



# KANSAS CITY ROYALS SPRING TRAINING GAME NOTES

1985 & 2015 WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS | 1980, 1985, 2014-15 AMERICAN LEAGUE CHAMPIONS | 1976-78, 1980, 1984-85 AMERICAN LEAGUE WEST CHAMPIONS | 2015 AMERICAN LEAGUE CENTRAL CHAMPIONS

## OAKLAND ATHLETICS (3-3-1) at KANSAS CITY ROYALS (6-2) MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021 | 1:05 MST/2:05 CT | SURPRISE STADIUM | SURPRISE, ARIZ. WATCH: NO TV | LISTEN: 610 SPORTS RADIO

### UPCOMING PITCHING PROBABLES & BROADCAST SCHEDULE

UPCOMING GAMES	TIME (MST/CT)	PROBABLE PITCHERS	TV & RADIO
Tues, March 9 at SEA	1:10/2:10 p.m.	<b>KC:</b> Danny Duffy (L, SP) <b>SEA:</b> Ljay Newsome (SP), Ian McKinney (L), Gerson Bautista, Taylor Guerrieri, Matt Magill	1660 AM
Wed, March 10 vs. CIN	1:05/2:05 p.m.	<b>CIN:</b> TBA <b>KC:</b> TBA	FSKC (via FSOH) royals.com

Royals Spring Training action will be called by **Ryan Lefebvre**, **Steve Physioc** and **Steve Stewart** on KCSP Radio (610 Sports) and the Royals Radio Network, while **Eric Guthrie** is the producer/engineer...Royals Hall of Famer, **Denny Matthews**, will make periodic cameos on the broadcast from Kansas City.

**MEDIA NOTE:** All pre and postgame interviews for the foreseeable future will be conducted via Zoom...times and links will be announced regularly via email advisory and on Twitter @Royals\_PR...all Royals Zoom recordings will be available for 30 days on [royalspressbox.com](http://royalspressbox.com) under the 'multimedia' tab...media can also visit [royalspressbox.com](http://royalspressbox.com) to access the 2021 media guide, daily game notes, postgame notes, stat pack, roster and lineup sheets.

**PRONUNCIATION GUIDE:** Phonetic spellings and audio clips of players names are now available at [www.mlb.com/royals/team/pronunciation](http://www.mlb.com/royals/team/pronunciation).

**RALLY ROYALS STRIKE AGAIN:** Trailing 3-1 entering the ninth inning, Kansas City erupted for three runs in the final frame to post a 4-3 win over the Padres yesterday in Peoria and mark their fifth comeback win of the spring...**Jakob Junis** (3.0 IP) and **Carlos Hernández** (2.0 IP) combined to record eight strikeouts over the first 5.0 innings, each allowing only one hit, both of which were solo home runs, including one by former Royal **Eric Hosmer**...the Royals got on the board with a solo home run by **Michael A. Taylor** in the sixth inning, but San Diego got that run back off **Jesse Hahn** in the eighth...the first three Royals reached in the top of the ninth, as pinch hitter **Emmanuel Rivera** led off with a triple, followed by an RBI single by **Seuly Matias**, and the go-ahead, two-run home run by **Kelvin Gutierrez**...**Jake Newberry** pitched a scoreless bottom of the ninth to mark his second save of the spring...nine different Royals recorded a hit, including four off the bench...the Royals have won four of their last five games, improving to 6-2 through eight games to mark the most wins among all Major League teams, one more than the Tigers, who are 5-2-1 in the Grapefruit League.

### CACTUS LEAGUE STANDINGS

TEAM	W-L-T	PCT
Royals	6-2-0	.750
Cubs	4-2-1	.714
Rockies	4-2-1	.714
Texas	3-2-2	.571
Brewers	4-3-0	.571
Angels	4-3-1	.563

**GETTING OFFENSIVE:** Despite scoring just four runs in yesterday's win in Peoria, the Royals continue to lead the Cactus League with 41 runs scored through eight games...the Royals also lead the league in hits (68), home runs (12), extra-base hits (30) and slugging percentage (.498), and they rank second in OPS (.862) and doubles (16)...the Royals hit 68 homers in 60 games during the 2020 season (1.13 HR/G), the second-highest per-game rate in club history.

