

# RENEGADES



April 2024  
30th Anniversary  
Edition

## 30 Years of Renegades Baseball

*Celebrating the last three decades of  
baseball in the Hudson Valley*

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Dear Renegades Fans & Partners,

On behalf of our incredible staff here at the Renegades, we'd like to welcome you back to Heritage Financial Park for our 30th anniversary season! 2024 marks our fourth season as a proud New York Yankees affiliate, and if the last three years have been any indication, we can't wait to welcome the future stars of tomorrow and watch their journey originate right here at your home away from home.

If you're sitting in your seats while reading this, you're probably looking out onto the field and into the heart of the facility and noticing how transformative the ballpark looks. We have a beautiful new field and a brand-new, state of the art, multi-purpose facility that hosts the Yankees players and coaches, and serves as the most premium hospitality destination in the Hudson Valley. Additionally, we have increased our seating options with additional seating sections that are closer to the Renegades dugout, added more premium group areas due to popular demand, and have added more public restrooms along the 3rd base line. These changes aren't possible without a loyal fanbase who continues to support the team year after year, so THANK YOU!

In addition to all of the amazing ballpark upgrades, we have a jam-packed promotional schedule this season where we are raising the stakes of fun! Every Tuesday and Saturday, 1,000 fans will receive a giveaway item, we will light up the night sky with the best fireworks show in town every Friday night (and select additional nights throughout the year), and we will continue to be community pioneers by giving back to the local, regional, national, and international baseball community. We've also invested in the gameday fan experience by adding live music EVERY NIGHT and enhancing our Sunday Family Fundays with more activities for the kids than ever before!

Our mission statement is to create magical experiences that become lifelong memories for our entire community. Everyday we strive to be better at living by this mission statement and we need your help in holding us accountable to providing the best experience in town. Simply put, our staff is obsessed with providing the best possible fan experience. Everything we do, touch, or even think, is always with a "fans first" mentality. Every single staff member is here to serve you and we encourage you to ask us questions, provide feedback, but most importantly HAVE FUN! On behalf of our full-time staff, part-time staff, interns, Diamond Baseball Holdings, the Yankees, and our partners in Dutchess County government, we thank you for your incredible support! It has been an amazing 30 years of serving the Hudson Valley community, and we look forward to the next 30!

Best baseball wishes,

Zach Betkowski  
General Manager  
Hudson Valley Renegades



# Ballpark Map





# HERITAGE

Financial Credit Union

Dear Renegades Fans,

On behalf of the Heritage Financial Credit Union team, I want to welcome everyone back to Heritage Financial Park! We had a successful and fruitful year working together during the first year of our partnership with the Hudson Valley Renegades. From the start, we established a strong and positive relationship which laid the foundation for a successful partnership. We collaborated on various projects, events, and initiatives that showcased our shared values and commitment to the community.

As a Credit Union which has served communities in and around the Hudson Valley for 84 years, providing community support is in our DNA and is aligned in how we conduct our business. Additionally, we are thrilled to announce the opening of our new Heritage Financial Credit Union Branch in Wappingers Falls, which is conveniently located less than a half a mile away from Heritage Financial Park. This full-service new branch will provide our members with easy access to financial services and support, further enhancing our commitment to serving the community.

The opening of our new branch in such close proximity to the park is a testament to our dedication to being a part of the community. We understand the importance of convenience and accessibility for our members, and this new branch will allow us to better serve your financial needs.

Throughout last year, we actively engaged with the Renegades and fans through various initiatives, events, and promotions. With this season being our second year at Heritage Financial Park, we look forward to continuing support for a number of Renegades community programs such as the Youth Field Betterment Program, Community Star Award, Outstanding Student Athlete Program, and the Renegades Education program to name just a few.

Aside from these impactful programs, you will see Credit Union team members attending Renegades home games again this season to support and sponsor additional programs, as well as fun and entertaining events. As we reflect on our first year of partnership with the Hudson Valley Renegades and the opening of our new Wappingers Falls branch, we are excited about the future. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with the Renegades, supporting the team, and providing exceptional financial services to the community. Together, we will strive to make a positive impact and create lasting memories for fans and members alike.

We wish the Renegades a fantastic season ahead, now let's play some ball!

Warm Regards,

Michael J. Ciriello, President/CEO  
Heritage Financial Credit Union





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**Phone:** 1-845-561-5607  
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## **DUTCHESS COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

April 16, 2024

Dear Renegades Fans,

Welcome back to Heritage Financial Park for the Hudson Valley Renegades' 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary season at this great Dutchess County park. Just like you, I'm filled with pride and excitement to see Dutchess County's home team take the field for what I'm sure will be another fun and successful campaign.

It seems like only yesterday the Renegades won their inaugural home game, 3-2 in extra innings against the Pittsfield Mets, on June 18, 1994 – the first of hundreds of victories to follow in front of thousands of cheering Dutchess County residents and families. Since that first victory, this County park has been the home to future major-league all-stars, World Series champions, and even a few big-league managers. Along the way, the Renegades have also captured three leagues titles, bringing championship baseball to Dutchess County.

With the support of the Dutchess County Legislature, Dutchess County Government has invested in this park over the years, improving the fan experience and, in turn, attracting spectators from not only the Hudson Valley, but the northeast region and beyond. Our county has seen a return on these investments, as increased sales tax revenue on souvenirs and concessions at stadium, additional bookings at local hotels, and more diners at our unique eateries.

Whether you're a long-time Renegades season ticket holder or attending your first game at our park, you are part of a 30-year tradition of wholesome, family-friendly entertainment which has drawn several million fans to our community. Just as last year's New York Yankees boasted several former Renegades, you'll likely find many of the players you watch this season at Yankee Stadium in the coming years.

Dutchess County and I wish Renegades manager Nick Ortiz, his players, and coaches every success this season on the field this season. I'm confident Renegades fans like me will be vocal in their support for our very own boys of summer during all 66 games here at Heritage Financial Park. We also know General Manager Zach Betkowski and his staff will again work hard to ensure an amazing experience for fans, from Opening Night until the final out in September, and we wish them good luck with the season ahead.

With so many talented people on the field and in the front office, I know the 2024 Renegades season will continue the legacy of making memories for fans that has endured since 1994, with countless more memories yet to be made this year.

Play ball!

Sue Serino  
Dutchess County Executive



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# Front Office Staff



**Zach Betkowski**, *General Manager*

**Rick Zolzer**, *VP, Game Day Promotions & Programming*

**Will Young**, *Senior Director, Corporate Partnerships & Ticket Sales*

**Marcella Costello**, *Senior Director, Marketing & Fan Experience*

**Tom Hubmaster**, *Senior Director, Stadium Operations & Special Events*

**Joe Vasile**, *Director, PR & Broadcasting*

**Cole Single**, *Manager, Corporate Partnerships*

**Peggie Hyatt**, *Manager, Finance*

**Jamie Goerke**, *Manager, Game Day Promotions & Programming*

**Luke Sawhook**, *Manager, Social Media & Marketing*

**Ryan Stuto**, *Manager, Video Production*

**Brendan Lunn**, *Graphic Designer*

**Luis Flores**, *Manager, Retail Merchandise*

**Jessica Levinson**, *Manager, Ticket Operations*

**Erin Dietz**, *Account Executive, Ticket Sales*

**Zack Soffer**, *Account Executive, Ticket Sales*

**Ray O’Keeffe**, *Account Executive, Ticket Sales*

**Mariah Tlougan**, *Manager, Special Events*

**Jack Dumoulin**, *Director, Stadium Operations*

**Tanner Puff**, *Manager, Field Operations*

**Teresa Robinson**, *Office Manager*



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# 30 Years

Of Renegades Baseball

By: Joe Vasile

Celebrating the last  
**three decades**  
of baseball in the  
**Hudson Valley**



When the Goldklang Family decided to move the Erie Sailors to New York's Mid-Hudson Valley for the 1994 season, it was the beginning of something truly special. Some people, though, were skeptical – many Class Short-Season A teams hadn't had staying power in their markets, they said – but the Goldklangs and others trying to return professional baseball to the Hudson Valley knew the potential for success that was nestled here.

