



OAKLAND ATHLETICS GAME INFORMATION

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OAKLAND ATHLETICS (11-8) VS. NIPPON HAM FIGHTERS

MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2019 – TOKYO DOME – 12:05 P.M. JST
KTRB 860 AM

ABOUT THE A'S: The A's defeated the Fighters 5-1 last night in an exhibition game that does not count in the statistics...are 10-3 over the last 13 games after starting the spring 1-5...are 11-8 (.578) overall, which is the fourth best record among Cactus League teams and fifth best in the majors through games of March 16...are scheduled to play just 22 games, which are the fewest by an A's team during the spring since 1980 when they had 20...after opening the regular season Wednesday and Thursday, the A's will return to the Bay Area to play three Spring Training games with San Francisco from March 24-26...had two games cancelled because of rain during the spring for the first time since 2003...have snapped their streak of three consecutive springs with a losing record and need one more win to clinch their first winning record during the spring since going 22-11-2 in 2015...this is the A's 51st Spring Training in Arizona, their fifth since returning to Mesa in 2015 after a 36-year absence...after training in Bradenton, Florida in 1968, the A's came west 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.

JAPAN EXHIBITION GAMES: This is the A's third trip to Japan and it will mark the third time Oakland has played two exhibition games against NPB teams...are 4-1 in those games...in 2008, the A's defeated Yomiuri 4-3 on March 22 and Hanshin 10-2 on March 23...in 2012, Oakland defeated Yomiuri 5-0 on March 25 and then lost to Hanshin 12-6 on March 26...last night defeated Nippon-Ham, 5-1.

OPENING SERIES: The A's will open the regular season with a two-game series against the Seattle Mariners here at the Tokyo Dome on Wednesday, March 20 and Thursday, March 21...it will be the earliest Opening Day in Major League history (previous: Dodgers vs. Diamondbacks in Australia on March 22, 2014)...first pitch for both games is 6:35 pm, which is 2:35 am PDT...ESPN will televise both game live...the games can also be heard live on KTRB 860 AM and the A's radio network, as well as on the Tunein app...this will mark the third time the A's have opened the regular season in Japan...split a two-game series with Boston in 2008 (lost 6-5 on March 25, won 5-1 on March 26) and split a two-game series with Seattle in 2012 (lost 3-1 on March 22 and won 4-1 on March 29)...the Tokyo Dome is third ballpark in which Oakland has played a home game...in addition to the Coliseum, the A's played six games in Las Vegas at Cashman Field in 1996.

OPENING SERIES PITCHING PROBABLES: RHP Mike Fiers will start the A's opener on Wednesday with RHP Marco Estrada scheduled to start the next day...Fiers will be making his first career Opening Day start and will be the A's 12th different Opening Day starting pitcher over the last 14 years...the Mariners will counter with LHP Marco Gonzales on Wednesday and LHP Yusei Kikuchi on Thursday.

FAMILIAR FACES: Two players on the A's travel roster were also on the travel roster in 2012: Jerry Blevins and Cliff Pennington...Blevins pitched 0.2 innings in the opener on March 28, allowing one hit, and Pennington started both games at shortstop, going 2-for-5 with a double in the opener and 1-for-4 on March 29...Yusmeiro Petit was on the MLB team for the Japan All-Star Series following the 2018 season.

THIS AND THAT: The A's have allowed 38 runs in the last five games after surrendering 26 runs over the previous nine contests...have a 5.69 ERA overall, which is tied for fourth highest among Cactus League teams through games of March 16...have the third highest opponents batting average (.289)...the A's are batting .313 (43-for-137) with 27 runs scored over the last four games...however, are hitting .251 overall...since 1991 (the earliest year spring stats are available), the A's lowest batting average during the spring is .256 in 2011...have the fourth lowest slugging percentage (.425) and OPS (.747) in the CL.

ROSTER NOTES: The A's have 30 players on the trip, which includes 26 players on the 40-man roster, three non-roster invitees (Blevins, Hundley, Pennington) and one player from the minor league camp (Taylor)...the A's active 40-man roster currently has 30 players, which includes four players that did not make the trip to Japan (Brooks, Cotton, Herrmann, Martini)...by Opening Day, the 40-man roster must be reduced to 28 players, with three of those 28 designated as inactive for the two-game series against Seattle.

