

## 2009 WHITMAN RIVER RATS EMERGENCY INSTRUCTIONS

I will be playing the computer game for 2009, roster moves TBA as will be sending monthly instructions.

### Apr-09 COMPLETE 2009 ROSTER

Computer managers please send game sheets and do not use auto manager

#### Position Players:

NAME	TEAM	AGE	SHIFT	SSN	SPD	SBA	ARM	GAMES/AB	PB	TH	#24's	31's	HOW ACQUIRED
J. BURKE	SEA	37	+6/-7	14	7	1	32	48/99	1	0	2	2	TRADE 09 MID
C. DUFFY	PITT	28		<i>No Card</i>				<i>No Card</i>					06 BONUS PICK
J. ELLSBURY	BOS	25	-1/-1	32	19	61	33	145/554			1	2	08 1ST RD PICK
C. FLOYD	TB	36	-8/-1	26	6	1	28	80/246			0	1	TRADE 09 POR
R. GARKO	CLEV	28	+4/-3	N	4	0	32	141/495			1	1	07 4TH RD PICK
E. HINSKE	TB	32	-14/+1	30	8	13	30	133/381			2	1	TRADE 09 MEL
S. HOLM	SF	29	+5/-4	14	9	1	32	49/84	4	-4	2	1	09 5TH RD PICK
C. IZTURIS	STL	29	+3/-4	31	11	30	32	135/414			0	2	TRADE 08 NW
M. JACOBS	FLA	28	-8/+1	26	4	1	31	141/477			0	1	06 1ST RD PICK
G. JENKINS	PHIL	33	-13/0	20	8	2	34	115/293			1	1	99 2ND RD PICK
K. JOHNSON	ATL	27	0/-2	25	17	17	30	150/547			0	2	06 2ND RD PICK
A. JONES	LAD	31	+5/-5	14	10	1	34	75/209			1	1	97 1ST RD PICK
J. KENT	LAD	41	+1/-2	14	5	1	32	121/440			2	1	TRADE 08 HUD
N. MARKAKIS	BAL	25	-4/0	23	15	17	37	157/595			0	2	07 1ST RD PICK
R. PAULINO	PITT	28	+4/-3	N	7	0	33	40/118	1	-1	2	2	07 2ND RD PICK
J. PIERRE	LAD	32	+5/-4	30	18	52	29	119/375			0	3	TRADE 09 GOH
M. REYNOLDS	ARIZ	25	+8/-4	32	15	13	33	152/539			1	1	08 2ND RD PICK
B. RYAN	STL	27	0/-2	30	15	9	33	80/198			1	2	08 3RD RD PICK
F. TATIS	NYM	34	-1/-1	33	7	3	32	92/273			1	1	09 3RD RD PICK
C. THOMAS	DET	25	-1/-1	31	15	2	32	40/116			0	2	09 6TH RD PICK
J. VALENTIN	CINN	32	-4/0	N	5	0	34	94/129	2	-3	0	1	TRADE RYE 08

ACTIVE ROSTER      MINOR LEAGUES

#### Pitchers:

NAME	TEAM	AGE	GRADE	BB	HR	ARM	FAT	STARTS/RIP	WP	BK	HB	MF	HOW ACQUIRED
J. CARLSON	TOR	28	*19	23	0	L	5	*60	2			3	09 BONUS PICK
T. COFFEY	MILW	28	*6	15	-16	R	6	*27	0	0		1	06 5TH RD PICK
J. COLOME	WASH	31	*12	-43	23	R	7	*71	3	0		0	08 5TH RD PICK
A. COOK	COL	31	7	31	34	R	28	32	2	0		3	TRADE MID 06
M. GARZA	TB	25	12	13	12	R	26	30	1			1	08 1ST RD PICK
C. KERSHAW	LAD	21	10	-33	14	L	23/7	21/*1	3	0		0	09 1ST RD PICK
A. LAFFEY	CLEV	24	8	13	12	L	26	16	3			2	08 3RD RD PICK
K. LOHSE	STL	30	9	26	21	R	25	33	2	0		0	TRADE HUD 09
O. PEREZ	WASH	32	7	14	-13	L	25	30	2			1	TRADE LA 08
S. RIVERA	WASH	31	*8	-15	51	R	7	*84	3			0	07 5TH RD PICK
G. SHERRILL	BAL	32	*11	-45	0	L	6	*54	1	0		1	TRADE WAKE 07
B. SHOUSE	MILW	31	*13	33	13	L	5	*52	1	0	0	2	TRADE DALLAS 05
B. TALLEY	TOR	31	*13	0	31	L	7	*57	0	0		0	07 4TH RD PICK
C. VILLANUEVA	MILW	25	1/*17	22	-23	R	31/8	9/*60	3	0		1	TRADE 09 HOU