Thirty years later, the Hudson Valley Renegades have grown to become the High-A affiliate of the New York Yankees, aligned with the most-recognizable sports brand in the world. They are a source of pride and affordable family fun for the community, and recent joint investments in Heritage Financial Park by Dutchess County and Diamond Baseball Holdings, the team's current ownership group, will ensure that professional baseball maintains a long-lasting presence in the area. By any definition, the Renegades have proved the nay-sayers wrong many times over and been an astounding success.

On the field, the Renegades have been one of the most-successful franchises in Minor League Baseball over the last 30 years. Entering the 2024 season, 127 former Hudson Valley Renegades players have reached the Major Leagues, making an impact on the game. In 26 years in the New York-Penn League, the Renegades won three Nader Cup Championships, in 1999, 2012 and 2017, and competed for the league title many more times.

Former Renegades have gone on to be All-Stars, Rookies of the Year, MVPs and World Series Champions. Since the start of the 2012 season, the Renegades have the best winning percentage of any active MiLB team, having won 57.5% of their games over their last 11 seasons. The Hudson Valley has been a hot bed for professional baseball, with alumni highlighting rosters around MLB. Many Renegades die-hards can reminisce about Evan Longoria beginning his professional career with the Gades in 2006 with eight dominant games before being promoted. Others could tell you about Josh Hamilton's two stints in the Hudson Valley – in 1999 and then again in 2006. The hardest-core fans could entertain with stories about Dan Grummitt's 22 home runs in 1999, or Mark Little's shenanigans in 1994.

But whether you are a fan who can rattle off statistics of some of the greats of the past like Wade Davis, a Yankees fan hoping to catch a glimpse of the next Bronx Bomber star like Anthony Volpe, or a casual fan looking for a fun, affordable night of entertainment, Heritage Financial Park has had something for everyone.

For 30 years, the cornerstone of the Renegades baseball experience has been the team's second-to-none game entertainment, featuring zany promotional nights, one-of-a-kind giveaways and more smiles and even a couple weddings and vow renewals. On-field emcee Rick Zolzer has been front-and-center as the proverbial ringleader of the Renegades circus, a role which has earned him recognition and infamy throughout the Hudson Valley and Minor League Baseball.



One of Zolz's most-memorable escapades came on August 1, 1995, when the Renegades were playing the Batavia Clippers in what seemed like just another weeknight game in the New York-Penn League. Nothing special, right? Wrong. After the umpiring crew called a series of five balks during the game, a sound effect was played over the PA system that the umpires felt was mocking them, and Zolz was ejected, becoming the first-known PA announcer to be ejected from a professional baseball game.

The moment was mentioned in *Sports Illustrated* and memorialized in a 2021 giveaway depicting Zolz waving to the crowd while climbing out the window of the PA booth. It is still remembered with all with a chuckle by all involved, including the umpires.

If not Zolz, the center of attention for the Renegades over the past 30 years has been the ever-growing family of mascots. Starting with Rookie in 1994, Rene was soon introduced and married Rookie on the field in 1997 in a touching pregame ceremony. They soon welcomed a son, Rascal, in 2000, and now it is his turn to get married, to a lovely skunk named Rosie, during the 2024 season. Rookie and Rene retired to Boca Raton, Florida several years back, but still make occasional appearances at Heritage Financial Park.

That was just one small off-the-field moment in three decades of life-long memories made for the entire community. On the field, the Renegades brought three New York-Penn League championships home to the Hudson Valley – in 1999, 2012 and 2017 – and have won the South Atlantic League North Division in two of the three seasons they have competed in that circuit.

In fact, since the start of the 2012 Minor League Baseball season, the Renegades have been one of the most-successful teams in the sport. Not only has the Hudson Valley enjoyed 11 straight winning seasons and two league championships, but the Renegades have played in their league championship series five times.

All the while, the biggest impact made on the team is not in the scores of Major Leaguers who have called Dutchess County home, but the way the organization has been able to touch the lives of the community in and out of the ballpark.

Starting in 2017, the Renegades have put on an annual Disability, Dream and Do (D3) Day camp at the ballpark where children with disabilities participate in a baseball camp run by Renegades players. It is an unforgettable day and the highlight of the award-winning Renegades Community Program presented by Westchester Medical Center Health Network, which over the last three years has exponentially grown.

The Renegades Front Office donates tens of thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours of time annually to community organizations making an impact in our backyard. Beginning in 2023 through the community partnership with Heritage Financial Credit Union, the Renegades and HFCU staff team up to renovate a local youth baseball field to support the grassroots growth of baseball and softball in the Hudson Valley.

Having the team here has generated multiple millions of dollars in economic impact in the Mid-Hudson Valley through jobs and events that have brought people from all over the country to our beautiful area.

The first 30 years of Renegades baseball has meant so many different things to different people, and that has been the beauty of it. Whether you're a die-hard or casual fan, coming to a professional baseball game is an experience that anyone can enjoy. We can only guess what the next 30 years of Renegades baseball have in store, but it promises to be more fun and thrills for the whole family.



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# What's New in 2024:

Brand-new fun & excitement coming to **Heritage Financial Park**

By: **Joe Vasile**

The dawn of a new season brings eternal hope to baseball fans around the world. There are always so many new things to enjoy at the ballpark while cheering on their favorite team. At Heritage Financial Park this season, Renegades fans will notice many new and exciting changes to the ballpark, which has recently completed the biggest transformation in its 30-year history. The Renegades, Dutchess County, and Diamond Baseball Holdings have recently completed a multi-year, multi-phase ballpark transformation project which has radically changed the look and feel of the ballpark for both fans and players.

The most notable new feature for 2024 is the WMCHHealth Club Lounge down the left field line. Serving as an upscale, all-inclusive area featuring an all-you-can-eat buffet prepared by an exclusive chef, the WMCHHealth Club Lounge is the best spot in Minor League Baseball to enjoy a game. The Club Lounge also has a state-of-the-art kitchen to prepare meals for all premium seating areas in the ballpark, which will elevate the concessions offerings to all fans.

The Club Lounge is not just limited to use during games, but will host public events and can be reserved for private events on non-gamedays and throughout the offseason.

Adjacent to the new Club Lounge is the Rooftop Party Deck, a new private area for groups of 75-200 to gather and enjoy a Renegades game in a unique atmosphere. Just in front of the Rooftop Party Deck are the Mosquito Joe Outfield Terrace and Drink Rail, shared group spaces for smaller groups that allow you to get close to the action down the left field line.

