



RANCHO CUCAMONGA QUAKES 2021 GAME NOTES



LOANMART FIELD

Tuesday, August 31st, 2021 6:30PM
Game #102, Home Game #48

Contact: Mike Lindskog
mlindskog@rcquakes.com

LoanMart Field
Rancho Cucamonga, CA

Lake Elsinore Storm (45-56)

AT

RANCHO CUCAMONGA QUAKES (54-47)

RHP Nick Thwait (1-7, 6.13 ERA) vs. RHP Carlos Duran (2-3, 5.37 ERA)

TODAY'S GAME: Welcome to LoanMart Field! The Quakes return home to play host to the Lake Elsinore Storm for the third time this season. Rancho has a 9-2 record at home against the Storm this season and are 16-7 overall. The Quakes will be looking to bounce back from a disappointing 2-4 road trip here on Temblores Tuesday, presented by the Art Laboe Show Live.

SUNDAY'S GAME: Rancho lost their handle on a pitcher's duel on Sunday, as the Rawhide won their first series of the season with an 8-1 victory against the Quakes, giving Visalia four of six overall. Rancho pushed the first run of the game across in the second frame on an Ismael Alcantara RBI single. This was the lone run of the game for Rancho, as the offense struggled over the last seven innings. The Rawhide were held scoreless until the fifth inning, where Tim Tawa tied the game with a solo home run. Rancho lost the tie in the following inning, as the Rawhide benefited from a passed ball and a wild pitch to plate a pair of runs. The Quakes surrendered five runs in the sixth inning, as the Rawhide jumped out to a big lead. Rancho was unable to get any offense going against the new-look Rawhide bullpen.

QUAKES HAVE BEEN SKIDDING: After a series that saw the Quakes drop their first five games against the Giants, Rancho didn't have much better luck on the road. Rancho has dropped their last three games, and lost last week's series to the Rawhide. Rancho has now endured multiple three-game losing streaks, and are struggling to find consistent success with their new-look roster.

MCWILLIAMS RED-HOT: Sam McWilliams had a great series in Visalia, as he had eight hits in 20 at-bats with two home runs and seven RBIs. His August is solid as well, as he's batting .343 with four homers and 13 RBIs in 18 games. McWilliams missed five of the six games against San Jose last week, after taking a pitch off his left wrist.

DOG DAYS OF AUGUST: Even though the season began in May, these are still the "dog days of August" around minor league baseball, especially in Low-A, where many players are getting their first taste of a full season of pro-ball. After a terrific July in which they went 18-9, the Quakes are just 11-14 in August. Offensively, there are several Quakes enjoying a terrific month, as it's the pitching (5.94 ERA) that's having a rough go of it. Imanol Vargas (.329 avg) and Sam McWilliams (.343) are both having their best months of the season, with Vargas leading the team with seven homers and 20 RBIs in 22 games.

AROUND THE FARM: The Great Lakes Loons won 10-2 and got some huge production from former Quakes' bats. Eddys Leonard erupted for three home runs in Sunday's contest, giving him nine at the High-A level. Brandon Lewis blasted his 18th home run for the Loons as well. Jose Hernandez took the win, his first as a member of the Loons. Tulsa fell to the Wichita Surge 8-6 as they wrapped up a road series. The OKC Dodgers picked up a win against the Aviators in a close 5-4 contest. The Dodgers got Mookie Betts back into their lineup, and he immediately announced his presence with authority. Betts homered in the Dodgers 5-3 win over the Braves.

PLAYOFF UPDATE!: The 2021 Playoffs will look and feel differently than any other year, as this year's edition will see the top two teams compete in a championship series, regardless of division. The Fresno Grizzlies currently have the best record in the league and have a three-game lead over San Jose, who would be the #2 seed. Rancho, losers of nine of their last 12, has fallen to fourth place overall, currently 8.5 games behind San Jose. With San Jose winning the season-long series (10-2) over Rancho, the Quakes must have a better record overall, so the San Jose lead is more like a 9.5 game advantage. The 2022 season will see the league move to a 132-game schedule and the first-half and second-half winners of each respective division meet in the playoffs.

2021 DRAFT: Thanks to a deep Dodgers' farm system that remains strong despite the loss of their top two prospects at the trade deadline, the Quakes have just two players on their 30-man roster that were drafted in the recent 2021 draft. Both Nick Nastrini (fourth round) and Emmett Sheehan (sixth round) were called up less than two weeks ago, as both pitched in last night's win. MLB.com currently lists the Dodgers currently rank as the 16th-best farm system. Former Quake Diego Cartaya is now LA's top prospect.

