



OAKLAND ATHLETICS

Media Release

Oakland Athletics Baseball Company • 7000 Coliseum Way • Oakland, CA 94621
510-638-4900 • www.athletics.com • A's PR on Twitter @AsMediaAlerts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

November 23, 2015

A's Announce 2016 Minor League Staff

OAKLAND, Calif. – The Oakland A's today announced their minor league staff assignments for the 2016 season.

Gil Patterson returns to the A's organization as minor league pitching coordinator after spending the previous three years in the Yankees organization in a similar role. Patterson was the A's minor league roving pitching instructor in 1996 and from 2008-12 and also coached in the A's farm system from 1991-95. **Jim Eppard** was named minor league hitting coordinator after spending 13 seasons in the Angels organization. He spent the last two years as assistant hitting coordinator after a two-year stint as the Angels major league hitting coach. **Juan Navarrete** is in his 22nd season with the A's and will be the minor league defensive coordinator and **Craig Lefferts** and **Aaron Nieckula** return for their second consecutive season as minor league rehab pitching coordinator and minor league field coordinator, respectively.

Steve Scarsone returns to Triple-A Nashville for the second consecutive season after the Sounds finished 66-78 in 2015. This will be his fourth consecutive season as manager of the A's Triple-A club and he now has a 634-632 record in nine seasons as a minor league manager, including stints in the A's system with Midland from 2011-12, Stockton in 2010 and Kane County in 2009. **Rick Rodriguez** will be the pitching coach after holding that role with Single-A Stockton last year. This is his 32nd season in the A's organization, which includes seven seasons as a player and two years as bullpen coach in Oakland (2011-12). **Eric Martins** takes over as hitting coach after making his minor league coaching debut as hitting coach at Midland in 2015. **Brad LaRosa** returns as the athletic trainer and **AJ Seeliger** was named strength and conditioning coach.

Ryan Christenson returns to Double-A Midland after guiding the RockHounds to their second consecutive Texas League championship last year. He is now 245-174 in three seasons as a manager and has led his club to the playoffs all three seasons. **John Wasdin** returns as Christenson's pitching coach for the fourth consecutive season and **Brian McArn** moves up from Stockton to take over as hitting coach. This is McArn's 19th season as hitting coach in the A's farm system, which includes a stop at Midland in 2004. **Justin Whitehouse** returns as the athletic trainer and **Henry Torres** will be the strength and conditioning coach.

Rick Magnante will manage at Stockton for the second consecutive season following a 74-66 showing in 2015. He is now 531-563 in 13 seasons as a manager in the minors. **Steve Connelly** is in his first season as the Ports pitching coach after holding that job with Short Season Single-A Vermont in 2014 and Single-A Beloit in 2015. **Tommy Everidge** joins Stockton as hitting coach after serving in that capacity for Vermont in 2014 and 2015. **Travis Tims** returns as athletic trainer and **Sean Doran** takes over as strength and conditioning coach.

Fran Riordan returns to manage Beloit for the second consecutive season after the Snappers finished 55-84 in 2015. He spent the previous 14 years managing in independent leagues. **Don Schulze** is in his first season as pitching coach at Beloit after spending last year at Nashville. This is 11th season as pitching coach in the A's farm system. **Juan Dilone** will be the hitting coach after spending the previous seven years with the A's affiliate in the Arizona Rookie League. **Brian Thorson** returns as athletic trainer and **Matt Rutledge** will serve as strength and conditioning coach.

In addition to his duties as field coordinator, **Nieckula** will manage the A's Short Season club at Vermont for the second consecutive season. It is his 11th year as a manager in the A's farm system and he has a 649-679 record over the previous 10 seasons. **Carlos Chavez** returns as pitching coach for the second consecutive year and **Lloyd Turner** takes over as hitting coach after spending the previous two seasons at Beloit. **Toshi Nagahara** returns as the athletic trainer and **Omar Aguilar** is the strength and conditioning coach.

Webster Garrison will be the manager of the A's affiliate in the Arizona Rookie League, his ninth season as manager. He last managed at Stockton in 2013 and has a 534-522 record over his previous eight seasons. This is his 24th season in the A's organization, which includes 17 years as a minor league manager or coach and seven years as a player. **Ruben Escalera** will be the hitting coach after managing the club the previous two seasons and **Gabe Ortiz** will be a coach. **Chris Lessner** returns as the athletic trainer and **Terence Brannic** is the strength and conditioning coach.

#

Contact: Mike Selleck (510) 563-2233
mselleck@athletics.com