The most visible player-focused upgrade to Heritage Financial Park this year is the brand-new field turf playing surface. The high-quality artificial turf plays extremely close to natural grass, but is more easily maintained and drains better to limit the number of postponements due to inclement weather.

Less obvious to the eye is the brand-new clubhouse that sits below the Club Lounge and Rooftop Party Deck. The new clubhouse features a spacious player locker room and lounge area, expanded manager and coaches offices, a brand-new weight room, training room and batting tunnel outfitted by the Yankees with state-of-the-art technology to better develop the Yankees stars of tomorrow.

For fan safety, protective netting has been extended from the left field foul pole all the way across to the right field foul pole. This move better protects fans from batted and thrown balls and other flying objects that previously made their way into the stands at high velocities.

However, those seeking to get close to their favorite players will still have the ability to in the Fan Interactive Zones at the end of Sections 100 and 101 down the first base line, and Sections 111 and 112 down the third base line. In those areas before each game, the netting will lift up to allow fans to interact with players and get autographs.

At the ballpark is not the only place you can enjoy some of the new offerings for 2024, but also at a store near you. Available once again at the ballpark is Sloop Renegades Lager, the Renegades' collaboration with Sloop Brewing Company. For this season, the Renegades have also teamed up with Hudson North Hard Cider to present the Cider Donut Cider, which will be available at Heritage Financial Park in homage to the Renegades' popular "Cider Donut" alternate identity.

Both Sloop Renegades Lager and Hudson North Cider Donut Cider will be available in stores so you can enjoy it outside of Heritage Financial Park, too.

Lastly, the Renegades are proud to be launching a new initiative this year called Show on the Road, where they will take their legendary game entertainment directly to the fans away from Heritage Financial Park. They'll bring walk up music, between innings games, and a PA announcer to local youth baseball games throughout the Hudson Valley this season. Those seeking more information on the Show on the Road or to apply to be one of the games chosen can head to [www.hvrenegades.com](http://www.hvrenegades.com).

With so many new things to enjoy at the ballpark and away from it, the 2024 season of Renegades baseball is shaping up to be the best yet.

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# Hey, Skip:

Getting to know **Nick Ortiz**

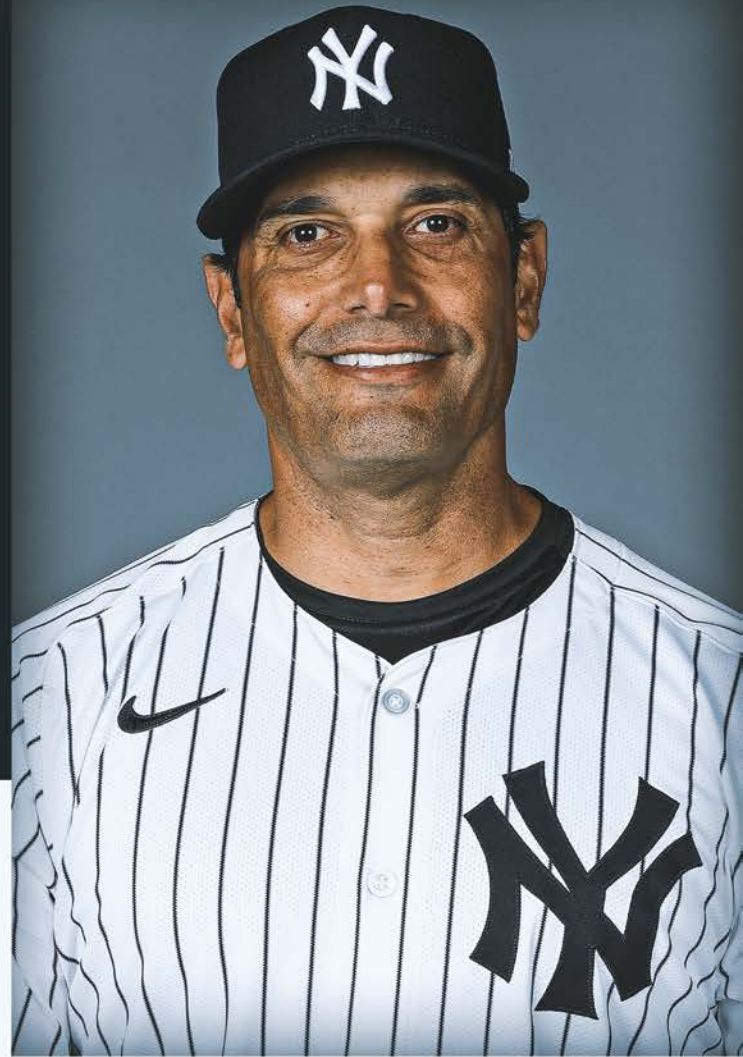
By: **Joe Vasile**

During their affiliation with the New York Yankees, the Hudson Valley Renegades have become a breeding ground for great player development minds. Entering their fourth season with the Yankees in 2024, the Hudson Valley Renegades will have their fourth new manager, with each previous skipper having advanced to higher roles or having been hired away by other Major League teams.

Dan Fiorito and Tyson Blaser, managers in 2021 and 2022, respectively, moved on to roles as position coordinators after guiding the Renegades to success – Fiorito with the Yankees and Blaser with the Boston Red Sox. Sergio Santos moved on to manage the Double-A Birmingham Barons in the White Sox system after taking the Renegades to the SAL Championship Series in 2023.

This year, the man at the helm in Hudson Valley is another sharp baseball mind – Nick Ortiz, a baseball lifer who spent the last four seasons on the Major League staff of the San Francisco Giants as the Quality Assurance Coach under Gabe Kapler. Following his big league experience, the 50-year-old is happy to return to his roots in Minor League Baseball.

“I’m very excited to be given the opportunity to manage the Hudson Valley Renegades this year, and I’m really looking forward to connecting with all our fans,” Ortiz said when it was announced he would take the reins at Heritage Financial Park. “We are going to present tremendous talent on the field, and I hope that you could all join us in what should be a fun and exciting season.”



This is not Ortiz's first go-around with the Yankees. From 2016-19, when he departed for San Francisco, he served a dual role in the Yankees organization as an Amateur Scout covering Puerto Rico and a Minor League coach. He was first an assistant coach for the Rookie-level Pulaski Yankees in 2016, and then managed the Gulf Coast League Yankees West in 2017 and 2019, skipping Pulaski in 2018 in between.

His 2018 Pulaski roster featured six future MLB players on it – an unheard of collection of talent for the Appalachian League – including former Renegades players Oswald Peraza, Everson Pereira, Ezequiel Duran and Luis Medina.

“I started my career with the Yankees as a part-time amateur scout [in Puerto Rico] and I went to the draft and they asked me to join player development,” Ortiz said of the start of his coaching career. “I always stayed scouting and was managing ... until 2020 when I went to San Francisco.”

Ortiz is no stranger to the Yankees way and to the talent that the organization's player development system consistently produces. That, combined with his experience on a Major League coaching staff and his lengthy playing career set him up to be the perfect mentor to the 2024 Renegades.