- + **Michael A. Taylor** hit his second home run of the spring yesterday, and now leads the Royals with 12 total bases...he also ranks tied for the team lead with five hits, two home runs and four RBI, and is batting .556 with a 1.933 OPS after signing with Kansas City as a free agent this offseason.
- + Ten different Royals have hit a home run through eight games, including two by Taylor and **Ryan O'Hearn** and one by camp standout **Bobby Witt Jr.**

**GOLDEN STATE OF MIND:** The Royals will host Oakland today to end a streak of four consecutive games vs. teams from California, following games with the Dodgers (last Friday), Giants (last Saturday) and Padres (yesterday)...Kansas City is 2-1 thus far vs. teams from the Golden State, with their only loss coming to the defending World Series champion Dodgers...the Royals' lone trip to California this season is scheduled for June 7-13, when they visit the Angels for three games and the A's for a four-game weekend set...the Royals last played Oakland in 2019 and lost five of the seven meetings.

**SPRING RECORDS:** The Royals improved to 6-2—including 4-1 on the road—with yesterday's win over the Padres in Peoria, after going 9-9-2 in Cactus League play last year...Kansas City has an all-time exhibition record of 729-666-46 (.522)...the 2021 season marks the Royals' 19th trip around the Cactus League in Surprise, Ariz., and they have an exhibition record of 299-243-29 (.549) since arriving in the valley in 2003...the Royals spent their first 34 seasons training in Florida, including 19 seasons in Fort Myers from 1969-87, followed by 15 seasons in Baseball City from 1988-2002.

**FANFARE:** The Royals announced last week that for the first time in 18 months, fans will once again be welcome back to Kauffman Stadium beginning on Opening Day, Thursday, April 1, when the Royals host the Rangers at 3:10 p.m. CT...the initial plan calls for pod-style seating to accommodate 10,000 fans per game, with goals to expand the capacity monthly, as it is safe to do so...season ticket members will have priority access beginning the week of March 8 to select their seats for the 13 scheduled home games in April...while season ticket members will have the priority access, the general public will have the option to purchase single-game tickets beginning March 24...future home game on-sale dates will be announced subsequent to Opening Day.

**SPRING RULES:** Per the 2021 Operations Manual, the Cactus League schedule will feature shortened games and relaxed rules...Spring Training games through Saturday, March 13 may be shortened to 5.0-inning games or 7.0-inning games upon mutual agreement of both managers...games that occur from Sunday, March 14 through the end of Spring Training may be shortened to 7.0-inning games...clubs wishing to modify its scheduled game length must notify the Commissioner's Office before 5:00 p.m. ET on the day prior to the game...all Spring Training games, regardless of length, may end in a tie after the scheduled length of the game has been played...for games played through Saturday, March 13, defensive managers will be allowed to end an inning prior to three outs following any completed plate appearance, provided the pitcher has thrown at least 20 pitches...beginning on Sunday, March 14 and continuing through the end of the 2021 regular season the Three Batter Minimum Rule will be enforced...throughout Spring Training, pitchers who are removed during a game may re-enter at a later point during that same game.

- + **Managers Mike Matheny and Bob Melvin have agreed that today's game will go 7.0 innings...after the 7.0 innings are completed, the Athletics will exit the field and the Royals will continue with 2.0 innings of intrasquad work in front of the fans at Surprise Stadium.**

