



PREGAME NOTES

2008 AL EAST CHAMPIONS | 2008 AL CHAMPIONS | 2010 AL EAST CHAMPIONS | 2011 AL WILD CARD | 2013 AL WILD CARD | 2019 AL WILD CARD

TAMPA BAY RAYS (5-4-2) at ATLANTA BRAVES (3-7-1)

LH Josh Fleming (1-0, 6.00) vs. RH Félix Hernández (1-0, 1.93)

Tuesday, March 3, 2020 • **First Pitch:** 1:05 p.m. • **Location:** CoolToday Park • **TV:** None • **Radio:** None
Spring Game No.: 12 • **vs. AL Opponents:** 4-3-2 • **vs. NL Opponents:** 1-1-0 • **Home Games:** 3-2-1 • **Road Games:** 2-2-1
Day 20 of Spring Training • 23 Days Until Opening Day—Thursday, March 26 vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Tropicana Field (4:10 p.m.)

UPCOMING PROBABLE PITCHERS & BROADCAST SCHEDULE

Upcoming Games	Time (ET)	Probable Pitchers (Rays vs. Opp.)	TV & Radio
Tues., 3/3 at ATL	1:05 p.m.	TB —LH Josh Fleming, RH Chaz Roe, LH Anthony Banda, LH José Alvarado, LH Shane McCannahan, RH Aaron Slegers, RH Tyler Zombro, RH Phoenix Sanders, RH Brooks Pounders; ATL —RH Félix Hernández, RH Jacob Webb	None
Wed., 3/4 vs. TOR	1:05 p.m.	TB —RH Tyler Glasnow, RH Trevor Richards, RH John Curtiss, RH Diego Castillo, LH Colin Poche, LH Ryan Sherriff; TOR —LH Anthony Kay, RH Sam Gaviglio, RH Jacob Waguespack, RH Jordan Romano, RH A.J. Cole, RH Ty Tice, LH Brian Moran	MLB.com
Thurs., 3/5 vs. PIT	1:05 p.m.	TB —LH Ryan Yarbrough, RH Andrew Kittredge, RH Nick Anderson; PIT —LH Derek Holland, RH Chad Kuhl, RH Keone Kela, RH Kyle Crick, RH Nick Burdi, RH JT Brubaker	FOX Sports Sun, MLB.com

TOMORROW'S SCHEDULE—The Rays clubhouse will be open from 8:45-9:45 a.m. tomorrow and re-open as needed during the game.

ON THE WEB—The 2020 Rays Media Guide is now available at mlbpressbox.com (login required), rayspressbox.com (using username **rays\media** and password **R@ys2020#**) and bit.ly/32HulJT (no login necessary)...see a member of the Rays Communications staff for assistance...a limited number of hard copies are expected to arrive in Port Charlotte soon.

TWO DISTINCT ERAS—Since becoming the Rays in 2008, the Rays have seven 90-win seasons, a number matched by only three other teams in baseball: the Dodgers (8), Red Sox (7) and Yankees (7)...since the start of 2008, their five trips to the Division Series have been matched by only five other clubs and their 1,041-904 (.535) record is 5th-best in baseball.

- + The Rays enter the 2020 season on the heels of a 96-66 (.593) record—their second straight season with 90-plus wins—and a trip to the AL Division Series...they welcome back all three of their 2019 All-Stars—RH **Charlie Morton**, OF **Austin Meadows** and 2B **Brandon Lowe**—as well as three-time Gold Glove Award winner **Kevin Kiermaier** and 2018 AL Cy Young Award winner **Blake Snell**.
- + A retooled offense includes trade acquisitions OF **Hunter Renfroe**, 1B/DH **José Martínez**, OF **Randy Arozarena** and OF **Manuel Margot** and Japanese free agent signing 3B/OF **Yoshi Tsutsugo**.

MINOR MATTERS—*Baseball America's* annual Organizational Talent Rankings of minor league prospects were released earlier this spring and the Rays ranked No. 1, holding their ranking from midseason last year...this is the fifth straight season they have improved their preseason standing...this is the fourth time in organizational history the Rays have been ranked first in the preseason rankings, following 2010, 2008 and 2007.