### ***Rooted in Baseball***

Ortiz's baseball life is rooted on the island of Puerto Rico, where he was born, raised, and still makes his home during the offseason with his wife and children. He attended Cidra High School, and was drafted by the Boston Red Sox in the 34th round of the 1990 First-Year Player Draft. Although Cidra HS claims three alumni as MLB players, Ortiz is still the only player ever to be drafted out of the school.

From there Ortiz set off on a 15-year playing career as an infielder with the Red Sox, Montreal Expos, Cleveland Guardians, Los Angeles Dodgers, Kansas City Royals, New York Yankees and Chicago Cubs organizations. He reached as high as Triple-A and hit .261/.336/.377 in the affiliated minor leagues before spending three seasons playing in the independent Atlantic League where he was one of the top hitters in the league.

During the offseason he would faithfully return to Puerto Rico, and for 16 seasons competed in the highly-competitive Puerto Rican Winter League. Playing in front of his home fans, Ortiz was a six-time PRWL All-Star, and eventually moved into coaching and managing in the league for the Gigantes de Carolina and the Cangrejeros de Santurce. In 2010, three years after his playing career had wound down, Ortiz had the opportunity to play for the Puerto Rican National Team at the Central American and Caribbean Games – an unforgettable experience for the proud Cidreño.

## ***Promoting the Legacy***

To many Puerto Ricans the late Pittsburgh Pirates outfielder Roberto Clemente is a revered figure, and it is easy to understand why. On the field his talents were legendary, earning him the distinction of being the first Puerto Rican to be elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1973, the year Ortiz was born.

Off the field Clemente's impact was even bigger. He used his fame and resources to help people in need, and was one of the most-generous and selfless professional athletes to ever live. He tragically passed away on New Year's Eve 1972 in a plane crash while delivering humanitarian aid to earthquake victims in Nicaragua.

In 2020, Ortiz honored Clemente on Roberto Clemente Day by wearing his No. 21 in tribute in a special one-day celebration akin to how MLB celebrates Jackie Robinson by having all players wear No. 42.

"He was pretty much our first voice as Latin Americans in the big stage," Ortiz said of Clemente to MLB.com in 2020. "He was our first Hall of Famer. He was our first All-Star player to be able to speak out and talk about the injustices that were happening in the 1960s. I think with all he was able to accomplish on the field, he was a better contributor off the field, helping others in need and just being the voice for many, many others that couldn't be heard at that time." He has been among the growing number of voices to call for the universal retirement of No. 21 across baseball the way that No. 42 was for Robinson in 1997.

## ***Guiding the Gades***

Helping lead the team to wins on the field while also helping players develop and reach the objectives laid out by their parent club is a tough balance for any minor league manager to strike. Their first responsibility always has to be with developing players, but they are also fiercely competitive. Losing stinks whether or not you're being evaluated on that.

However, Ortiz is well-positioned to both develop and win because of his extensive experience and his big league work ethic. Under his tutelage, the 30th season of Renegades baseball could end up being one of the most-memorable yet.

PHOTO CREDIT: SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS





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# Catch This:

**Rafael Flores** looks to take next step in 2024

By: **Jordy Fee-Platt**

In July 2022, Rafael Flores waited for the entire 2022 First-Year Player Draft to hear his name called, but he never did. After an outstanding season in junior college with Rio Hondo College in Whittier, CA, where Flores hit .380 and drove in 36 runs in 39 games, there were some expectations he would get drafted.

Instead, Flores packed his bags for the Pacific Northwest. Flores traveled far from home to play for the Alaska Goldpanners in the Alaska Baseball League, a collegiate summer baseball organization. He went on a tear upon arriving, hitting .348 with 20 runs and 36 RBI in 28 games. This performance got the attention of the Yankees, and in July, Flores signed with New York.

Flores debated whether to wait until the 2023 draft, but felt the opportunity to sign for a major league organization was too hard to pass up.

“I was the kid that never wanted to go inside,” Flores said. “I threw balls off the wall. I swung at tennis balls. I swung at everything. That’s been my feel

for my whole life. I feel like I've been dreaming of this since I was a little kid, so actually doing it and going through it, it's a blessing and I couldn't ask for anything more."

The backstop played four games for the FCL Yankees at the end of the 2022 season, hitting two home runs and scoring four runs. His career truly began, however, in 2023, when he began his first professional season with the Renegades.

Flores immediately made his presence felt in Hudson Valley, reaching base in 16 straight games to begin his career. During that stretch, the Anaheim native went for 24-for-55 (.409) with seven extra-base hits. As his time in the Minor Leagues started strong, the Southern California native remained focused on the future.

"It's always good to be consistent," Flores said. "That's been my goal. I feel like catchers aren't usually known to be hitters, but if I can be a hitting catcher, that's huge for me."

The 23-year-old became a familiar face for Renegades fans last season, playing 105 games for the club. He cherished the opportunity to be in the lineup every day, knowing that privilege can disappear quickly.

"Being able to stay healthy, I think that's the biggest thing that a lot of players overlook," Flores said toward the end of the 2023 season. "I've been able to stay on the field and get as many at-bats as I can and I've been trying to take the most out of the opportunities."

As the 2023 campaign wore on, Flores underwent tremendous growth. A catcher by trade, the Yankees prospect was given opportunities at first base last season, expanding his versatility.

Flores played 57 games at first base last season, in comparison to just 35 behind the dish, taking the transition in stride.

"It's been a really easy transition," Flores said. "I think me being a handsy player as it is, going over to first base wasn't that difficult for me. I played a lot of corner infield in JUCO and in high school, so I love playing first base, and if I can stay in the lineup for as long as I can, I'll do whatever it takes."

Flores also improved tremendously in the power department over the course of the season. After hitting just one homer in his first 70 games, he left the yard seven times in his final 45 games. It wasn't a matter of trying to hit them for Flores, but simply development.

"As long as I keep hitting the ball hard, that's all that matters, home runs will come eventually," the right-handed hitter said. "I haven't been worried about home runs. I feel like they'll come naturally."

As Flores prepares for his second Opening Day with the Renegades, he has quite the professional debut season to look back on for motivation. His versatility is sure to play a big role for Hudson Valley in 2024.

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# Community Corner:

**Gades** pitch in for a good cause

By: **Jordy Fee-Platt**

Serving the Hudson Valley community is an essential part of the Hudson Valley Renegades mission, and the organization would not be here celebrating 30 years without your support. Each year, the award-winning Renegades Community Program presented by Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMCHHealth), gives back multitudes to our entire community. In 2024, the Renegades are rolling out another season filled with giving back to the Hudson Valley.

### ***Youth Field Betterment Program***

The first is the Youth Field Betterment Program, presented by Heritage Financial Credit Union. Each year, front office and Heritage Financial Credit Union representatives come together to renovate a local Little League field. This year's recipient of a renovated field is Lee Town Recreation Park of the East Fishkill Babe Ruth League.

The field was chosen for its ability to provide access to baseball and a place to develop valuable life skills for children throughout the Hudson Valley. The focus of East Fishkill Babe Ruth is on more than just baseball as they seek coaches and volunteers who can set positive examples and act as role models throughout the season and beyond for the children playing.

East Fishkill has also opened its enrollment to children from neighboring communities with baseball programs that have seen their enrollment numbers decline to the point of limiting their ability to continue their programs so that all children have a place to play.

