

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



KANSAS CITY ROYALS (12-4) at OAKLAND ATHLETICS (7-8-1)
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2021 | 1:05 MST/3:05 CT | HOHOKAM STADIUM | MESA, ARIZ.
WATCH: NO TV | LISTEN: ROYALS.COM



UPCOMING PITCHING PROBABLES & BROADCAST SCHEDULE

UPCOMING GAMES	TIME (MST/CT)	PROBABLE PITCHERS	TV & RADIO
Thur, March 18 at CWS	1:05/3:05 p.m.	KC: Kris Bubic (L, SP) CWS: Dallas Keuchel (L, SP), Michael Kopech, Garrett Crochet, Evan Marshall, Codi Heuer	1660 AM
Fri, March 19 vs. LAA	1:05/3:05 p.m.	LAA: TBA KC: Brady Singer (SP)	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 royalsspressbox.com under the 'multimedia' tab...media can also visit royalsspressbox.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.

RARE OFF NIGHT: The Royals were shut out for the first time this spring in last night's 13-0 loss to Seattle, snapping their five-game win streak and dropping them to 12-4...**Brad Keller** was charged with six runs (5 ER) on six hits and three walks in 3.0 innings, before giving way to non-roster invitee, **Brad Brach**, who allowed five runs on six hits and a walk while allowing just one out...the Mariners scored in each of the first 5.0 innings, and the Royals—who entered leading all 30 teams in most offensive categories—were held to just three hits...the Royals did hold the Mariners to just one unearned run over the last 4.0 innings, as **Wade Davis** (1.0 IP), **Scott Barlow** (1.0 IP), **Jesse Hahn** (1.0 IP) and **Eric Skoglund** (1.0 IP) combined to record five strikeouts with two hits allowed from the sixth inning on.

CACTUS LEAGUE STANDINGS

TEAM	W-L-T	PCT	GB
1. Royals	12-4-0	.750	-
2. Dodgers	8-5-3	.594	2.5
T3. Cubs	7-5-3	.567	3.0
T3. Rangers	7-5-3	.567	3.0

+ Two of the Royals' four losses have come to Seattle, and they've been outscored 19-3 (-16) in those games...the Royals are 12-2 vs. everyone else, and have outscored those opponents 88-50 (+38)...despite last night's 13-0 loss, the Royals still lead the Cactus League with a +22 run differential.

SPRING KINGS: The Royals lead all 30 teams with 12 wins, which are one more than the Yankees and three more than the next closest team in the Cactus League...Kansas City also leads all 30 clubs with a .750 win percentage, ahead of the Yankees (.719, 11-4-1)...this 12-4 start is the Royals' best mark after 16 exhibition games since 2013, when they began 13-2-1 on their way to a 25-7-2 spring record (.765), which was their best Spring Training record in franchise history.

+ In 18 previous seasons training in Arizona, the Royals have won the Cactus League title three times: in 2003, 2011 and 2013.

GETTING OFFENSIVE: After being shut out last night, the Royals are now tied with Colorado for the Majors lead with 91 runs in 16 games, a 5.7 runs/game average...the Royals are now second among all 30 teams with a .515 slugging percentage and .856 OPS, trailing only Milwaukee (.527, .875)...Kansas City does still lead all teams in total bases (262) and homers (29), although last night snapped an 11-game streak with a homer.

+ The Royals have had 17 different players homer this spring, including **Bobby Witt Jr.**, **Ryan O'Hearn**, **Salvador Perez**, **Jorge Soler** and **Nick Pratto** who are tied for the team lead with three...the Royals have homered in 14 of their 16 games, including a single-game high five homers on March 10 vs. Cincinnati.

+ 20-year-old **Bobby Witt Jr.** went 0-for-4 last night to snap his hit streak at six games, dropping his average to .290 (9-for-31) with a .914 OPS and a team-high-tying seven RBI...Witt Jr. is also tied for the Major League lead this spring with nine runs scored in 12 games played.

+ **Salvador Perez** has picked up where he left off last season, batting .455 (10-for-22) with a .909 slugging percentage and 1.429 OPS over 10 games.

ROSTER RUNDOWN: The Royals announced another round of roster moves prior to last night's game, optioning **Sebastian Rivero** and **Tyler Zuber**...Kansas City now has 40 players remaining in Major League camp, including 13 non-roster invitees.

ROYALS ML CAMP ROSTER

POSITION	TOTAL	40-MAN	NRI
Pitchers	21	14	7
Catchers	3	2	1
Infielders	9	6	3
Outfielders	7	5	2
TOTAL	40	27	13

+ Some of the remaining non-roster invitees include 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, 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, 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.