#### 2009 TEAM STATEMENT:

Gone is the terrible rotation that anchored one of the worst pitching staff's in TBL in 2008. Some of the young new arms are producing as the rotation is solid from top to bottom. The bullpen will be a key to what we hope will be a major turnaround this season. 120 innings of grade 17+ and another 235 double digit innings make up the back end of a solid staff. The offense is vastly different as this years lineup has some strong batting avg cards from top to bottom and the regulars combine for 224 stolen base attempts. We will challenge for the division crown in 2008 and who knows, maybe do some December damage. There is plenty of bench for every scenario and lots of relief IP so depth will be key and using the depth will be fun this year. Players cut for the 2008 season are as follows: M. Ensberg (U), D. Johnson (U), M. McBride (U), K. Wells (U), A. Gonzalez, C. Shelton (U) and W. Littleton (U). Management wishes the best to these players and hopes that we will not need to draft any of them next year. Good luck and have a great season.

## Whitman River Rats      Pitching Instructions

**Overview:** This is the first time in many years that the 162 starts will be covered by only 6 pitchers. This years rotation is a vast improvement over last year. It isn't truly a strength of this team but it won't hurt us much either. I expect to get a minimum of 5 IP from starters most days and from the top guys I am hoping for 6 or 7. The bullpen is fairly deep and is very balanced. You will always have at least 3 LHP and some months there will be 7 relievers. Use them as early and as often as needed to keep us in the game. I don't care who gets the win or the save as long as we win!

### **WHITMAN RIVER RATS PITCHING ROTATION:**

#### **PITCHER IDENTIFICATION KEY:**

1-Garza, 2-Lohse, 3-Cook, 4-Perez, 5-Kershaw, 6-Laffey

<b>APRIL</b>		<b>MAY</b>		<b>JUNE</b>		<b>JULY</b>	
vs COL	1 thru 4	4,3,2,1	@DAL	1 thru 5	6,4,5,3,2	vs BH	1 thru 4
@BH	6 thru 8	4,3,2	@LA	6 thru 9	6,4,5,3	vs GOH	6 thru 8
@GOH	10 thru 13	1,4,3,2	vs ZIO	11 thru 14	2,6,4,3	@COL	9 thru 11
@LV	14 thru 17	5,1,4,3	vs MAR	15 thru 18	5,2,6,4	@BRO	12 thru 16
vs RYE	19 thru 23	2,1,4,3,5	vs MUN	20 thru 23	3,2,6,4	vs HOU	18 thru 21
<b>AUGUST</b>		<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		<b>OCTOBER</b>		<b>NOVEMBER</b>	
vs HUD	1 thru 4	3,1,2,4	vs COL	3 thru 5	2,1,3	@HOU	1 thru 4*
vs POR	5 thru 8	6,3,1,2	@BH	6 thru 9	5,4,2,1	@GC	6 thru 9
vs MLR	10 thru 13	4,3,1,2	@GOH	10 thru 12	3,5,4	vs LV	10 thru 14
@KAN	14 thru 17	6,4,3,1	@RYE	14 thru 17	2,1,3,4	vs DAL	15 thru 18
@RIC	18 thru 21	2,6,4,3	vs LA	18 thru 22	5,2,1,3,4	@WAK	20 thru 23

#### **STARTING PITCHERS**

**GARZA:** Last years top pick is this years ace for 30 starts. He has solid peripherals and a nice grade so I expect to get 6 to 7 IP from him most days. Look for better LHP options if he gets in big trouble after 5 but try to stick with him before 5.

**COOK:** This guy has become the horse of this staff and he makes 32 very solid trips to the hill in 09. There sure are better grades in the bullpen but his outstanding peripherals and 28 fatigue should mean he goes 5+ most days.

**LOHSE:** A solid grade 9 with strong peripherals this trade acquisition will make 33 solid starts. I would expect him to pitch into the 6th pretty much every time out but his short fatigue of 25 may mean an early exit some days. There are better grades in the pen so look for them after 5 unless we lead by 4+.

**PEREZ:** This LHP was a total surprise as he turns in a very respectable grade 7 with decent peripherals. On the other hand, he is the weakest starter and there will be days he gets knocked around early. On those days, rescue him quickly if that is what is needed to keep us in the game but try for 5.