The Youth Field Betterment refurbishment of Lee Town Recreation Park will allow East Fishkill Babe Ruth to continue to provide an enjoyable experience to every child who wants to learn and play the game of baseball from the levels of T-Ball through 13U in both recreational teams and local travel teams.

### ***HOPE Week***

2024 also marks the return of HOPE Week presented by WMCHealth, a Yankees community service initiative. Each Yankees minor league affiliate carries out its own HOPE Week, which stands for Helping Others Persevere and Excel. This is the 11th season in which all Yankees affiliates have hosted HOPE Week, continuing a valued tradition. The Renegades HOPE Week will be taking place June 25-30.

On every day of that week, Renegades players, coaches and front office staff will go out in the community and donate time to making the Hudson Valley a better place. In the past few years, the Renegades have executed events at the Castle Point VA hospital, the Fishkill Food Pantry, and the Maria Fareri Children's Hospital at MidHudson Regional Hospital.

The organization that the Renegades are honoring are also brought out to that night's game at Heritage Financial Park to both bring a rewarding experience to those doing good in our community, but also to raise awareness for the causes they are fighting for.

### ***Disability, Dream and Do (D3) Camp***

Hudson Valley will also be offering the Disability, Dream and Do (D3) Day Camp once again. Since 2017, the Renegades have held a clinic at the ballpark to benefit children with disabilities. The D3 sports camps were created by Dave Clark and Doug Cornfield. Clark was the only pitcher in professional sports history to pitch on crutches, while Cornfield is a former NCAA medal-winning runner at Georgia, whose child was born without arms. Through donations and sponsorships, these camps are free to campers.

D3 camps bring professional players together with children with special needs, who compete in drills and competitive sports. In 2016, Dave Stevens became involved with D3. Stevens was born without legs, playing minor league baseball and college football. With his help, D3 camps expanded across the United States, allowing kids with disabilities to learn to pursue their dreams. This year's edition of the D3 camp at Heritage Financial Park will take place on Saturday, August 3.

These community programs are just a small sampling of the myriad programs that the Renegades offer on top of monetary, in-kind, and time donations made by the club and its staff. For the Gades, creating magical experiences that become life-long memories for the entire community is not something that begins and ends at Heritage Financial Park.



# Sensory Suite

The Hudson Valley Renegades, the High-A affiliate of the New York Yankees, are pleased to partner with Curemark again this season on a Sensory Safe Suite at Heritage Financial Park. Suite No. 8 has been redesigned as a fun, accommodating and functional space to create a better game experience for families with children on the autism spectrum and with special needs.

The Curemark Sensory Safe Suite has features that provide a feeling of comfort and relaxation at Renegades games while maintaining all of the engaging and standard aspects of a game. This will result in an atmosphere that allows guests in the suite to decompress and absorb the game with family and friends away from the louder, more frantic environments that exist throughout the ballpark.

Apply for the Curemark Sensory Safe Suite now at [HVRENEGADES.COM](http://HVRENEGADES.COM)



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# FIELD & SUPPORT STAFF



## NICK ORTIZ | MANAGER

Ortiz begins his first season as the manager of the Renegades in 2024, returning for a second stint with the Yankees organization after spending the past four seasons as the Quality Assurance Coach for the San Francisco Giants. Before serving on Gabe Kapler's staff in San Francisco, Ortiz served a dual role for four seasons in the Yankees system, serving as an Amateur Scout covering Puerto Rico and a Minor League coach. He was an assistant coach for Rookie-level Pulaski in 2016, and managed GCL Yankees West in 2017 and 2019 and Pulaski in 2018. His Pulaski roster featured six future Major Leaguers on it, including former Renegades Oswald Peraza, Everson Pereira, Ezequiel Duran and Luis Medina.

In addition to his Major and Minor League coaching experience, Ortiz has coached and managed in the prestigious Puerto Rican Winter League for the Gigantes de Carolina and the Cangrejeros de Santurce, a league in which he played in for 16 seasons (1991-93, 1996-2007 and 2012) and was a six-time All-Star.

He began his coaching career after a 15-year playing career in Minor League Baseball, playing all four infield positions in the Boston, Montreal, Cleveland, Los Angeles-NL, Kansas City, Chicago-NL, and Yankees organizations. Ortiz also played for the Puerto Rican National Team in 2010 at the Central American and Caribbean Games. He was drafted in the 34th round of the 1990 First-Year Player Draft by the Red Sox out of Cidra High School in Cidra, Puerto Rico.



**SPENCER MEDICK**  
PITCHING COACH



**RICK GUARNO**  
HITTING COACH



**DEREK WOODLEY**  
DEFENSIVE COACH



**ZAK WASSERMAN**  
DEFENSIVE COACH



**ADARIC KELLY**  
ATHLETIC TRAINER



**DYLAN LIDGE**  
STRENGTH & CONDITIONING COACH



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**RYAN SHUTE**  
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# 2024 Schedule

**ABD** - ABERDEEN IRONBIRDS **ASH** - ASHEVILLE TOURISTS **BG** - BOWLING GREEN HOT RODS  
**BRK** - BROOKLYN CYCLONES **GBO** - GREENSBORO GRASSHOPPERS **HIC** - HICKORY CRAWDADS **JS** - JERSEY SHORE BLUECLAWS  
**ROM** - ROME EMPERORS **WIL** - WILMINGTON BLUE ROCKS

## APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5 @BG 7:35PM
6 @BG 2:05PM		7	8	9	10	11
12 @ROM 5:00PM	13 @ROM 5:00PM	14 @ROM 1:00PM	15 ABD 6:35PM	16 ABD 6:35PM	17 ABD 6:35PM	18 ABD 6:35PM
19 ABD 7:05PM	20 ABD 5:05PM	21 ABD 2:05PM	22 BG 6:05PM	23 BG 11:05AM	24 BG 6:35PM	25 BG 6:35PM
26 BG 7:05PM	27 BG 5:05PM	28 BG 2:05PM	29	30 @WIL 6:35PM		

## MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 @WIL 6:35PM	2 @WIL 6:35PM	3 @WIL 6:35PM	4 @WIL 6:05PM
5 @WIL 1:05PM	6	7	8 @ABD 7:05PM	9 @ABD 7:05PM	10 @ABD 7:05PM	11 @ABD 7:05PM
12 @ABD 2:05PM	13	14 JS 6:05PM	15 JS 11:05AM	16 JS 6:35PM	17 JS 7:05PM	18 JS 5:05PM
19 JS 2:05PM	20	21 @BRK 6:00PM	22 @BRK 11:00AM	23 @BRK 7:00PM	24 @BRK 7:00PM	25 @BRK 6:00PM
26 @BRK 2:00PM	27 ABD 1:35PM	28	29 ABD 6:35PM	30 ABD 6:35PM	31 ABD 7:05PM	

## JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 ABD 5:05PM
2 ABD 2:05PM	3	4 @WIL 6:35PM	5 @WIL 6:35PM	6 @WIL 6:35PM	7 @WIL 6:35PM	8 @WIL 6:05PM
9 @WIL 1:05PM	10	11 BRK 6:35PM	12 BRK 6:35PM	13 BRK 6:35PM	14 BRK 7:05PM	15 BRK 5:05PM
16 BRK 2:05PM	17	18 @GBO 6:30PM	19 @GBO 12:00PM	20 @GBO 6:30PM	21 @GBO 6:30PM	22 @GBO 6:30PM
23 @GBO 2:00PM	24	25 WIL 6:35PM	26 WIL 6:35PM	27 WIL 6:35PM	28 WIL 7:05PM	29 WIL 7:05PM
30 WIL 2:05PM						

## JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 @BRK 7:00PM	2 @BRK 7:00PM	3 @BRK 7:00PM	4 BRK 7:05PM	5 BRK 7:05PM	6 BRK 7:05PM
7	8	9 @JS 7:05PM	10 @JS 12:05PM	11 @JS 7:05PM	12 @JS 7:05PM	13 @JS 7:05PM
14 @JS 1:05PM	15	16	17	18	19 ROM 7:05PM	20 ROM 5:05PM
21 ROM 2:05PM	22	23 @WIL 6:05PM	24 @WIL 11:05AM	25 @WIL 6:35PM	26 @WIL 6:35PM	27 @WIL 6:05PM
28 @WIL 1:05PM	29	30 JS 6:35PM	31 JS 12:05PM			

## AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 JS 6:35PM	2 JS 7:05PM	3 JS 5:05PM
4 JS 2:05PM	5	6 @BRK 7:00PM	7 @BRK 7:00PM	8 @BRK 7:00PM	9 @BRK 7:00PM	10 @BRK 6:00PM
11 @BRK 2:00PM	12	13 HIC 6:35PM	14 HIC 6:35PM	15 HIC 6:35PM	16 HIC 7:05PM	17 HIC 5:05PM
18 HIC 2:05PM	19	20 WIL 6:35PM	21 WIL 6:35PM	22 WIL 1:35PM	23 WIL 7:05PM	24 WIL 5:05PM
25 WIL 2:05PM	26	27 @JS 7:05PM	28 @JS 7:05PM	29 @JS 7:05PM	30 @JS 7:05PM	31 @JS 7:05PM

## SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 @JS 1:05PM	2	3 ASH 6:35PM	4 ASH 6:35PM	5 ASH 6:35PM	6 ASH 7:05PM	7 ASH 5:05PM
8 ASH 2:05PM	9	10 NDS	11	12 NDS	13 NDS	14
15 SAL	16	17 SAL	18 SAL	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



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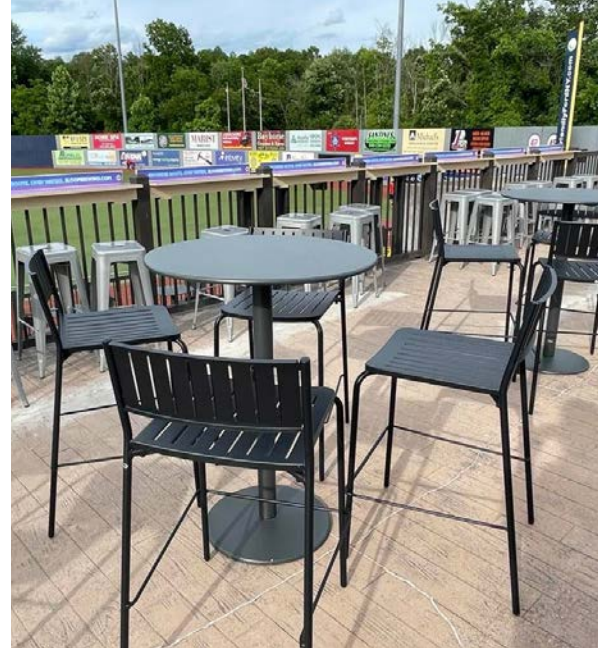
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# 2024 PROMO SCHEDULE

■ = Giveaways ■ = Fireworks ■ = Kids Eat Free • Hannaford

- **APRIL 16**  
*Opening Day*
- **APRIL 17**  
*Swedish Furniture Night*
- **APRIL 18**  
*Hoops & Sneakerheads*
- **APRIL 19**  
*Teacher Appreciation*
- **APRIL 20**  
*Renegades in the 1990s*
- **APRIL 21**  
*Return of the Cider Donuts*
- **APRIL 23**  
*Dead Meme Night*
- **APRIL 24** • Heritage Financial Credit Union  
*Education Day*
- **APRIL 25**  
*Pickleball*
- **APRIL 26**  
*Salute to Boy Bands*
- **APRIL 27** • Our Lady of Lourdes High School  
*Renegades in the 2000s*
- **APRIL 28**  
*Half-Marathon*
- **MAY 14**  
*Dinosaur Night*
- **MAY 15** • Heritage Financial Credit Union  
*Education Day*
- **MAY 16**  
*Art in the Park*
- **MAY 17**  
*Baseball (Rosie's Version)*
- **MAY 18**  
*Renegades in the 2010s*
- **MAY 19**  
*Jewish Heritage Day*
- **MAY 27**  
*Memorial Day - T-shirt Giveaway*
- **MAY 29**  
*Asian Heritage Night*
- **MAY 30**  
*Faith & Family*
- **MAY 31** • Leprechaun Lines  
*Irish Heritage Night*
- **JUNE 1**  
*Renegades in the 2020s*
- **JUNE 2**  
*Copa de la Diversión: National Puerto Rican Day*
- **JUNE 11**  
*Pride Night*
- **JUNE 12**  
*Champions Night*
- **JUNE 13**  
*Bachelor(ette) Party*
- **JUNE 14**  
*Cider Donuts*
- **JUNE 15** • Hannaford  
*'94 Night*
- **JUNE 16**  
*Father's Day: Bucket Ruckus Appearance*
- **JUNE 25** • WMCHHealth  
*HOPE Week: Strikeout Cancer Night*
- **JUNE 26** • WMCHHealth  
*HOPE Week*
- **JUNE 27** • WMCHHealth  
*HOPE Week*
- **JUNE 28** • WMCHHealth & Mirabito Energy Products  
*HOPE Week: Make-A-Wish Night*
- **JUNE 29** • WRWD  
*Kids' Opening Day*
- **JUNE 30**  
*Autism Awareness Day*
- **JULY 4**  
*Independence Day*
- **JULY 5**  
*Mega Fireworks Show*
- **JULY 6**  
*Wade Davis Jersey Retirement*
- **JULY 19**  
*Beach Party*
- **JULY 20** • Hannaford  
*Rascal & Rosie's Wedding*
- **JULY 21**  
*Copa de la Diversión: Festival Colombiano*
- **JULY 30**  
*Cider Donuts - Mascot Singer*
- **JULY 31**  
*Camp Day*

# 2024 PROMO SCHEDULE

■ = Giveaways ■ = Fireworks ■ = Kids Eat Free • Hannaford

**AUGUST 1**

*Intern Survivor*

■ **AUGUST 2**

*Newburgh Gorhams Night: Negro League Appreciation*

■ **AUGUST 3** • TWC Landscaping & Pools

*Ejection Night: A Celebration of Zolz*

**AUGUST 4**

*Star Wars Day*

**AUGUST 13** • MHA of Dutchess County

*Mental Health Awareness Night*

**AUGUST 14**

*Marvel's Defenders of the Diamond*

**AUGUST 15** • Hannaford

*Amazing Tyler Appearance*

■ **AUGUST 16**

*Princess Night*

■ **AUGUST 17** • SMART Local 38

*Magic Night*

■ **AUGUST 18**

*Copa de la Diversión: Roberto Clemente Day*

**AUGUST 20** • Dutchess Tourism

*Bhutan Night*

**AUGUST 21**

*Soccer Night*

**AUGUST 22**

*Skip Work Day*

■ **AUGUST 23**

*Italian Heritage Night*

■ **AUGUST 24** • K104.7

*Alumni Day*

**AUGUST 25**

*Veteran's Appreciation Day*

**SEPTEMBER 3**

*Murder Mystery*

**SEPTEMBER 4**

*Football Night*

**SEPTEMBER 5**

*First Responder's Night*

■ **SEPTEMBER 6**

*Copa de la Diversión: Hispanic Heritage Month Kickoff*

■ **SEPTEMBER 7**

*Fan Appreciation*

**SEPTEMBER 8**

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## GIVEAWAYS

EVERY SATURDAY!

