

# HRDX PRESS KIT



 **MLB**  
**HOME RUN**  
**DERBY X**  
2022



KEY INFORMATION  
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# INTRODUCTION

MLB Home Run Derby X is an electrifying new baseball format taking MLB on a global tour to London, Seoul and Mexico City in 2022. Teams of MLB Legends, Superstars, Rookies and Wild Cards will represent 4 iconic Major League Baseball Clubs as they compete in a bracket style competition, earning points in each city to determine the ultimate MLB Home Run Derby X Champions. Points are scored by both offense and defense, with Home Runs and epic catches stealing the show, while live music and ballpark culture provide an action packed day out for all.



## HRDX PRESS KIT / KEY INFORMATION

# THE GAME

### Field of Play

The Field of Play is a reduced version of a baseball field, with Home Plate mounted on a stage and the Pitcher's Mound on a podium.

### What Clubs will we see?

Our players will represent 4 iconic Major League Baseball Clubs - Boston Red Sox, Chicago Cubs, Los Angeles Dodgers and New York Yankees.

### Who are the players?

Teams will consist of MLB Legends, Superstars, Rookies, Wild Cards and Pitchers.

#### MLB LEGENDS

Former MLB players, the star hitters on the team.

#### SUPERSTARS

The best talent from women's baseball and softball.

#### PITCHERS

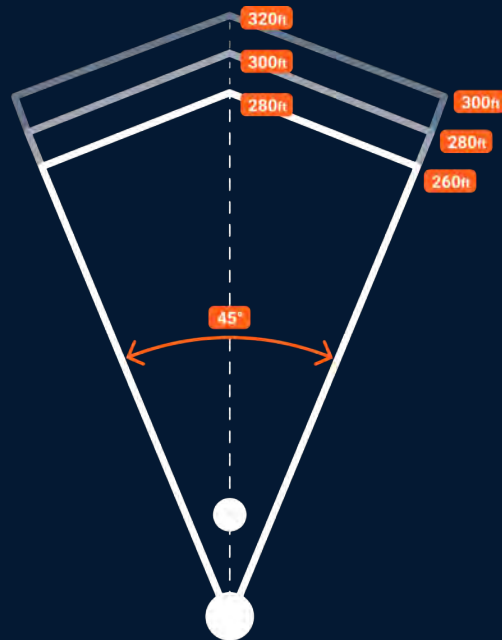
Will put the ball in the right spot every time and will be on the same team as their Batters.

#### ROOKIES

The most exciting talent drawn from the men's baseball development system.

#### WILD CARDS

High-profile content creators trained up by MLB and can be male or female.



\*Size may flex to accommodate specific venues and local conditions

## HRDX PRESS KIT / KEY INFORMATION

# THE GAME

### How does it work?

MLB Home Run Derby X is played on a reduced version of a baseball field, with points available for both offense and defense, and additional scoring opportunities with target hits and hot streak balls. At Each Tour Event the teams will compete in a bracket style competition, battling it out for top spot in two prelims, ahead of a third place play off and a final. The competition continues throughout the Tour with the most successful team crowned Home Run Derby X 2022 Champions.

**Hot Streak:** Any time during their At-Bat, the hitter may call for their Hot Streak: five consecutive pitches where the outcome of the play scores double Points. This applies to points scored on both offense and defense.

**Target Hit:** When a batter hits a Target without the ball bouncing, it scores 1 point for their team. If they hit a Target beyond the Outfield Fence they will score 1 point for their Home Run and 1 additional point for the Target Hit.

### How do teams score points?

Home Run - 1 point

Target Hit - 1 point

Catch - 1 point

Hot Streak - double your points

### The Tour

Four teams will play in each city, battling it out for the top spot in two prelims, ahead of a 3rd place play off and the final. Based on where they rank at each event, teams will be awarded points which will determine their position on the Home Run Derby X Tour leaderboard. The leaderboard will determine seedings for the final event of the Tour which will be played as a knock-out competition to determine the Home Run Derby X 2022 Champions.



