

ARIZONA FALL LEAGUE

GAME NOTES - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2026



www.mlbfallball.com
@mlbazfallleague



AFL Standings

	W-L	GB	Streak
Scottsdale Scorpions	7-2-1	-	W1
Surprise Saguaros	6-3	1.0	W3
Salt River Rafter	6-4	1.5	L2
Mesa Solar Sox	4-4-1	2.5	W3
Peoria Javelinas	4-6	3.5	L2
Glendale Desert Dogs	1-9	6.5	L6

Thursday's Top Performers

WELBYN FRANCISCA (SUR/CLE No. 19/SS) went 3-for-4 with a two-run triple, an RBI single and two walks. Francisca leads the AFL in 9 categories, including hits (13), extra-base hits (6), total bases (22), RBI (10), AVG (.591), SLG (1.000), and OPS (1.667).

ZION ROSE (SUR/KC No. 6/LF) hit the third grand slam of the season and the first in his pro career.

ALEX MCCOY (PEJ/SD No. 26/RF) launched a solo home run in the fourth inning 435 feet over the scoreboard. At 118.2 mph off the bat, it is the fourth-hardest hit ball in recorded AFL history.

TEKOA ROBY (PEJ/STL No. 14/RHP) spun 2.2 scoreless innings and only allowed two hits, with three punchouts. He has now struck out 9 of 20 batters faced.

CARLOS SANCHEZ (PEJ/CIN No. 14/SS) went 2-for-4, with a two-run home run, go-ahead home run in the seventh inning (395 ft/107.9 mph).

NATHAN FLEWELLING (MLB No. 62/TB No. 4/C) increased his hit total to 12 with a single. He is now tied with Ike Irish for second-most in the AFL.

ARJUN NIMMALA (MSS/LAA No. 1/MLB No. 34/SS) went 4-for-5 with two triples, a double, three RBIs and nine total bases. Nimmala is batting .379 through seven games.

KYLE DEBARGE (SRR/MIN/INF) went 4-for-4 with a double, a walk and two RBIs. He is now hitting .400 through seven games, which is tied for 6th.

JACK O'DOWD (SRR/COL/C) went 1-for-3 with a walk and a 444 ft two-run home run.

MLB Pipeline Top 100 Prospects (15)

8. Sebastian Walcott - SS, Surprise Saguaros (TEX)
15. Eduardo Quintero - OF, Glendale Desert Dogs (LAD)
26. Zyhir Hope - OF, Scottsdale Scorpions (DET)
27. Caleb Bonemer - OF, Glendale Desert Dogs (CWS)
34. Arjun Nimmala - SS, Mesa Solar Sox (LAA)
44. Bryce Rainer - SS, Scottsdale Scorpions (DET)
58. Tate Southisene - SS, Glendale Desert Dogs (ATL)
59. Aidan Miller - SS, Surprise Saguaros (PHI)
63. Nathan Flewelling - C, Scottsdale Scorpions (TB)
66. Jarlin Susana - RHP, Salt River Rafter (WSH)
76. Angeibel Gomez - OF, Surprise Saguaros (KC)
78. Dax Kilby - SS, Salt River Rafter (NYY)
79. Charles Davalan - OF, Glendale Desert Dogs (LAD)
84. Demetrio Crisantes - 2B, Salt River Rafter (ARI)
95. Ike Irish - OF, Peoria Javelinas (BAL)

Media Inquiries

For Arizona Fall League media inquiries, please contact Jaden Taylor (Jaden.Taylor@MLB.com).

Today's Headlines

The Arizona Fall League returns for its 34th playing season, welcoming hundreds of top Minor League prospects, the Arizona Fall League serves as the "finishing school" for players to reach the Major League level.

Alumni Spotlight: Jake Bauers NLCS MVP

On Thursday night, Brewers first baseman **Jake Bauers** was named the 2026 National League Championship Series MVP. Bauers, when a part of the Rays system in 2015, played for the Mesa Solar Sox, hitting five extra-base hits with eight RBIs in 18 games. Bauers for Milwaukee tied a franchise record for the most RBI in a postseason series with six against the Dodgers, including a two-run go-ahead home run in game three. He is 1 of 8 Brewers players that are AFL alum.