APRIL 20

*Renegades Luggage Tag*

APRIL 27 • Our Lady of Lourdes High School

*Rascal Growth Chart*

MAY 18

*2012 NY-Penn League Replica Championship Ring*

JUNE 1

*2024 Renegades Baseball Card Team Set*

JUNE 15 • Hannaford

*1994 Replica Throwback Jersey*

JUNE 29 • WRWD

*Spencer Jones Bobblehead*

JULY 6

*Wade Davis Poster*

JULY 20 • Hannaford

*1999 NY-Penn League Replica Championship Ring*

AUGUST 3 • TWC Landscaping & Pools

*Replica Stadium*

AUGUST 17 • SMART Local 38

*Tin Lunch Box*

AUGUST 24 • K104.7

*Renegades Mount Rushmore Bobblehead*

SEPTEMBER 7

*2017 NY-Penn League Replica Championship Ring*

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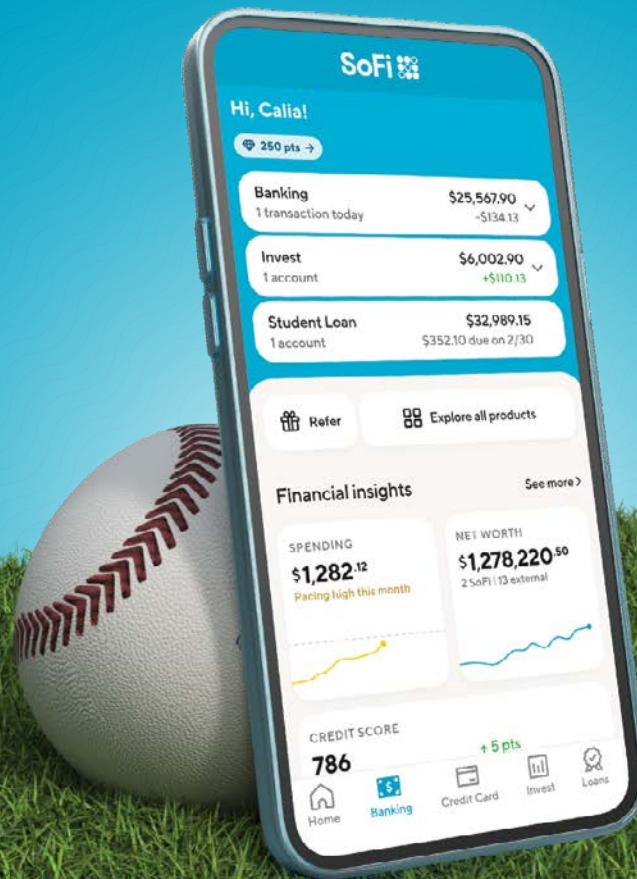
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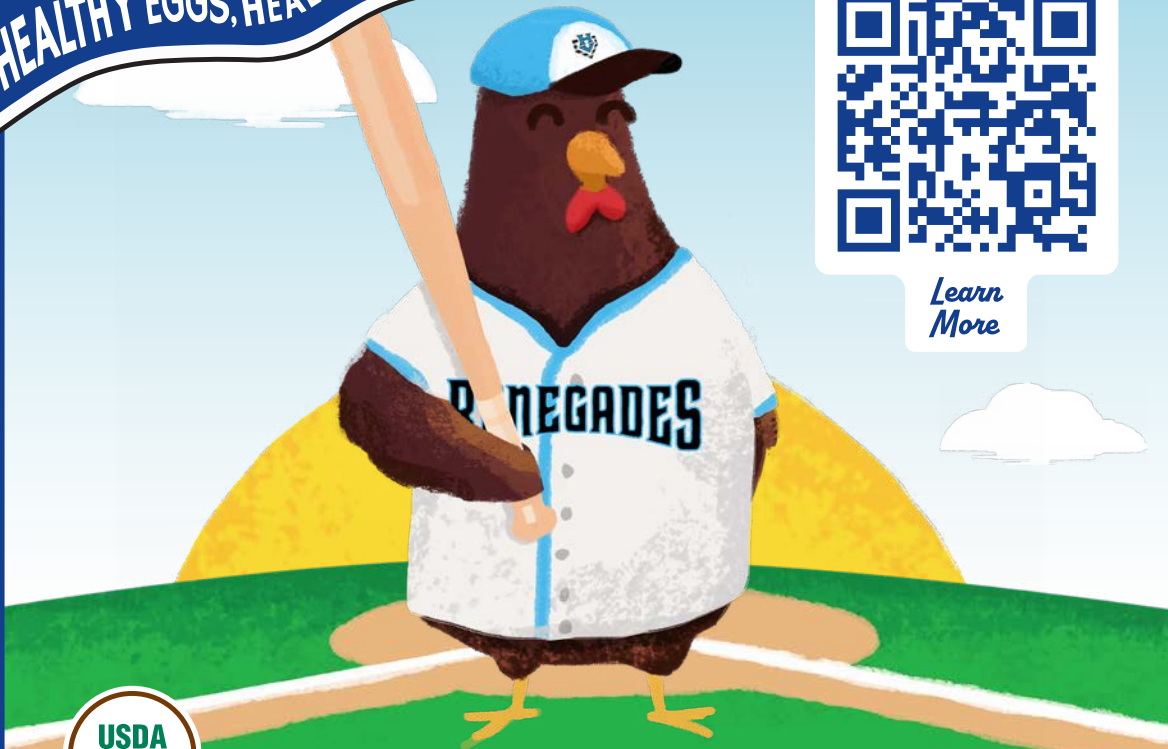