**LAFFEY:** This LHP has the grade and peripherals to get us 5 innings most days so that is the goal. 6 would be better but there are much better grades in the pen so don't let the game get away from him. If he is pitching with the lead then let him go, if tied or trailing after 5 then look to the pen.

**KERSHAW:** There will be better grades and control in future years. For this year, keep the kid on a very short leash. He has a decent grade 10 but his control will get him in trouble. After 5, don't let him face a stacked shifted lineup because there are too many better options in the bullpen this year.

#### **RELIF PITCHERS**

**CARLSON:** The likely choice to close most days, he can go 1.1 per outing. His grade and control make him the best choice most days but if a RHP works better then he can set up.

**VILLANUEVA:** The obvious choice for setup work in the 7th & 8th. He can also close when a RHP is needed. He can go 2 IP per outing if needed but is probably better in 1 inning spells.

**TALLET:** He is the key LHP setup guy, his + HR, strong grade and 7 fatigue mean he will be the primary LHP late in games. He can go 2IP per outing & should be used to compliment Villanueva.

**SHOUSE:** Middle setup guy, he has great control and can be used late in games as setup or as early as the 6th to put out a fire. He can go 1.2 IP per outing but watch his short fatigue of 5. Better to use him when a walk would be devastating.

**COLOME:** Many days he will be the first RHP out of the pen to rescue a LHP. He can go up to 2.2 IP per outing and should be used primarily earlier in games. His poor control means that you will need to keep an eye on him in a very tight game.

**SHERRILL:** He should be the first LHP out of the pen to get a RHP out of a jam. He is the primary long innings guy as well so he can go 2.2 IP per outing. Use as LHP specialist otherwise. Try to avoid using him late (7th +) in a close (3+-) game.

**RIVERA:** When active, his primary role will be to come into the game following a LHP starter who is in a jam or is out of gas. He can go 2.2 IP per outing so use him early and often. I guess he will be a "valet" to Laffey and Perez when he is up.

**COFFEY:** He is not likely to see any action in 2009 but if he is active then his only role would be long relief mop up duty. Burn up his innings in a blowout if he is on the active roster.

**Items Of Note-** Any starter pitching a shut out should be left in with a chance to advance his grade. There is plenty of bullpen so if in doubt, go to the pen and don't let a game get out of hand particularly after the 5th inning. I don't care who gets the win or the save and I don't need complete games. Go with the pitcher that gives us the best chance to win the game.

#### **Pitching Strategy**

**Intentional Walks:** At any point in the game vs a stud with 2 out and 1st base open with a better match up waiting on deck. Never to load the bases though.

**Pitch from Stretch:** Always with a SB threat on 3B with SSN of 15 or better any time during game.

**Hold Runner:** Always with +/- score with adjusted SSN of 20+ any time during game.

## Offensive Strategy:

The 2008 lineup boasts 3 starters with multiple 1st column "11's" and should get on base regularly. There are 220+ SBA's and we will use them frequently. There is no big scary card in this lineup so straight steals and speed will make up some of the difference. The lineup is dotted with some healthy power cards that are all or nothing so when we get to that part of the lineup we become more of a station to station team. I expect road managers to use 2-3 steal attempts per game, I know that is hard to do but I will ask you to anyway.

**Usage:** There are 3 platoons (3B, DH and C) and no significant limits to any player on this roster so feel free to use anyone in any situation but don't use Tatis as a PH. None of my other regulars will be resting on the road so go crazy.

**Lineups:** I have always sent lineups monthly and expect to do so this year. Use the lineups at the bottom of this page if you don't hear from me by the 4th of the month but that is unlikely.