**ROSTER RUNDOWN:** The Royals now have 73 players in camp, including 38 on the 40-man roster and 35 non-roster invitees...among some of the non-roster invitees include right-handed pitcher **Wade Davis**, who posted a 2.94 ERA (104 ER in 318.0 IP) in 216 appearances over four seasons with Kansas City from 2013-16 and recorded the final out of the 2015 World Series...another former Royal, right-handed pitcher **Ervin Santana**, also entered camp on a minor league deal...Santana posted a 3.24 ERA (76 ER in 211.0 IP) in 32 starts with Kansas City in 2013...the 15-year veteran more recently won 16 games with the Twins during his 2017 All-Star season, and last pitched with the White Sox in 2019...also vying for a spot on the Opening Day roster is infielder **Hanser Alberto**, who has played at all four infield positions and both corner outfield spots over his five-year Major League career with Texas (2015-16, 2018) and Baltimore (2019-20)...over the last two seasons with the Orioles, Alberto has hit .394 (106-for-269) with a .942 OPS vs. left-handed pitchers...another former Oriole, right-handed pitcher, **Brad Brach**, is also in camp on a minor league deal...he leads all relief pitchers since 2014 with 34 wins, including a career-high 10 wins with Baltimore during his All-Star season in 2016...the 10-year Major League veteran has spent time with the Padres (2011-13), Orioles (2014-2018), Braves (2018), Cubs (2019) and Mets (2019-20) and owns a 3.39 (197 ER in 522.2 IP) lifetime ERA.

### ROYALS ROSTER RUNDOWN

POSITION	TOTAL	40-MAN	NRI
Pitchers	37	19	18
Catchers	7	4	3
Infielders	17	8	9
Outfielders	12	7	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>35</b>

**2020 VISION:** The Royals finished the 2020 season with a 26-34 record (.433), improving their win percentage for the second straight year, after going 59-103 (.364) in 2019 and 58-104 (.358) in 2018...the Royals' 26 wins in 60 games marked a pace of 70 wins over a 162-game season, which would've been an 11-win improvement on 2019 and would've been their highest win total since 2017 (80-82)...they finished in fourth place in the American League Central for the second straight season, 10 games behind the division-winning Minnesota Twins (36-24) and six games behind the Toronto Blue Jays (32-28) for the second American League Wild Card spot...after starting 3-10 through their first 13 games and 14-28 through their first 42 games, the Royals went 12-6 (.667) in their last 18 games from Sept. 8-27, which matched the American League champion Tampa Bay Rays for the best record in the American League during that time, and trailed only the World Series champion Dodgers (13-5) and Reds (13-6) among all teams.

**OFFSEASON STORY:** The Royals made a flurry of offseason moves over the winter, including the free-agent signings of left-handed pitcher **Mike Minor**, outfielder **Michael A. Taylor** and first baseman **Carlos Santana**...the club also re-signed **Greg Holland**, who ranks fourth in team history with 151 saves and went 3-0 with six saves and a 1.91 ERA (6 ER in 28.1 IP) last year with the Royals...Minor posted a 2.55 ERA (22 ER in 77.2 IP) in 65 relief appearances with Kansas City in 2017, before signing with Texas, where he won 12 games in 2018 and went a career-best 14-10 with a 3.59 ERA (83 ER in 208.1 IP) during his 2019 All-Star season...Taylor comes to Kansas City after spending his entire seven-year career with the Nationals, including a World Series title in 2019...his best season came in 2017, when he set career-highs across the board with a .271 batting average, a .806 OPS and 19 home runs...Santana joins the Royals after spending 10 of his 11 Major League seasons with Cleveland, including the 2016 season in which he led the Indians to their first World Series appearance since 1997...he had an All-Star campaign in 2019 in which he was named a Silver Slugger at first base after setting career highs in batting average (.281), slugging percentage (.515), OPS (.911), runs (110), hits (161), home runs (34, tied) and RBI (93)...a week before camp, the Royals capped their offseason by acquiring outfielder **Andrew Benintendi** from Boston in a three-team deal...Benintendi, 26, leads the Majors with 32 outfield assists since 2017, and won a World Series with the Red Sox in 2018, when he hit .290 with a career-best 41 doubles...on Friday, the Royals announced a one-year deal with outfielder **Jarrod Dyson**, who spent the first seven seasons of his career with Kansas City and ranks sixth in team history with 176 steals.

