



# OAKLAND ATHLETICS

## Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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### Rick Rodriguez to Return as Athletics' Bullpen Coach

OAKLAND, Calif. – The Oakland Athletics announced today that Rick Rodriguez will return as bullpen coach for the 2012 season.

Rodriguez, 51, finished his first year as Oakland's bullpen coach in 2011 after serving 19 seasons as a minor league coach in the A's organization. The pitching staff, which set an Athletics' franchise record with 1,160 strikeouts, compiled a 3.71 ERA to rank third in the American League this past season. The 2011 staff also led the league in lowest opponents slugging percentage (.378)—the best mark by an AL team since the 2003 A's registered a .376 figure—as well as fewest home runs (136), doubles and extra base hits (407) allowed.

Born in Oakland and a 1978 graduate of Castro Valley High School, Rodriguez spent 10 of his previous 11 seasons (2000-2002, 2004-2010) as the pitching coach at Triple-A Sacramento. The one exception was in 2003 when he managed the A's Single-A affiliate at Modesto to a 74-66 record and postseason appearance. Rodriguez's first coaching assignment came in 1992 with the A's affiliate at Scottsdale in the Arizona Rookie League. He spent the next two seasons with Southern Oregon of the Northwest League and also coached five seasons at Modesto from 1995-99.

Rodriguez was originally selected by Oakland in the second round of the 1981 June draft and spent seven seasons with the A's organization, including two years in the majors in Oakland. He went 1-2 with a 6.61 ERA in three starts in 1986 and was 1-0 with a 2.96 ERA in 15 relief appearances in 1987. Rodriguez also pitched for Cleveland (1988) and San Francisco (1990) in his big league career, posting a 3-4 record and 5.73 ERA in 31 games, including eight starts.

Following high school, he attended Chabot Junior College in Hayward and the University of California, Riverside.

With today's announcement, the only vacancy still to be filled on Manager Bob Melvin's staff is hitting coach. The 2012 staff consists of Chip Hale (bench coach), Curt Young (pitching coach), Mike Gallego (third base coach), Tye Waller (first base coach) and Rodriguez.

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