Starting Pitchers

Peoria @ Salt River: RHP Patrick Reilly (BAL) takes the hill, looking for his second win of the Arizona Fall League. In his last outing on Oct. 8, he fanned six hitters across three innings while only allowing one run on three hits. Reilly was drafted by the Pittsburgh Pirates in the 5th round (140) out of Vanderbilt in 2023. This season, across 8 starts (39.2 innings) with Double-A Chesapeake, Reilly registered a 3.63 ERA and a 12.48 K/9. The right-hander posted a 2.08 ERA with a 41-11 K/BB ratio over his final six outings in Double-A.

RHP JT Etheridge (NYY) gets the nod for his second start of the fall. The right-hander did not factor into the decision in his last start on Oct. 8, he tossed 2.2 innings with three punchouts while walking three and allowed two hits. Etheridge spent the entire year with Single-A Tampa, where his final regular-season record stood at 10-3 (.769).

Mesa @ Surprise: RHP Kyle Robinson (LAA) makes his second start for the Solar Sox. In 2024, Robinson was drafted in the 11th round by the Athletics out of Texas Tech. He was then traded to the Pirates on May 16, 2026 for 2B Alika Williams and then traded to the Angels on Aug. 3, 2026, for RHP Kirby Yates. In 2026, made 25 appearances (24 starts), logging 106.2 innings with 99 strikeouts across three levels with five teams.

Surprise turns to **RHP Aidan Major (CLE)** for his second start. Major was charged with the loss, after he allowed four hits and four unearned runs across 3.0 innings pitched on Oct. 8. In 2025, he missed the entire season recovering from Tommy John Surgery. Upon his return to the mound in 2026, he logged a 4.55 ERA, 57 strikeouts, 1.36 WHIP in 63.1 innings pitched across three levels.

Glendale @ Scottsdale: The Desert Dogs send **LHP Briggs McKenzie (ATL No. 8)** to the mound for his third start. In 2026, he posted a combined 1-0 record with a 2.08 ERA in seven starts across three levels. Over 26.0 innings, he limited opposing hitters to a .189 batting average and racked up 31 strikeouts. McKenzie's regular season ended when he was transferred from the 7-day to the 60-day IL on Aug. 7, 2026.

The Scorpions will counter with **RHP Miqueas Mercedes** makes his third AFL start today. He opened the year with a 3.04 ERA with 28 strikeouts in his first six appearances before being placed on the injured list on May 5 and later being reinstated on May 29. Mercedes spent the majority of the season in Single-A Wilson and went 2-1 with a 2.81 ERA, 71 strikeouts, and 1.44 WHIP over 73.2 innings pitched.

Upcoming Games and Probable Pitchers

Friday, October 16

Peoria @ Salt River	1:30	RHP Patrick Rielly vs. RHP JT Etheridge
Mesa @ Surprise	1:30	RHP Kyle Robinson vs. RHP Aidan Major
Glendale @ Scottsdale	6:30	LHP Briggs McKenzie vs. RHP Miqueas Mercedes

Saturday, October 17 - Goodyear Tripleheader

Salt River vs. Mesa	12:30	RHP Patrick Forbes vs. RHP Madinson Frias
Scottsdale vs. Peoria	3:30	RHP Miguel Mendez vs. RHP Kannon Kemp
Surprise vs. Glendale	6:30	RHP Peyton Prescott vs. LHP Luke Fox

Batting Practice & Infield/Outfield

The Arizona Fall League is set to have three mandatory batting practice and I/O days on Oct. 8, 15, and 19. Other days are at the discretion of the coaching staffs. The schedule for those days is below:

1:30 - Home I/O: 9:45 a.m., Home BP: 10:10 a.m., Visitor BP: 11:25 p.m., Visitor I/O: 12:35 p.m.
6:30 - Home I/O 2:45 p.m., Home BP: 3:10 p.m., Visitor BP: 4:25 p.m., Visitor I/O: 5:35 p.m.