NUMBER CHANGES: Robbie Grossman will switch to #8 and Cliff Pennington will wear #15...Mike Aldrete returns to #17 and Mark Kotsay is #7.

COACHING STAFF: Manager Bob Melvin, beginning his eighth full season with the A's, returns his entire coaching staff...returning will be bench coach Ryan Christenson, hitting coach Darren Bush, pitching coach Scott Emerson, assistant hitting coach Mike Aldrete, first base coach Al Pedrique, third base coach Matt Williams, bullpen coach Marcus Jensen and quality control coach Mark Kotsay.

OFF SEASON MOVES: The A's signed four free agents prior to the start of camp: Marco Estrada, Mike Fiers (re-signed with Oakland after he was non-tendered following the season), Chris Herrmann and Joakim Soria...the A's also acquired two players via trade, including Tanner Anderson (Pittsburgh, Nov. 20) and Jurickson Profar (Texas in three team trade, Dec. 21)...after pitchers and catchers reported, the A's signed Brett Anderson on Feb. 13 and Robbie Grossman on Feb. 15.

A'S MEDIA ALERTS: The A's Media Relations Department will provide frequent updates through its media-only Twitter account...for clubhouse hours, interview times and other media alerts, please follow @AsMediaAlerts...player transactions and other relevant game information will be posted at @AthleticsPR.

A'S SPRING BROADCASTS: The A's will broadcast all Spring Training games on KTRB 860 AM, including both of the exhibition games in Japan...Ken Korach and Vince Cotroneo will call the action for the remaining games with Ray Fosse returning to the booth on March 25 and 26...NBCSCA has one remaining broadcast on March 24 in Oakland against San Francisco...Glen Kuiper joins Ray Fosse in the broadcast booth for that telecast...NBCSBA will air the A's vs. Giants games on March 25 and 26.

SPRING TRAINING SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	RECORD	WINNER	LOSER	ATTEND.	HOME CUM.
Feb. 21	Seattle	Cancelled, Rain					
Feb. 22	at Seattle	L, 1-8	0-1	Leake	Mengden	5,298	
Feb. 23	Chicago (AL)	W, 6-5	1-1	T.Anderson	Thompson	3,906	3,906
Feb. 24	Kansas City	L, 5-14	1-2	McWilliams	Brooks	4,273	8,179
Feb. 25	at Arizona	L, 3-4	1-3	Owens	Buchanan	5,519	
Feb. 26	Los Angeles (AL)	L, 5-17	1-4	Robles	Rodney	3,641	11,820
Feb. 27	Los Angeles (NL)	L, 3-5	1-5	Urias	Mengden	4,821	16,641
Feb. 28	at Chicago (NL)	W, 10-3	2-5	Bassitt	Tseng	10,573	
March 1	Colorado	W, 6-3	3-5	Brooks	Anderson	5,411	22,052
March 2	Cleveland	W, 1-0	4-5	Rodney	Bauer	6,682	28,734
March 3	at Los Angeles (AL)	L, 1-4	4-6	Bedrosian	Estrada	7,407	
March 4	OFF DAY						
March 5	Texas	W, 4-1	5-6	Mengden	Jurado	4,809	33,543
March 6	at Seattle	W, 7-4	6-6	B.Anderson	LeBlanc	5,226	
March 7	at San Francisco	W, 5-1	7-6	Montas	Bumgarner	9,011	
March 8	San Diego	W, 6-5	8-6	Dull	Buchter	7,803	41,346
March 9	Milwaukee	L, 2-11	8-7	Houser	Blevins	9,007	50,353
March 10	San Francisco	W, 5-4		Schlitter	Law	8,625	58,978
	at Chicago (AL)	W, 7-6	10-7	Hendriks	Colome	5,486	
March 11	at Colorado	L, 3-6	10-8	Johnson	Bassitt	8,748	
March 12	at San Diego	Cancelled, Rain					
March 13	Chicago (NL)	W, 12-11	11-8	Montas	Zagurski	10,013	68,991
March 17	Nippon Ham (exhib.)	W, 5-1		Hendriks	Arihara	26,198	
DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	RADIO/TV				
March 18	Nippon Ham (exhib.)	12:05	KTRB 860 AM (8:05 pm PDT on March 17)				
March 24	San Francisco (at OAK)	1:05	KTRB 860 AM/NBCSCA				
March 25	at San Francisco (at SF)	6:45	KTRB 860 AM/NBCSBA				
March 26	at San Francisco (at SF)	6:45	KTRB 860 AM/NBCSBA				

All times local.