+ Five NRIs made the Royals' Opening Day roster in 2020, including **Greg Holland**, **Trevor Rosenthal**, **Tyler Zuber**, **Óscar Hernández** and **Erick Mejia**.

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 March 5, 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.

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.

SPRING RECORDS: Including a 12-4 mark this spring, the Royals have an all-time exhibition record of 735-668-46 (.523)...the 2021 season marks the Royals' 19th trip around the Cactus League in Arizona, and they have an exhibition record of 305-245-29 (.552) 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: 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 have priority access to select their seats for the 13 scheduled home games in April...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...starting last Sunday and lasting through the end of Spring Training, games may be shortened to 7.0 innings...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...defensive managers are no longer allowed to "roll" an inning, and 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 9.0 innings.**

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

#23 MIKE MINOR | LHP

2020 (WITH TEXAS & OAKLAND): 1-6 | 12 GAMES | 56.2 IP | 5.56 ERA | 62 SO | 20 BB

- + Mike has allowed two runs (1 ER) on just one hit over 5.0 innings this spring, but struck out five in 3.0 innings last Thursday vs. the Brewers.
- + He signed with the Royals this offseason after starting the 2020 season with Texas, then was traded to Oakland on Aug. 31 and went 1-6 with a 5.56 ERA (35 ER in 56.2 IP) and 62 strikeouts (9.85 K/9) in 12 outings (11 starts) between the two stops...he also had 3.2 scoreless innings in the postseason.
- + Minor made 65 appearances with the Royals in 2017 and went 6-6 with six saves, a 2.55 ERA (22 ER in 77.2 IP) and 88 strikeouts (10.2 K/9).
- + He was an All-Star in 2019, when he won a career-high 14 games with Texas and pitched to a 3.59 ERA (83 ER in a career-high 208.1 IP).

#87 JONATHAN BOWLAN | RHP

2020: DID NOT PITCH

- + Bowlan allowed a solo home run with three strikeouts in his only spring appearance on March 6 vs. the Giants.
- + He went 11-5 with a 3.14 ERA (51 ER in 146.0 IP) in 2019 between Lexington (A) and Wilmington (A+), earning South Atlantic League midseason All-Star honors...he ranked tied for second among Royals farmhands in wins, third in strikeouts (150) and eighth in starts (23).
- + Jonathan threw the second no-hitter in Wilmington (A+) history on July 15, 2019, and the only base runner reached on an error in the second.

#59 JAKE BRENTZ | LHP

2020: DID NOT PITCH

- + He has allowed two runs on five hits and four walks with seven strikeouts over 4.1 innings this spring, most recently pitching on Sunday.
- + 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.

#97 GRANT GAVIN | RHP

2020: DID NOT PITCH

- + Grant is a non-roster invitee this spring after participating in the Royals' Postseason Camp last October...see bio on p. 384 of online media guide.
- + He last pitched in 2019 for Northwest Arkansas, where he went 6-4 with a 3.61 ERA (21 ER in 52.1 IP) and recorded 73 strikeouts (12.6 K/9).

#81 JAKE KALISH | LHP

2020: DID NOT PITCH

- + Kalish got the save with a 1-2-3 inning on Saturday vs. the Giants, after allowing a run in 1.2 innings in his spring debut on March 1 vs. the Indians.
- + He split the 2019 season between Northwest Arkansas (AA) and Omaha (AAA) and went 8-8 in 27 appearances (11 starts).
- + He is the younger brother of **Ryan Kalish**, who pitched in the Majors with the Red Sox (2010, 2012) and Cubs (2012).

#68 JAKE NEWBERRY | RHP

2020: 1-0-1 | 20 GAMES | 22.0 IP | 4.09 ERA | 24 SO | 12 BB

- + Jake has recorded 3.2 scoreless innings with six strikeouts in his last four outings after allowing three runs (2 ER) in his spring debut (0.2 IP).
- + Newberry made 20 appearances for the Royals in 2020 and posted a 4.09 ERA (10 ER in 22.0 IP) and 24 strikeouts (9.82 K/9).
- + He had a 1.54 ERA (2 ER in 11.2 IP) through his first 11 outings and allowed one hit or fewer in 15 of his 20 appearances overall.
- + He's made 61 Major League appearances without suffering a loss, the fourth-longest streak to begin a Royals career.

#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 March 4 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.