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# 2022 TOUR DATES

July 9  
Crystal Palace Park, **LONDON**

September 17  
To be announced, **SEOUL**

October 15  
To be announced, **MEXICO CITY**





GAME RULES

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GAME RULES



 **MLB**  
**HOME RUN**  
**DERBY X**

## HRDX PRESS KIT / GAME RULES

# PLAYERS

**Batters:** Each team will have 4 Batters who will have an At-Bat as part of their team's inning;

Legend: former MLB player

Superstar: the best talent from women's baseball and softball

Rookie: up and coming talent drawn from the men's baseball development system

Wild Card: high profile content creators trained up by MLB (male or female)

**Fielders:** When on defense, two of the batters will be fielders.

**Pitchers:** Each team will have 1 BP Pitcher.





## HRDX PRESS KIT / GAME RULES

# FIELD OF PLAY

### Length of Field\*

- Between 280 ft and 320 ft to center field
- Between 260 ft and 300 ft down the lines

### Angle of field \*

Optimum Field of Play will be set with an angle of 45 degrees from Home Plate.

**Batter's Box** - Will be marked out on a raised stage.

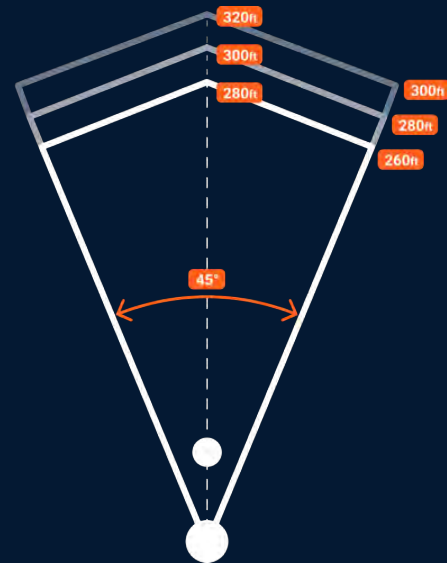
**Pitcher's Mound** - Will be raised to the same height as the stage.

### Target Positions

- 2 raised targets will be placed at approximately 160ft from Home Plate, approximately 20 feet in from each foul line.
- 2 raised targets will be placed immediately beyond the Outfield Fence, approximately 20 feet either side of Center Field.

**Catch Zone** - The Catch Zone will cover 60ft from the outfield fence. The front of the Catch Zone will be delineated by a line marked on the outfield.

**Outfield Fence** - There will be a padded outfield fence with a minimum height of 4 ft.



## HRDX PRESS KIT / GAME RULES

# GAMEPLAY

### Batting Order

- Teams will bat alternately, with one batter from Team A followed by one batter from Team B and so on.
- Teams batting orders will be organized into matchups between equals – for example Team A Legend will be followed by Team B Legend; Team A Wild Card will be followed by Team B Wild Card etc.

### At-Bat

- Three practice pitches will be permitted prior to each At-Bat.
- There will be a maximum of 35 pitches per At-Bat.
- A batter may swing at 25 of these pitches; and take up to 10 of these pitches.
- The At-Bat is over as soon as the batter has swung at 25 pitches; or once all 35 pitches have been thrown (whichever happens first).
- Each batter may call for one Time Out of 30 seconds during their At-Bat.



## HRDX PRESS KIT / GAME RULES

# GAMEPLAY

### Outfield Catches

- A catch taken by a fielder within the designated Catch Zone counts as 1 point for the Defense.
- Catches taken at the front of the Catch Zone will count if the catcher completes the catch before any part of their body touches the ground outside the Catch Zone.