TRANSACTIONS

- Feb. 13 Free agent Brett Anderson agrees to terms on a one-year contract; Sean Manaea placed on the 60-day injured list (shoulder surgery rehab)
- Feb. 15 Free agent Robbie Grossman agrees to terms on a one-year contract; Daniel Gossett placed on the 60-day injured list (UCL surgery rehab)
- March 2 James Kaprielian optioned to Las Vegas; Tyler Alexander, Parker Dunshee and A.J. Puk reassigned to minor league camp
- March 3 Luis Barrera, Skye Bolt, Grant Holmes and Jorge Mateo optioned to Las Vegas; Parker Bridwell, Jake Buchanan, Kyle Finnegan, Jonah Heim, Corban Joseph, Dean Kiekhefer, Kyle Lobstein, Miguel Romero, Norge Ruiz and Beau Taylor reassigned to minor league camp
- March 10 Tanner Anderson, Paul Blackburn and Andrew Triggs optioned to Las Vegas; Kyle Crockett, Sheldon Neuse, Brian Schlitter and Wei-Chung Wang reassigned to minor league camp
- March 11 Daniel Mengden optioned to Las Vegas
- March 12 Dustin Fowler optioned to Las Vegas

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

ATHLETICS BATTING NOTES

#1 FRANKLIN BARRETO: Ranks third in the Cactus League in on-base percentage (.459), fourth in batting (.375) and fifth in OPS (1.053) and slugging (.594) through games of March 16...has appeared in seven games at second base, four in center field, three in left field and one at shortstop...has a .359 (42-for-117) average over the last three springs...had six stints with Oakland in 2018 and batted .233 with five home runs and 16 RBI in 32 games.

#20 MARK CANHA: Is 6-for-18 (.333) with three walks and six RBI over his last six games after going 2-for-14 (.143) with one walk and no RBI over his first seven contests...has appeared in five games at first base, three at designated hitter, two in center field, one in left field and one in right field...started games at five different positions for the A's last year and batted .249 with a career-high 17 home runs and 52 RBI in 122 games.

#26 MATT CHAPMAN: Had a double and a triple last Wednesday against the Cubs after going 0-for-8 over his previous three games...earned the American League Gold Glove for third baseman last year, the Platinum Glove for all AL fielders and was named Defensive Player of the Year by Wilson...hit .278 with 24 home runs and 68 RBI in 145 games.

#2 KHRIS DAVIS: Made his first appearance of the spring March 8 and started the spring 0-for-9 before doubling in the third inning last Wednesday against the Cubs...hit a Major League leading and career-high 48 home runs and ranked second with a career-high 123 RBI last year...became the 22nd player in ML history with at least three straight seasons of 40 home runs and 100 RBI, the second Athletic (Jimmie Foxx).

#8 ROBBIE GROSSMAN: Has hit safely in each of his last seven games (7-for-22, .318) after going 2-for-12 (.167) over his first five contests...has appeared exclusively in left field on defense...was signed as a free agent, Feb. 15...batted .273 in a career-high 129 games with Minnesota last year...added a .367 on-base percentage, which was 10th best in the American League among players with at least 450 plate appearances.

#3 NICK HUNDLEY (NR): Is 3-for-15 (.200) over his last seven games after going 4-for-9 (.444) over his first four contests...spent the entire 2018 season with San Francisco and batted .241 with 10 home runs and 31 RBI in 96 games...hit .280 with seven of his 10 home runs against left-handed pitchers compared to .213 against right-handers.