Position & Player	Role	When to sub for: PH/PR/Defense	When to use off the bench	When to keep in the game
<b>Catcher:</b> <b>Valentin</b>	Primary starter VS RHP.	Rarely ever leaves game when starting, only if winning/tying run for PH in 8th+	To finish game if other C was PH for.	Always unless for PH late.
<b>Burke</b>	Primary starter vs LHP.	After 6th do not let him face a RHP if we are trailing or tied and AB does not lead off inning.	For D in 9th or as PH vs LHP.	Always with the lead or if he replaced the other C.
<b>Holm</b>	Burke's roll for 2 months.	Same as Burke	As PH vs LHP.	Same as Burke
<b>1ST BASE:</b> <b>Hinske</b>	Primary starter all season.	He can be lifted for a PH after 7th if tied or trailing vs board LHP only. Also, PR for if win/tying run in scoring pos 9th.	Try to avoid using him off the bench but likely to start all road games.	Any time we are leading.
<b>Jacobs</b>	Spot starter vs board LHP	He will be lifted in a save situation for D. He can be PH for after 7th if we trail by 3+ and need a baserunner.	When a PH HR will tie game after 7th.	Any time we are leading.
<b>Garko</b>	Rare starter, D replacement.	Any time vs RHP remove for PH.	Late inning defense.	When leading for his D.
<b>2ND BASE:</b> <b>K. Johnson</b>	Primary starter all season.	Never	He will always be starting on the road.	Always.
<b>3RD BASE:</b> <b>Tatis</b>	Primary starter VS RHP.	Only vs boards tough LHP in the 8th+, PH for him with a better shift.	Never, if he is not starting don't use him.	Always.
<b>Reynolds</b>	Primary starter vs LHP.	Any time after 7th if we trail and his spot comes to bat vs RHP.	Primary option for infield replacement or PR.	As long as we have lead and or LHP is in the game.
<b>SHORT:</b> <b>Izturis</b>	Primary starter all season.	Only for a PH late in games if we trail.	He will always be starting on the road.	Always with the lead for his defense.
<b>Ryan</b>	Spot starter vs some board RHP.	Any time after 7th if we trail and his spot comes to bat.	Primary option for infield replacement or PR.	If we need his glove at SS because Izturis has left the game.
<b>CF:</b> <b>Ellsbury</b>	Primary starter all season.	Never, do not remove him.	He will always be starting on the road.	Always.
<b>RF:</b> <b>Markakis</b>	Primary starter all season.	Never, do not remove him.	He will always be starting on the road.	Always.
<b>LF:</b> <b>Pierre</b>	Primary starter all season.	Rarely but if we trail late vs boards mgr he can be lifted for grade 14+ RHP for a pinch hitter (Thomas).	As a PR or PH vs LHP or for defense if others are used up.	If we are leading, always.
<b>LF:</b> <b>Floyd</b>	Spot starter in LF.	After 7th he can be PH for vs LHP. Remove after AB in 7th for D replacement w/lead <3.	Primary option for RHP power and OBP PH.	Through 7th.
<b>OF:</b> <b>Thomas</b>	4th OF, spot start, PH, PR.	Only remove if there is a much better hitter available late and we trail.	Primary PR option, for late D and as PH.	Almost always.
<b>LF:</b> <b>Jenkins</b>	Defensive replacement.	He really shouldn't be allowed to hit, much better options avail.	Late inning defense.	When he is the late innings D.
<b>DH:</b> <b>Jacobs</b>	Primary starter VS RHP.	He can be PH for after 7th if we trail by 3+ and need a baserunner. Also PR for if game winning/tying run.	When a PH HR will tie game after 7th.	Any time we are leading.
<b>Kent</b>	Primary starter vs LHP.	He can be hit for vs tough RHP 7th+ or be PR for after 7th.	Any time as PH vs LHP or RHP.	As long as we have lead.

### **VS Board Opponent Lineups**

vs RHP Gr 13 or lower	vs RHP Gr 14+	vs LHP Gr 13 or lower	vs LHP Gr 14+
1. Ellsbury CF	1. Ellsbury CF	1. Ellsbury CF	1. Ellsbury CF
2. Pierre LF	2. K. Johnson 2B	2. Pierre LF	2. Pierre LF
3. Markakis RF	3. Markakis RF	3. Kent DH	3. Kent DH
4. Tatis 3B	4. Tatis 3B	4. Markakis RF	4. Tatis 1B
5. Hinske 1B	5. Hinske 1B	5. K. Johnson 2B	5. Johnson 2B
6. K. Johnson 2B	6. Jacobs DH	6. Reynolds 3B	6. Markakis RF
7. Jacobs DH	7. Thomas LF	7. Jacobs 1B	7. Reynolds 3B
8. Izturis SS	8. Valentin C	8. Izturis SS	8. Izturis SS
9. Valentin C	9. Ryan SS	9. Burke/Holm C	9. Burke/Holm C

### **VS Computer Opponent Lineups**

vs RHP	vs LHP
1. Ellsbury CF	1. Ellsbury CF
2. Pierre LF	2. Pierre LF
3. Markakis RF	3. Kent DH
4. Tatis 3B	4. Markakis RF
5. Hinske 1B	5. K. Johnson 2B
6. K. Johnson 2B	6. Reynolds 3B
7. Jacobs DH	7. Jacobs 1B
8. Izturis SS	8. Izturis SS
9. Valentin C	9. Burke/Holm C

## Defense

**Outfield Throws:** For lead runner w/ advance # of 34 or less unless winning run 9th+. Otherwise throw behind lead. Vs computer, never when runner is "well-around". You may use Adams Tables or your own judgement if it differs greatly from my instructions.