**THE ROYAL LEADER:** **Mike Matheny** led the Royals to a 26-34 (.433) record in his first season as manager in 2020, which would've paced out to 70 wins over a 162-game season...that would've marked an 11-game improvement over 2019, when the Royals won just 59 games...Matheny's .433 win percentage in 2020 matched that of **Ned Yost** (55-72) in his first season as Royals manager in 2010, when he took over on May 14...Matheny, who was named the Royals' 17th full-time manager on Oct. 31, 2019, enters the 2021 season with a 617-508 record over eight seasons as a manager, which rank as the ninth-most wins among active managers, and his .548 lifetime win percentage ranks sixth among active skippers, trailing only **Aaron Boone** (.615), **Dave Roberts** (.614), **Alex Cora** (.593), **A.J. Hinch** (.558) and **Joe Girardi** (.552)...this is Matheny's second big league managerial stint, after leading the St. Louis Cardinals from 2012-2018...he posted a winning record in each of his seven seasons with St. Louis, including a Major League-best 100 victories in 2015.

## TODAY'S ROYALS PITCHERS

### #51 BRADY SINGER | RHP

2020: 4-5 | 12 STARTS | 64.1 IP | 4.06 ERA | 61 SO | 23 BB

- + Brady made the Opening Day roster out of Summer Camp last year and led the Royals with 12 starts, one shy of the Major League lead...he finished his rookie season with 64.1 innings and 61 strikeouts—leading all rookies in both categories—becoming the second Royal to lead both leagues in innings and strikeouts as a rookie, joining **Steve Busby** (238.1 IP, 174 K) in 1973...he became the fourth Royals rookie to lead the American League in both categories, joining **Kevin Appier** (185.2 IP, 127 K) in 1990, Busby in 1973 and **Bob Johnson** (214.0 IP, 206 K) in 1970.
- + Singer completed at least 5.0 innings and allowed no more than five hits in each of his first five starts, becoming the eighth American League pitcher since 1980 to begin a career that way, joining **Aaron Sele** (5 straight in 1993), **Jeff Weaver** (5 straight in 1999), **Jered Weaver** (7 straight in 2006), **Michael Pineda** (5 straight in 2011), **Taijuan Walker** (6 straight in 2013), **James Paxton** (6 straight in 2013) and **Fernando Romero** (5 straight in 2018)...Singer was the first Royal to record at least 5.0 innings in each of his first five career starts since **Zack Greinke** (1st 10 starts) in 2004.
- + Following Singer's start on Sept. 10 in Cleveland, in which he had a no-hitter broken up with two outs in the eighth and finished with 8.0 scoreless frames, he allowed just two hits over 6.0 scoreless innings on Sept. 16 in Detroit...this marked the 10th time in the last 45 years (since 1976) that an American League pitcher recorded consecutive scoreless starts with at least eight strikeouts and no more than two hits allowed, placing Singer within an exclusive group of eight other decorated pitchers, including six former Cy Young Award winners and three Hall of Famers.
- + Singer was named Royals Pitcher of the Month for September, in which he led the club with three wins, 29.2 innings, 30 strikeouts and a 2.73 ERA (9 ER in 29.2 IP) in five starts...he recorded 15.0 consecutive scoreless innings over two-plus outings, including 8.0 innings of one-run ball on Sept. 10 in Cleveland, and followed that up with 6.0 scoreless innings on two hits on Sept. 16 at Detroit...he ended the season with 7.0 innings of one-hit ball and just three hits allowed in a win on Sept. 27 vs. Detroit, capping a four-start stretch to end his rookie season in which he went 3-1 with a 1.50 ERA (4 ER in 24.0 IP) and .114 opponents' average (9-for-79), the third best ERA and the best opponents' average in the Majors during that stretch.