CARLOS DURAN: Carlos Duran makes his 18th start of the season tonight against the Storm. Duran is coming off of a no-decision against the Rawhide, where he went 4.1 innings and allowed two runs on five hits. Over the course of the season, Duran has faced the Storm five times and has a 1-0 record against the club. Duran has tallied 28 strikeouts over 18.1 innings against Lake Elsinore this season. The Quakes will look to the 6'7" right-hander to steady the ship and get the Quakes back in the win column.

NICK THWAIT: Lake Elsinore will send Nick Thwait to the mound for game one off the series. Like Duran, Thwait will be making his sixth start of the season against the Quakes. LoanMart Field has not been friendly to Thwait this season, as he has given up nine runs over six innings in Rancho. Thwait is 0-3 against the Quakes this season, and is coming off his seventh loss of the season at the hands of San Jose. Thwait was a 15th round pick out of Fort Recovery High School in Ohio.

NEW RADIO HOME: Throughout the 2021 season, you can catch all the action from the ease of your phone or computer. Listen online at rcquakes.com and the iHeartRadio app or the Tune-In Radio app (Keyword: Quakes) with the "Voice of the Quakes" Mike Lindskog and Davis Ellington. To listen LIVE at LoanMart Field, tune your portable FM radio to 91.3 FM.

HOME GAMES: Join us tomorrow as the Quakes battle the Storm in game two of the series. It will be another Terra Vista Animal Hospital Bark in the Ballpark. Buy a \$3 pet pass and bring your furry friend to the ballgame. Tickets available at rcquakes.com.

DIVISION STANDINGS

NORTH	W	L	PCT	GB
Fresno	66	36	.647	-
San Jose	63	39	.618	3
Modesto	56	46	.549	10
Stockton	39	60	.394	25.5

SOUTH	W	L	PCT	GB
RANCHO CUCAMONGA	54	47	.535	-
Inland Empire	50	49	.505	3
Lake Elsinore	45	56	.446	9
Visalia	31	71	.304	23.5

2021 PLAYOFF STANDINGS

NORTH	W	L	PCT	GB
Fresno	66	36	.647	+3
San Jose	63	39	.618	-
Modesto	56	46	.549	7
RANCHO CUCAMONGA	54	47	.535	8.5
Inland Empire	50	49	.505	11.5

SUNDAY'S SCORES

Fresno 7 Modesto 3
Visalia 8 RANCHO CUCAMONGA 1
Lake Elsinore 2 San Jose 1
Inland Empire at Stockton (PPD Covid-19)

TODAY'S GAMES

Visalia at San Jose, 6:30 PM
Lake Elsinore at RANCHO CUCAMONGA, 6:30 PM
Inland Empire at Modesto, 7:05 PM
Fresno at Stockton, 7:05 PM

TOMORROW'S GAMES

Visalia at San Jose, 6:30 PM
Lake Elsinore at RANCHO CUCAMONGA, 6:30 PM
Inland Empire at Modesto, 7:05 PM
Fresno at Stockton, 7:05 PM

2021 QUAKES AT A GLANCE

1st Half Record:	32-27
2nd Half Record:	22-20
vs L.E. Storm Overall:	16-7
vs L.E. Storm Home:	9-2
vs L.E. Storm Road:	7-5
Home Record:	25-22
Road Record:	29-25
Current Streak:	L3

Probable Quakes Lineup

1.	#11	J. Vogel	CF
2.	#15	J. Ramos	RF
3.	#3	S. McWilliams	2B
4.	#5	S. Lao	3B
5.	#18	I. Vargas	1B
6.	#10	L. Diaz	SS
7.	#7	E. Mateo	LF
8.	#9	M. Hernandez	C
9.	#8	I. Alcantara	DH
P.	#27	C. Duran	RHP

UPCOMING GAMES AND PROBABLES

Date	Opp	Pitching Probables	Time	Radio
9/1	vs Lake Elsinore	LHP Bodi Rascon vs. RHP Nick Nastrini	6:30 PM	RCQuakes.com
9/2	vs Lake Elsinore	RHP Levi Thomas vs. RHP Robbie Peto	6:30 PM	RCQuakes.com
9/3	vs Lake Elsinore	LHP Robert Gasser vs. RHP Jimmy Lewis	6:30 PM	RCQuakes.com
9/4	vs Lake Elsinore	LHP Jackson Wolf vs. RHP Kendall Williams	5:00 PM	RCQuakes.com