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 BROOKLYN, NY



**HUDSON VALLEY RENEGADES**  
*MLB AFFILIATE: NEW YORK YANKEES*  
 FISHKILL, NY



**JERSEY SHORE BLUECLAWS**  
*MLB AFFILIATE: PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES*  
 LAKEWOOD, NJ



**WILMINGTON BLUE ROCKS**  
*MLB AFFILIATE: WASHINGTON NATIONALS*  
 WILMINGTON, DE



**GREENSBORO GRASSHOPPERS**  
*MLB AFFILIATE: PITTSBURGH PIRATES*  
 GREENSBORO, NC

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*MLB AFFILIATE: HOUSTON ASTROS*  
 ASHEVILLE, NC



**BOWLING GREEN HOT RODS**  
*MLB AFFILIATE: TAMPA BAY RAYS*  
 BOWLING GREEN, KY



**GREENVILLE DRIVE**  
*MLB AFFILIATE: BOSTON RED SOX*  
 GREENVILLE, SC



**HICKORY CRAWDADS**  
*MLB AFFILIATE: TEXAS RANGERS*  
 HICKORY, NC



**ROME EMPERORS**  
*MLB AFFILIATE: ATLANTA BRAVES*  
 ROME, GA



**WINSTON-SALEM DASH**  
*MLB AFFILIATE: CHICAGO WHITE SOX*  
 WINSTON-SALEM, NC

# PITCHERS



**LUIS AREJULA**



**COLE AYERS**



**KYLE CARR**



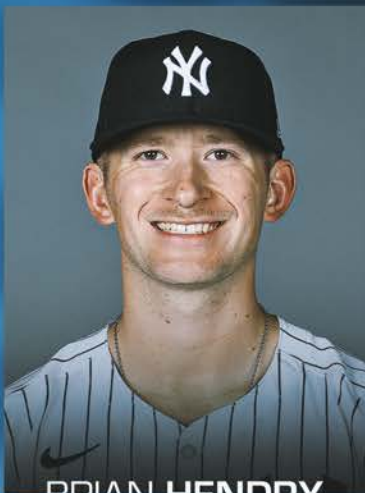
**JACKSON FRISTOE**



**GEOFF GILBERT**



**MATT GIVIN**



**BRIAN HENDRY**



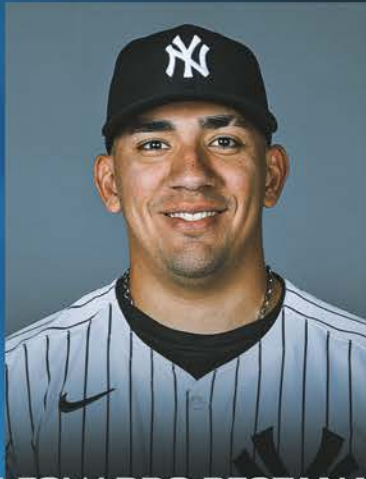
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**MATT KEATING**



# PITCHERS



LEONARDO PESTANA



CAM SCHLITTLER



TRENT SELLERS



BEN SHIELDS



BARON STUART



JOEL VALDEZ

# CATCHERS



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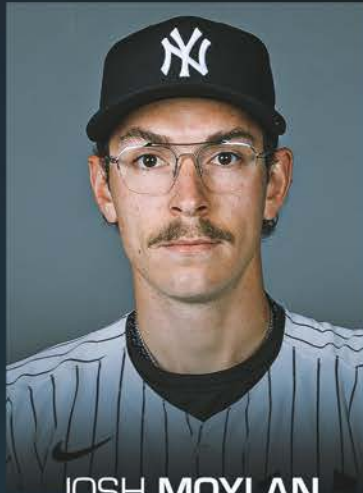


**JESUS RODRIGUEZ**

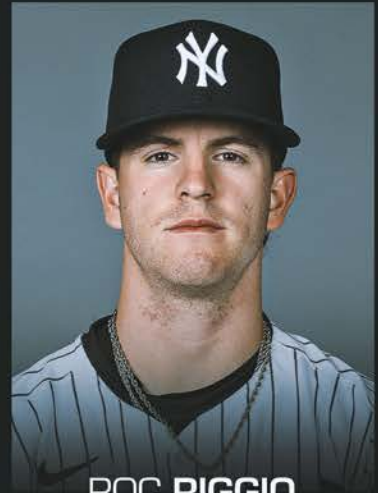
# INFIELDERS



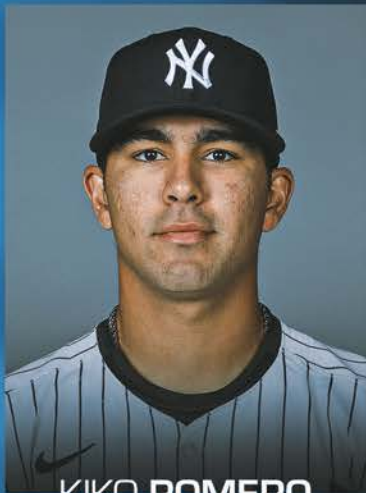
**BEAU BREWER**



**JOSH MOYLAN**



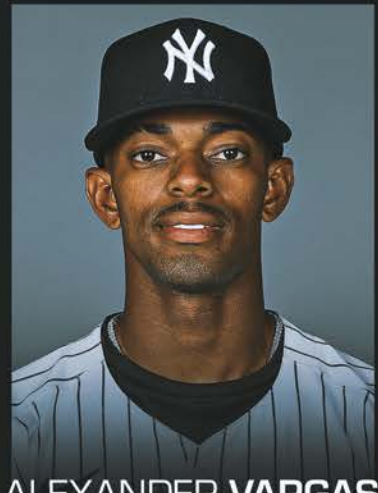
**ROC RIGGIO**



**KIKO ROMERO**

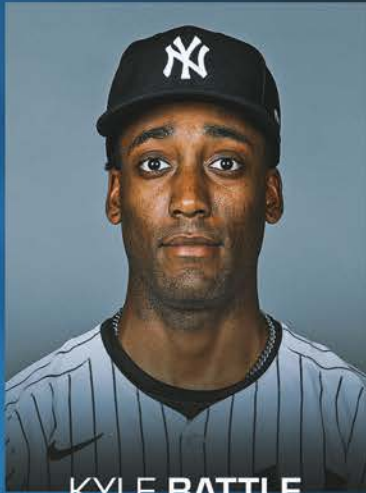


**JARED SERINA**



**ALEXANDER VARGAS**

# OUTFIELDERS



**KYLE BATTLE**



**COLE GABRIELSON**



**ANTHONY HALL**



**GARETT MARTIN**



**NELSON MEDINA**



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CLASSIC CAMP 2: **JULY 22-25**

ADVANCED CAMP: **AUG. 5-8**



For more information and to register, please visit:

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# Code of Conduct



In order to provide a welcoming experience for all, the Hudson Valley Renegades have implemented a Fan Code of Conduct. Out of respect for fellow guests, players, coaches, and ballpark staff, all guests are prohibited from...

- *Trespassing on the playing field at any time*
- *Interfering with baseballs that are in play*
- *Throwing or tossing objects*
- *Using foul, obscene or derogatory language (see below) or gestures*
- *Misusing or overconsuming alcohol, Including underage consumption*
- *Behaving in a manner that is disruptive, unruly, or abusive*
- *Accessing areas of the ballpark without a proper ticket, pass, or credential*
- *Misusing tickets, passes, or credentials in any way*
- *Bringing prohibited items into the ballpark*

Derogatory language is defined as offensive language concerning a person's race, ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, age, sexual orientation, or national origin. Anyone using such language is subject to automatic ejection from the ballpark.

Violations of the Fan Code of Conduct will not be tolerated and may lead to ejection from the ballpark, a ban on attending future games, or other consequences. Guests who are found to have used derogatory language will be ejected from the ballpark.

Guests are encouraged to report violations of the Fan Code of Conduct to the nearest ballpark staff member. This can be done in person, at the nearest Quest Services location, or directly with Ballpark Security.

HUDSON VALLEY RENEGADES

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