- + From BA's Organizational Talent Rankings announcement: "The Rays have produced a steady stream of productive big leaguers thanks to solid drafting, player development and excellent pro scouting for trades...as impressive as their farm system has been, they haven't had a prospect like **Wander Franco** in quite a while."
- + In January, *Baseball America* ranked a major-league-most eight Rays prospects among its Top 100 in baseball...five of them are in major league camp: LH/1B **Brendan McKay**, INF **Vidal Bruján**, RH **Brent Honeywell Jr.**, LH **Shane McCannahan** and RH **Joe Ryan**.

SINGLE-GAME TICKETS—Are currently on sale through all outlets, including the MLB Ballpark app, raysbaseball.com, the Rays Republic Team Store at Tropicana Field and 888-FAN-RAYS...tickets may be purchased at the Rays Republic Team Store during the store's regular hours...the Bay-Care Box Office at Tropicana Field will open 3 hours prior to all games.

- + Tickets for all 2020 home games are exclusively available in the Ballpark app on a mobile device...paper tickets, including print-at-home and PDF versions, are not available or accepted.

2020 TICKET PACKS—The Rays have announced three new ticket packs for the 2020 season, available in the MLB Ballpark app and at raysbaseball.com/ticketpacks...the Ballpark Pass, which offers a standing room ticket to any game at Tropicana Field for \$36 per month, is sold out...fans can join the waitlist to be notified if additional passes become available.

- + **Rays Win Pack**—For \$99 per pack, select any four regular season home games...if buyers select and attend four games that the Rays win, they will receive a voucher to choose another home game for free...they can continue to choose games for free until they attend a game that the Rays lose or the end of the regular season...for more information, visit raysbaseball.com/rayswinpack.
- + **Flex Packs**—Includes five lower level tickets for \$99 per pack...for more information, visit raysbaseball.com/flex.

SLICE OF GRAPEFRUIT—The Rays are scheduled for 32 official Grapefruit League games (16 at Charlotte Sports Park, 16 on the road)...in addition, the spring finale is an exhibition game at Tropicana Field against the "Future Rays," a team comprised of prospects from their minor league affiliates...spring training tickets are available at raysbaseball.com/spring, the Charlotte Sports Park Box Office or by calling 888-FAN-RAYS.

GLOBAL GAME—The 67 Rays players attending major league spring training were born in 10 different countries and territories: United States, Bahamas, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Germany, Japan, Puerto Rico, South Korea and Venezuela...the spring roster includes 23 birth states, led by California (12) and Texas (6)...in addition, process and analytics coach **Jonathan Erlichman** was born in Canada, strength and conditioning coordinator **Trung Cao** in Vietnam and Japanese translator **Louis Chao** in Taiwan...including minor league players, the organization has players from 17 different countries.

YESTERDAY'S RECAP—The Rays and Orioles played to a 3-3 tie, the club's second tie of the spring (Feb 24 vs. BOS)...RH **Charlie Morton** started and went 2.1 scoreless innings, throwing 28 pitches (19 strikes)...**Michael Perez** hit a solo homer in the 4th inning and **Ji-Man Choi** hit a 2-run homer in the 6th, accounting for the three Rays runs...minor league OF **Garrett Whitley** was struck by a batted ball in the dugout and has a right facial injury...last night he was discharged from the hospital and is resting at home...the Rays expect to have a further update sometime today.

RAYS vs. BRAVES—Today is the second of four meetings between the two clubs in the Battle of Tamiami Trail...the Rays lost at home, 12-0, on Saturday, the first time they were shut out in a spring training game at home since March 4, 2017 vs. BAL...the Rays return to North Port on March 7 and host the Braves in Port Charlotte on March 16...the Rays went 1-1 against the Braves last spring, including a loss in the first game ever played at CoolToday Park...the Rays will not play the defending NL East champions during the regular season...they last met in 2018, with the Rays going 0-2 at Tropicana Field and 1-1 at Truist Park.

- + Today the Rays are facing **Félix Hernández**, who is 9-3 with a 2.19 ERA (131.2-IP, 32-ER) in 18 regular-season starts against the Rays...min. 100 IP, his 2.19 ERA ranks 3rd all-time behind NYY **Mariano Rivera** (1.69) and BOS **Pedro Martínez** (1.99)...on Aug 15, 2012, he pitched the third perfect game against the Rays, following OAK **Dallas Braden** in 2010 and CWS **Mark Buehrle** in 2009.