### #58 SCOTT BARLOW | RHP

2020: 2-1-2 | 32 GAMES | 30.0 IP | 4.20 ERA | 39 SO | 9 BB

- + Scott has retired six of the seven batters he's faced over two appearances (2.0 IP) this spring, including 1.0 inning on Wednesday vs. the Sox.
- + Made a Majors-most 32 appearances in 2020, two more than any other pitcher, and finished one outing shy of the franchise record for most in the first 60 games of a season, held by **Jason Grimsley** (33) in 2003...he also led the Majors with 25 scoreless outings, one more than **Mike Mayers** (24).
- + Recorded a career-high two saves and seven holds, second most by a Royals reliever in 2020, behind only **Josh Staumont's** eight holds.
- + Had a career-low .239 opponents' average (27-for-113), including a .200 average (14-for-70) through Aug. 31 (.302 (13-for-43) in September).
- + His homer to **Josh VanMeter** on Aug. 12 at Cincinnati snapped his homerless streak at 45.0 innings, which included his first 11.0 innings in 2020, and was the second-longest active streak in the Majors at the time (*Elias*), trailing only **Brandon Workman's** 57.2-inning run without a home run.
- + Surrendered just three runs over his first 20 outings (19.2 IP), which included a season-best scoreless streak of 7.2 innings (Aug. 15-31), spanning eight games...allowed 11 runs in his next seven appearances (Sept. 2-19), before recording six-straight scoreless outings to end the season (Sept. 21-27).

### #64 SCOTT BLEWETT | RHP

2020: 0-0-0 | 2 GAMES | 3.0 IP | 6.00 ERA | 4 SO | 1 BB

- + Scott made his spring debut last Wednesday vs. the White Sox and allowed two runs on two hits and two walks in 1.2 innings.
- + He made his Major League debut on Sept. 18, 2020 at Milwaukee and recorded 2.0 scoreless innings.
- + Had a one-day stint in the Majors on Aug. 5 and was the 29th Man in the Aug. 15 doubleheader at Minnesota, before being recalled on Sept. 16.
- + Blewett was selected to the 40-man roster on Nov. 20, 2018, and combined to throw 106.2 innings between Double-A and Triple-A in 2019.

### #59 JAKE BRENTZ | LHP

2020: DID NOT PITCH

- + He has allowed one run on three hits and two walks over 2.0 innings this spring, including a scoreless frame on Thursday vs. the Reds.
- + Jake spent the 2020 season as the Alternate Training Site and participated in the Royals' postseason camp at Kauffman Stadium in October.
- + Brentz signed with Kansas City as a minor league free agent on Aug. 20, 2019 after being released by the Pittsburgh Pirates on Aug. 16.
- + In 41 appearances in 2019 between Northwest Arkansas (AA), Altoona (AA) and Indianapolis (AAA), he struck out 59 batters in 52.2 innings.

### #55 RICHARD LOVELADY | LHP

2020: 0-0-0 | 1 GAME | 1.0 IP | 9.00 ERA | 0 SO | 1 BB

- + Richard has recorded 1.0 scoreless inning over two appearances this spring, including 0.1 inning last Wednesday vs. the White Sox.
- + Lovelady made the Opening Day roster in 2020 for the first time, but made just one appearance before being optioned after the club's third game.
- + Before Spring Training was canceled last year, he recorded 4.1 scoreless innings over four outings, and pitched 1.0 inning (2 ER) in Summer Camp.

### #52 DANIEL LYNCH | LHP

2020: DID NOT PITCH

- + Daniel allowed three runs on three hits and three walks over 1.2 innings in his 2021 spring debut last Tuesday in Mesa vs. the Cubs.
- + He pitched at the Royals' Alternate Training Site last season and participated in the club's Postseason Camp at Kauffman Stadium.
- + Lynch enters the 2021 season as the No. 2 ranked prospect in the Royals system according to *Baseball America* and the No. 25 prospect overall.
- + In 2019, he went 6-2 with a 2.99 ERA (32 ER in 96.1 IP) in 20 starts between Wilmington (A+), Surprise (R) and Burlington (R).

### #65 ERIC SKOGLUND | LHP

2020: DID NOT PITCH

- + Skoglund last pitched in the Majors in 2019, when he went 0-3 with a 9.00 ERA over six appearances (4 starts) with the Royals.

### #84 COLLIN SNIDER | RHP

2020: DID NOT PITCH

- + Collin has retired seven of the eight batters he's faced over 2.1 innings this spring, including a 1-2-3 frame on Thursday vs. the Reds.
- + Snider did not pitch last season, but did participate in the Royals' postseason camp at Kauffman Stadium.
- + In 2019, he made 28 regular season appearances at Wilmington (A+), in which he went 5-3 with four saves and a 2.25 ERA (13 ER in 52.0 IP).