**Infield:** Play deep for the first 7 innings. After 7, play close with 0 or 1 out, 1B open, IBB is not an option tied or trailing by 5 or fewer runs.

### Defensive Guidelines:

Defensively this team is not very strong. We do have a SS 9 most days and two OF 3's but all the rest are either F2 or F3. I usually like to have a defensive specialist on the bench but this year the starters are usually the best glove men.

**CATCHER:** We have 4 C 7's so the only difference is the TH rating for each. When **Valentin** starts he should always remain in the game if we lead by 3+. Otherwise look to get **Burke** in (TH+0) any time we lead by 2 or less in the 9th.

**1B:** **Hinske** is the only 1B3 most months. If we lead he should remain at 1B. If **Garko** is up he comes in for D.

**2B:** **K. Johnson** starts all road games and should finish all games unless injured. **Ryan** is the backup.

**3B:** **Reynolds** and **Tatis** are the regulars and there is no better option for defense this year.

**SS:** **Izturis** and his SS9 should always play with the lead or tie. **Ryan** is our only other SS.

**Outfield:** **Markakis** is the everyday RF and will never exit the game, he is OF3 with 37 arm. CF will be handled in similar fashion by **Ellsbury** who will start and finish most road games. **Pierre** is the regular LF and if he leaves the game for a PH then **Thomas** is the choice to replace him. Use **Jenkins** as a defensive replacement if he is available.

## Offense

### Offensive Strategies:

**Pinch Hitters:** There is a primary PH for LHP and for RHP on the bench each month. Both are of pretty good quality so use aggressively. Here is a breakdown by player groupings of who to hit for in what situation and some suggested hitters.

**GROUP 1- K. Johnson, Tatis, Ellsbury, Thomas and Markakis-** This group should almost never be lifted for a PH.

There are not many better options anyway but with limited shifts they should play most of the time.

**GROUP 2- Hinske, Pierre, Jacobs, Kent, Valentin, Izturis & Floyd-** These guys are all starters and should not be hit for if we lead, but if we trail in the 8th you can lift for PH or if tied from 9th on consider a better shift advantage.

**GROUP 3- Reynolds, Ryan, Burke, Holm, Garko & Jenkins-** This group can be hit for any time after 6 if we trail. Most have major shift issues or are weaker bats so obviously you are looking to counter a reliever with a bench shift.

Please use batters in this order unless board shifts dictate otherwise:

VS RHP **Floyd, Thomas, Kent** and then **Ryan**.

VS LHP **Kent, Thomas, Reynolds, Burke, Holm** then **Ryan**.

*If possible try to bring in PH who will play defensively for guy he is replacing but not always practical.*

**Pinch Run:** When we are in the 7th tied/trailing by 3- or up 1, consider pinch running. Candidates

to run for are: **Valentin, Jacobs, Kent** and **Floyd**. Also, any non 'F' in the 9th+ winning or

tying run. Please use in this order: **Reynolds, Ryan, Thomas, Pierre** and **Garza or Perez** if SB is not critical.

The primary guys are **Reynolds** and **Ryan**. Both can steal a base (SSN 32 & 30) when needed.

**H&R or SBA:** When Pierre is batting, with any runner who has SBA remaining, hit and run is the first option. Otherwise, the steal attempt will be our top option from innings 1-9. We have 200+ quality SBA and intend to use them all.

**SBA:** As stated above, this is the top option most of the time. **Pierre, Ellsbury, Reynolds** and **Izturis** always have the green light to steal unless your battery is a combined +4 or better. After the 7th facing a battery combined +1 or less, **Ryan** and **Hinske** should attempt to steal 2nd base. I don't like to steal 3rd or home unless vs board with 22+ chances.

**H&R:** Any time **Pierre** bats with any baserunner please hit and run as a first option. If SB is not the best option based on the above directions then both **Ellsbury** and **Izturis** should hit and run with any of the following baserunners on:

**Pierre, Ellsbury, Izturis, Markakis, Johnson, Hinske, Reynolds** and **Ryan**.

**Sac:** From 7th inning on with 0 out and runners on 1st or 1st & 2nd with score +1/-1 then consider sacrificing. Always look to sacrifice in 9th+ with tying or winning run on 2nd and no outs.

**Baserunning:** Please send runner with 28+ chances and never with less than 18 chances. Otherwise use your best judgement. **COMPUTER:** Always send runner who is "well around".