### Hot Streaks

- A batter may call for their Hot Streak at any point during their At-Bat.
- A Hot Streak cannot be paused – once called for, all 5 Hot Streak pitches will be delivered consecutively.
- A batter may take pitches within their Hot Streak (with the total 10 takes they are allowed during their At-Bat).
- If a batter does not call for their Hot Streak, it will begin automatically once the batter has taken 20 swings.
- A Home Run hit during a Hot Streak will count for 2 points for the Offense.
- A Target Hit hit during a Hot Streak will count for 2 points for the Offense.
- A catch taken during a Hot Streak will count for 2 points for the Defense.



## HRDX PRESS KIT / GAME RULES

# GAMEPLAY

### Target Hits

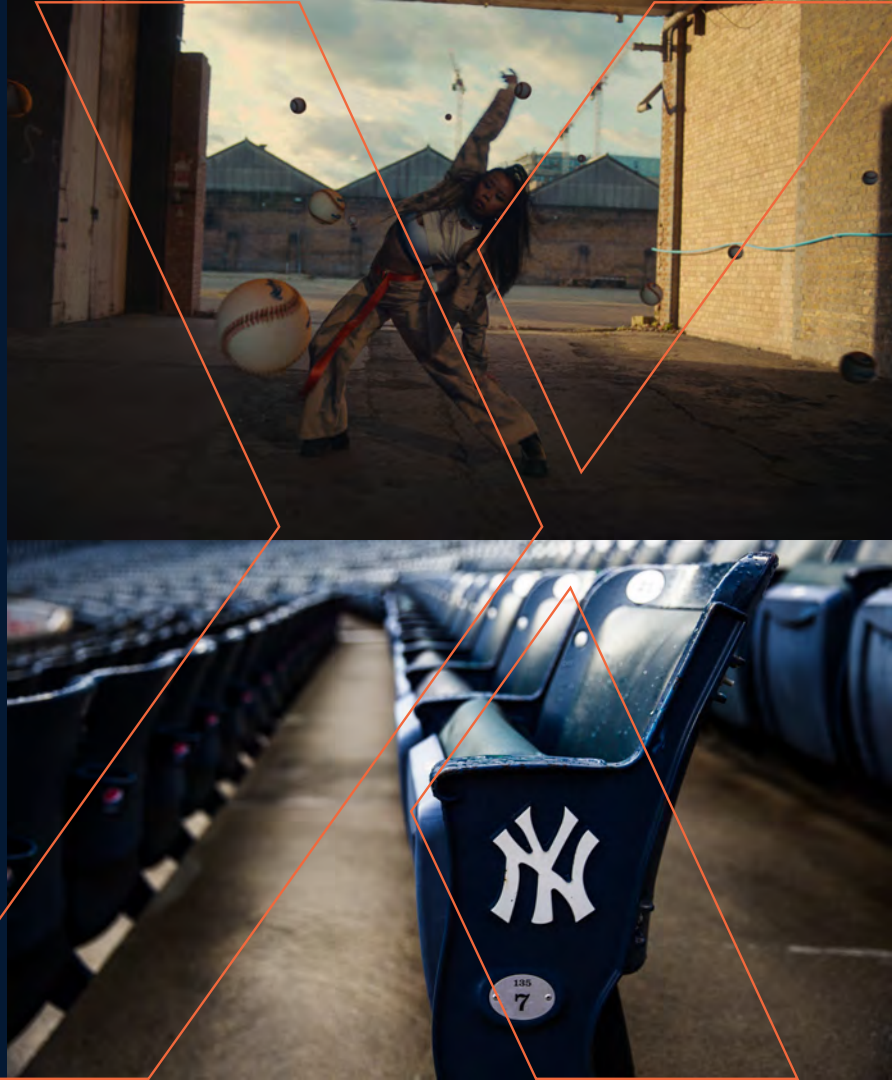
- Target Hits count for 1 point for the Offense. (note: when the batter hits a target beyond the Outfield Fence they will score a total of 2 points – 1 for the Home Run and 1 for the Target Hit).
- Target Hit during a Hot Streak counts for 2 points.
- Once a Target Hit has been called, the ball is 'dead' and cannot be caught.