VIDEO ON A SILVER PLATTER—The Rays will provide a daily postgame video feed of all non-televvised spring training games...this will include about two minutes of highlights plus two short interviews...for day games, video should be uploaded by 5:15 p.m. ...to receive email updates, contact **Chris Tilley** (raysspringtraining@gmail.com or 727-434-0497).

TODAY'S STARTER at ATL—LH Josh Fleming (1-0, 6.00 ERA)

- + **2019 Minors:** 12-7, 3.57 ERA (148.2-IP, 59-ER) in 25 apps (20 starts)
- + Last season, named Most Valuable Player for Double-A Montgomery by the Rays Baseball Operations department...tied for the Southern League lead with 11 wins and ranked 5th with a 3.31 ERA.
- + Named to the SL midseason All-Star Team, and won Pitcher of the Week honors for July 22-28 after back-to-back 9-inning complete games...earned a mid-August promotion to Triple-A Durham.
- + Won his third start with the Bulls and his 12 total wins tied for 3rd among Rays minor leaguers, one shy of the co-leaders.
- + Ranked by *Baseball America* as the No. 29 prospect in the system.
- + Selected by the Rays in the fifth round of the 2017 June Draft out of Webster University, becoming the first drafted player in program history...went 8-1 with a 0.68 ERA (92.2-IP, 7-ER) in 13 starts as a junior, leading Division III in ERA and WHIP (0.71).

DAY-BY-DAY	W-L	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR	HB	WP	RESULT
2/23 vs. NYY	W-1	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	W, 9-7
2/27 at NYY	--	2.0	3	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	L, 1-7

2020 Spring Innings Played ("A" Games)																													
Player	C	1B	2B	3B	SS	LF	CF	RF	DH	Player	C	1B	2B	3B	SS	LF	CF	RF	DH	Player	C	1B	2B	3B	SS	LF	CF	RF	DH
Adames					31					Hollis							1			Perez	20							8	
Arozarena					5			23		Kelly		19				4				Pinto	6							6	
Betts									1	Kiermaier							24			Renfroe								32	
Brosseau		4	9	8					9	LaMarre					3		20	3		Robertson			9	9	13				
Bruján			23						3	Lowe, B			15			4				Smith	16							8	
Choi			30							Lowe, N				22				7		Sullivan	7	5		2		9		4	
Cozens						15	8	8		Lukes							8			Troike					4				
Díaz				26					4	Margot						11	11	4		Tsutsugo					9		9		11
Fox					15			11		Martínez		21							6	Walls					25				
Franco					9					Mastrobuoni			4			6	12	2		Wendle			26					5	
Gómez						7				McGowan		4								Whalen		3							
Gray		7	4	14						Meadows						20		4		Whitley								4	
Haley			7							O'Grady		4		4			10	7	9	Zunino	20								
Hernández	13							8		Padlo																			
Herrmann	15				4			6		Palomaki				3				4											

Spring Transactions

February

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Signed RH **Brooks Pounders** and RH **Deck McGuire** to minor league contracts with invitations to major league spring training.

RAYS SPRING TRAINING HISTORY											
YEAR	W-L-T	ATT.	YEAR	W-L-T	ATT.	YEAR	W-L-T	ATT.	YEAR	W-L-T	ATT.
2020	5-4-2	23,348	2014	16-7-4	78,264	2008	18-8-2	54,960	2002	10-16-1	49,043
2019	13-17-2	74,023	2013	15-17-2	90,935	2007	10-19-2	79,044	2001	12-15-1	57,081
2018	14-16-2	69,731	2012	10-16-6	87,916	2006	13-16-1	70,756	2000	14-17-0	67,089
2017	12-16-5	81,752	2011	15-14-2	95,859	2005	13-16-0	61,261	1999	14-14-1	59,230
2016	12-13-2	68,566	2010	20-8-2	97,971	2004	11-8-0	43,916	1998	12-18-0	66,781
2015	15-13-2	80,406	2009	15-16-1	103,255	2003	8-19-3	51,324	297-322-43		1,612,511