#22 RAMON LAUREANO: Is 5-for-14 (.357) over his last five games after going 3-for-19 (.158) over his first eight contests...six of his eight hits are for extra bases (four doubles, two home runs)...ranks seventh in the Cactus League in slugging (.545) and OPS (.888) and 10th in on-base percentage (.342) through games of March 16...has appeared exclusively in center field on defense...made his Major League debut with Oakland last year and hit .288 with five home runs and 19 RBI in 48 games.

#28 MATT OLSON: Is 4-for-31 (.129) in 12 games and is a .182 (35-for-192) career hitter during the spring...has appeared exclusively at first base this spring...played in all 162 games last year and batted .247 with 29 home runs and 84 RBI in his first full season in the majors...also won the American League Gold Glove Award for first basemen...led AL first baseman in home runs.

#15 CLIFF PENNINGTON (NR): Is 4-for-9 (.444) with two walks over his last five games...has appeared in five games at third base, five at shortstop and four at second base...signed a minor league contract Feb. 15...hit .138 with in 16 games with Cincinnati last year and a combined .211 with a home run and 14 RBI in 17 games with Louisville and Round Rock.

#19 JOSH PHEGLEY: Is 5-for-13 (.385) with three runs, two doubles, two home runs and four RBI over his last four games after going 4-for-15 (.267) over his first six...spent most of the first two months of the 2018 season at Triple-A Nashville, where he batted .235 with three home runs and 18 RBI in 36 games...spent the final four months with Oakland and hit .204 with two home runs and 15 RBI in 39 contests with the A's.

#18 CHAD PINDER: Has hit safely in each of his last five games and is 7-for-16 (.438) with four doubles, two home runs and six RBI over that span...ranks second in the Cactus League in doubles (7) and tied for second in extra base hits (9) through games of March 16...has struck out just once 34 plate appearances...has appeared in four games at third base, three at designated hitter, three in left field, two at shortstop and one at second base...last year, he became the first player in Oakland history to start at least one game at seven different positions.

#25 STEPHEN PISCOTTY: Is 3-for-18 (.167) over his last seven games after going 3-for-6 (.500) over his first three...has appeared exclusively in right field...batted .267 with 41 doubles, 27 home runs and 88 RBI in 151 games in his first season with Oakland last year...had career highs in doubles, home runs, RBI, extra base hits (68) and total bases (268).

#23 JURICKSON PROFAR: Is 1-for-11 over his last four games after going 4-for-12 (.333) with five RBI over his previous four contests...has appeared exclusively at second base...was acquired from Texas Dec. 21 in a three-team, seven-player trade...had career highs in nearly every offensive category last year as he batted .254 with 20 home runs and 77 RBI in 146 games.

#10 MARCUS SEMIEN: Is 8-for-20 (.400) with five runs, two doubles, a triple and a home run over his last six games...ranks eighth in the Cactus League in batting (.314) and slugging (.514) and ninth in OPS (.848) through games of March 16...has appeared exclusively at shortstop...batted .255 with 15 home runs and 70 RBI in 159 games last year...had career highs in runs (89), hits (161), doubles (35), walks (61) and steals (14) and matched his high in games.

#46 BEAU TAYLOR (MC): Was a non-roster invitee this spring before he was reassigned to minor league camp March 3...spent the 2018 season at Triple-A Nashville and batted .248 with three home runs and 39 RBI in 90 games

before making his Major League debut as a September call-up...went 1-for-5 (.200) with a double, walk and two strikeouts in seven games with Oakland.

TODAY'S STARTING PITCHER

#30 LHP BRETT ANDERSON: Has made three starts this spring...did not allow a run in his first start but has allowed at least two in each of his last two...began the 2018 season at Triple-A Nashville before he was selected by Oakland on May 2...went 4-5 with a 4.48 ERA in 17 starts with the A's in a season that was interrupted by two stints on the disabled list...was out from May 19 to July 7 with a strained left shoulder and Aug. 28 to Sept. 12 with a strained left forearm.