### #69 ANDRES SOTILLET | RHP

2020: DID NOT PITCH

- + Andres Sotillet ([ahn-DRACE soh-tee-YET](#)) did not pitch last season, but did participate in the club's postseason camp at Kauffman Stadium.
- + Pitched at Northwest Arkansas (AA) in 2019 and went 6-1 with 3.35 ERA (28 ER in 75.1 IP), including a 1.94 ERA (9 ER in 41.2 IP) in his last 22 outings.

### #61 ANGEL ZERPA | LHP

2020: DID NOT PITCH

- + Angel (AHN-hel) made his spring debut in Goodyear last Monday vs. Cleveland and allowed a hit and three walks to the five batters he faced.
- + Was selected to the 40-man roster in November, after last pitching in 2019, when he went 6-3 with a 3.40 ERA (21 ER in 55.2 IP) between 13 outings (12 starts) between Burlington (R) and Idaho Falls (R)...Zerpa ([SAIR-pah](#)), 21, was signed as an international free agent in 2016.

### ROYALS 2021 EXHIBITION SCHEDULE & RESULTS

#	DATE/OPP	TIME/ FINAL	WINNING PITCHER	LOSING PITCHER	SAVE	KC W-L	ATT	#	DATE/OPP	TIME/ FINAL	WINNING PITCHER	LOSING PITCHER	SAVE	KC W-L	ATT
1	2/28 vs. TEX*	W 3-2 (6)	<b>Davis (1-0)</b>	Gatto	<b>Barlow (1)</b>	1-0	2,024	15	3/15 vs. SF	1:05 MT					
2	3/1 at CLE*	W 8-6	<b>Kowar (1-0)</b>	Bieber	<b>Snider (1)</b>	2-0	1,488	16	3/16 vs. SEA* TV	6:05 MT					
3	3/2 at CHC*	L 3-2 (7)	Maples	<b>Lynch (0-1)</b>	Jewell	2-1	3,225	17	3/17 at OAK	1:05 MT					
4	3/3 vs. CWS^	W 6-5 (6)	<b>Lovelady (1-0)</b>	Sousa (0-1)	<b>Barlow (2)</b>	3-1	1,819	18	3/18 at CWS^	1:05 MT					
5	3/4 at CIN	W 5-3	<b>Brentz (1-0)</b>	Santillan (0-1)	<b>Newberry (1)</b>	4-1	1,869	19	3/19 vs. LAA TV	1:05 MT					
6	3/5 vs. LAD* <sup>ESPN</sup>	L 7-5	Kickham	<b>Kowar (1-1)</b>	Romero	4-2	2,056	20	3/20 at ARI*	1:10 MT					
7	3/6 at SF	W 8-6	<b>Brach (1-0)</b>	Gott	<b>Kalish (1)</b>	5-2	1,272	21	3/21 vs. COL* TV	1:05 MT					
8	3/7 at SD* <sup>TV</sup>	W 4-3	<b>Hahn (1-0)</b>	Ramirez	<b>Newberry (2)</b>	6-2	1,762	22	3/22 vs. SD^	1:05 MT					
9	3/8 vs. OAK*	1:05 MT							3/23 OFF						
10	3/9 at SEA^	1:10 MT						23	3/24 at LAA*	1:10 MT					
11	3/10 vs. CIN TV	1:05 MT						24	3/25 vs. ARI* TV	1:05 MT					
12	3/11 at MIL	1:10 MT						25	3/26 at TEX	6:05 MT					
		3/12 OFF						26	3/27 vs. MIL*	1:05 MT					
13	3/13 vs. CHC*	1:05 MT						27	3/28 at COL*	1:10 MT					
14	3/14 at LAD*	6:05 MT						28	3/29 vs. CLE*	12:05 MT					

\* Game broadcast on KCSP-610 AM in Kansas City  
 ^ Game broadcast on KWOD 1660 AM in Kansas City  
 TV Televised on Bally Sports Kansas City  
 (March 7 is SD telecast, March 10 is Cincinnati telecast)  
 ESPN Televised on ESPN  
 MLB Televised on MLB Network  
 NOTE: All games webcast on royals.com