan Cook, RHP Angel Castro, RHP Kevin Whelan, RHP Evan Scribner

**Angels:** TBA

## 2015 OAKLAND A'S SPRING TRAINING SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	RECORD	WINNER	LOSER	ATTEND.	HOME CUM.
March 3	San Francisco	W, 9-4	1-0	Mills	Bumgarner	7,820	7,820
March 4	at San Francisco	W, 9-2	2-0	Chavez	Peavy	8,868	
DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	RADIO/TV				
March 5	at Chicago (NL)	1:05					
March 6	at Arizona	1:05					
March 7	Los Angeles (AL)	1:05	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network/MLBN (7:00 AM PT on 3/8)				
March 8	Chicago (AL)	1:05	CSNCA/95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network				
March 9	at Texas	1:05					
March 10	Arizona	1:05					
March 11	Cleveland	1:05					
March 12	Seattle	12:05					
March 13	at Kansas City	1:05					
	at Chicago (NL) (at L.V.)	5:05	MLBN (9:00 PM)				
March 14	San Francisco	1:05					
	at Chicago (NL) (at L.V.)	12:05	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network				
March 15	at Milwaukee	1:05	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network/MLBN (11:00 PM PT)				
March 16	at Los Angeles (NL)	1:05	MLBN (6:00 PM)				
March 17	San Diego	1:05					

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	RADIO/TV
March 18	at Seattle	1:05	MLBN (Live)
March 19	OFF DAY		
March 20	Los Angeles (NL)	1:05	
	at Colorado	1:05	MLBN (6:00 AM on 3/21)
March 21	Cincinnati	1:05	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network
March 22	at Cincinnati	1:05	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network
March 23	at Cleveland	1:05	MLBN (Live)
March 24	Chicago (NL)	1:05	
March 25	at Milwaukee	1:05	MLBN (Live)
March 26	at San Francisco	7:05	95.7 FM The Game/CSNBA
March 27	Texas	1:05	
March 28	at Chicago (AL)	1:05	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network/MLBN (Live)
March 29	Milwaukee	1:05	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network
March 30	Colorado	1:05	
March 31	at Los Angeles (AL)	1:05	MLBN (Live)
April 1	Los Angeles (AL)	12:05	MLBN (6:00 AM on 4/2)
April 2	San Francisco (at S.F.)	7:15	CSNCA/95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network
April 3	San Francisco (at S.F.)	7:15	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network/CSNBA
April 4	San Francisco (at Oak.)	1:05	95.7 FM The Game/A's Radio Network/CSNBA