#63 JOSH STAUMONT | RHP

2020: 2-1-0 | 26 GAMES | 25.2 IP | 2.45 ERA | 37 SO | 16 BB

- + Made his spring debut with a 1-2-3 inning on Sunday vs. the Dodgers...he made the Opening Day roster last season, posting a 2.45 ERA 97 ER in 25.2 IP) and a .215 opponents' average (20-for-93)...he did not allow an earned run in 25 of his 28 outings had 37 strikeouts in 25.2 innings (12.97 K/9).
- + He pitched to a 0.54 ERA (1 ER in 16.2 IP) with 30 strikeouts (16.2 K/9) in his first 18 outings through Sept. 5, but had a 6.00 ERA (6 ER in 9.0 IP) over his last eight outings, including a season-high-tying three runs allowed on Sept. 6 vs. the White Sox (0.1 IP) and Sept. 24 vs. Detroit (0.2 IP).
- + In six appearances on no days' rest, he had a 7.71 ERA (4 ER in 4.2 IP) and .400 opponents' average (8-for-20)—including three runs in 0.1 inning on Sept. 6—but had a 1.29 ERA (3 ER in 21.0 IP) and .164 opponents' average (12-for-73) in his remaining 22 appearances with at least one day of rest.
- + Josh accounted for five of the top six highest-velocity pitches in the Majors in 2020, including a 102.2 mph pitch on Aug. 19 vs. Cincinnati, which tied for the highest velocity on any pitch thrown in the Majors...had 36 pitches recorded at 100.0 mph or higher, third most in the Majors, and his 20 pitches at 101.0 mph or higher were most in the Majors, 10 more than **Aroldis Chapman**, who finished second.

#95 JACE VINES | RHP

2020: DID NOT PITCH

- + Vines is a non-roster invitee this spring after last pitching in 2019 with Northwest Arkansas, where he had a 5.47 ERA (31 ER in 51.0 IP) in 11 outings.
- + He was a South Atlantic League All-Star in 2017 after going 12-8 with a 3.45 ERA (56 ER in 146.0 IP) across three levels.

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)	Davis (1-0)	Gatto	Barlow (1)	1-0	2,024	15	3/15 vs. SF	W 6-1	Duffy (1-1)	Banda	n/a	12-3	2,095
2	3/1 at CLE*	W 8-6	Kowar (1-0)	Bieber	Snider (1)	2-0	1,488	16	3/16 vs. SEA* TV	L 13-0	Sheffield	Keller (1-1)	n/a	12-4	2,096
3	3/2 at CHC*	L 3-2 (7)	Maples	Lynch (0-1)	Jewell	2-1	3,225	17	3/17 at OAK	1:05 MT					
4	3/3 vs. CWS^	W 6-5 (6)	Lovelady (1-0)	Sousa (0-1)	Barlow (2)	3-1	1,819	18	3/18 at CWS^	1:05 MT					
5	3/4 at CIN	W 5-3	Brentz (1-0)	Santillan (0-1)	Newberry (1)	4-1	1,869	19	3/19 vs. LAA TV	1:05 MT					
6	3/5 vs. LAD* ^{ESPN}	L 7-5	Kickham	Kowar (1-1)	Romero	4-2	2,056	20	3/20 at ARI*	1:10 MT					
7	3/6 at SF	W 8-6	Brach (1-0)	Gott	Kalish (1)	5-2	1,272	21	3/21 vs. COL* TV	1:05 MT					
8	3/7 at SD* ^{TV}	W 4-3	Hahn (1-0)	Ramirez	Newberry (2)	6-2	1,762	22	3/22 vs. SD^	1:05 MT					
9	3/8 vs. OAK*	W 10-3 (7)	Singer (1-0)	Dunshee	n/a	7-2	2,036		3/23 OFF						
10	3/9 at SEA^	L 6-3	Newsome	Duffy (0-1)	n/a	7-3	1,770	23	3/24 at LAA*	1:10 MT					
11	3/10 vs. CIN TV	W 9-3	Keller (1-0)	Lorenzen	n/a	8-3	1,969	24	3/25 vs. ARI* TV	1:05 MT					
12	3/11 at MIL	W 4-2 (7)	Minor (1-0)	Lindblom	Lovelady (1)	9-3	2,203	25	3/26 at TEX	6:05 MT					
	3/12 OFF							26	3/27 vs. MIL*	1:05 MT					
13	3/13 vs. CHC*	W 10-2 (7)	Lynch (1-1)	Alzolay	n/a	10-3	2,168	27	3/28 at COL*	1:10 MT					
14	3/14 at LAD*	W 8-4	Singer (2-0)	Urias	n/a	11-3	2,331	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