Date	Opponent	Start/Rel	Score	Dec	ERA	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
Feb. 28	at Chicago (NL)	S	10-3	-	0.00	3.0	2	0	0	1	3	0
Mar. 6	at Seattle	S	7-4	W	2.84	3.1	4	2	2	0	2	1
Mar. 11	at Colorado	S	3-6	-	4.66	3.1	5	3	3	1	2	1
Totals (3 games, 3 starts)					1-0	4.66	9.2	11	5	5	2	7

ALSO AVAILABLE TO PITCH

#40 RHP CHRIS BASSITT: Has allowed at least one run in three of his four appearances...has walked just one batter in 10.0 innings but opponents are hitting .310 (13-for-42)...had seven stints with Oakland last year in his return to the majors following "Tommy John" surgery in 2016...went 2-3 with a 3.02 ERA and .221 opponents batting average in 11 games, including seven starts...was also 5-5 with a 4.30 ERA in 18 games, including 14 starts, with Triple-A Nashville.

Date	Opponent	Start/Rel	Score	Dec	ERA	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
Feb. 23	Chicago (AL)	S	6-5	-	9.00	1.0	2	1	1	0	0	0
Feb. 28	at Chicago (NL)	R	10-3	W	9.00	2.0	3	2	2	1	3	0
Mar. 6	at Seattle	R	5-1	-	4.50	3.0	3	0	0	0	4	0
Mar. 11	at Colorado	R	3-6	L	5.40	4.0	5	3	3	0	5	2
Totals (4 games, 1 start)					1-1	5.40	10.0	13	6	6	1	12

#13 LHP JERRY BLEVINS (NR): Has allowed eight runs in 1.0 innings over his last two outings after yielding no runs in 1.0 innings in each of his first two appearances...signed to a minor league contract Feb. 4...played for the A's from 2007-13 and his 281 games pitched are tied for sixth most in Oakland history...spent the entire 2018 season with New York (NL) and went 3-2 with a save and a 4.85 ERA in 64 games, including the first start of his career.

Date	Opponent	Start/Rel	Score	Dec	ERA	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
Feb. 26	Los Angeles (AL)	R	5-17	-	0.00	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Mar. 1	Colorado	R	6-3	-	0.00	1.0	1	0	0	1	1	0
Mar. 9	Milwaukee	R	2-11	L	23.14	0.1	3	6	6	2	1	2
Mar. 13	Chicago (NL)	R	12-11	-	24.00	0.2	2	2	2	0	0	1
Totals (4 games, 0 starts)					0-1	24.00	3.0	6	8	8	3	3

#66 RHP RYAN DULL: Has not allowed a run in his first four outings (3.1 ip)...opponents are 2-for-11 (.182)...had six stints with Oakland last year and compiled a 4.26 ERA and .242 opponents batting average in 28 relief appearances in his fourth season...was also 3-2 with a save and a 3.54 ERA in 23 relief appearances with Nashville.

Date	Opponent	Start/Rel	Score	Dec	ERA	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
Feb. 24	Kansas City	R	5-14	-	0.00	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Feb. 27	Los Angeles (NL)	R	3-5	-	0.00	0.1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Mar. 6	at Seattle	R	7-4	-	0.00	1.0	1	0	0	0	2	0
Mar. 8	San Diego	R	6-5	W	0.00	1.0	0	0	0	1	2	0
Totals (4 games, 0 starts)					1-0	0.00	3.1	2	0	0	1	5

#57 RHP J.B. WENDELKEN: Has allowed three runs in two of his five outings...opponents are 9-for-22 (.409)...began his comeback from UCL reconstruction surgery on his right elbow at Double-A Midland last year, was promoted to Triple-A Nashville May 10 and eventually compiled a 0.54 ERA and .140 opponents batting average in 13 relief appearances over two stints with Oakland.

Date	Opponent	Start/Rel	Score	Dec	ERA	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
Feb. 22	at Seattle	R	1-8	-	40.50	0.2	4	3	3	0	0	0
Feb. 25	at Arizona	R	3-4	-	16.20	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Mar. 1	Colorado	R	6-3	-	13.50	1.0	4	1	1	1	0	1
Mar. 9	Milwaukee	R	2-11	-	9.82	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Mar. 10	at Chicago (AL)	R	7-6	-	14.54	0.2	0	3	3	3	0	0
Totals (5 games, 0 starts)					0-0	14.54	4.1	9	7	7	4	2