### End of Game

The game is over at the point when one team takes the lead, and the other team has no further batters to come.

### Tie Breaker

- If the game is tied after all batters have completed their At-Bat, each team will select one batter to participate in a Swing Off.
- The Swing Off will consist of 10 swings per batter, with each allowed to take a maximum of 3 pitches.
- Three practice pitches will be permitted before each At-Bat in the Swing Off. or Home Runs – no Hot Streak, Target Hits, or Catches.
- In the Swing Off, points are only scored f
- If the game remains tied after the Swing Off, the two selected batters will have 'sudden death' At-Bats of 1 swing, with each allowed to take 1 pitch per At-Bat.





PLAYER BIOS

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# LEGENDS



**Name:** Jonny Gomes

**Age:** 41

**From:** California, USA

**Big Wins:** One World Series for Boston Red Sox (2013)

**Big Hits:** Gomes hit 162 Home Runs during his professional Career

**Fun Fact:** Gomes is known for his ability to “cheat death” having had multiple near-death experiences throughout his life



**Name:** Geovany Soto

**Age:** 39

**From:** San Juan, Puerto Rico

**Big Wins:** In 2008, Soto won Sporting News Rookie of the Year Award and the Major League Baseball Rookie of the Year Award

**Big Hits:** Soto hit 108 Home Runs during his professional Career

**Fun Fact:** Geo Soto shares his name with former MLB player Giovanni Soto. The two played together as part of the White Sox Spring Training in 2017

# LEGENDS



**Name:** Adrián González

**Age:** 39

**From:** California, USA

**Big Wins:** González is a 5-time All Star and 4-time Gold Glove winner

**Big Hits:** González hit 317 Home Runs during his professional Career

**Fun Fact:** It is commonly though that González earned his nickname El Titan after the mythological Gods but in fact, Gonzalez received this nickname from his high school's team name, Titans



**Name:** Nick Swisher

**Age:** 41

**From:** Ohio, USA

**Big Wins:** Won 2009 World Series Championship with the Yankees

**Big Hits:** Swisher hit 245 home runs during his professional career, averaging 26 per season in his four years with the Yankees

**Fun Fact:** In 2011 Swisher released a children's music album for charity.

# SUPERSTARS



**Name:** Paige Halstead  
Former Team USA Softball

**Age:** 24

**From:** California, USA

**Big Wins:** Paige won the gold and silver medal as part of Team USA's junior women's national team

**Fun Fact:** Paige used to play the drums. Her dad was a drummer in a band when he was growing up, and he taught her how to play when she was 10 years old. To this day she still loves to play



**Name:** Alex Hugo  
Team USA Baseball

**Age:** 27

**From:** Kansas, USA

**Big Wins:** Alex was named the Pan American games' Most Valuable Player and earned the 2019 USA Baseball Sportswoman of the Year Award

**Fun Fact:** When visiting Africa, Alex took a boat ride down the Nile & stood on both sides of the equator at one time



# SUPERSTARS



**Name:** Ashton Lansdell  
Team USA Baseball

**Age:** 21

**From:** Georgia, USA

**Big Wins:** Ashton was selected to join Team USA's baseball team at just 17 years old

**Fun Fact:** Being very accident prone, Ashton has sprained both ankles, fractured both wrists, and torn both ACLs



**Name:** Erika Piancastelli  
Olympic Softball Player

**Age:** 25

**From:** Modena, Italy

**Title:** Olympian & MLB Home Run Derby X Superstar

**Big Wins:** In her college career, Erika had a .400 batting average, 200 RBI, 75 home runs and held an .800 career slugging percentage

**Fun Fact:** Erika has traveled all over the world playing softball and is currently living and playing in Japan

# SUPERSTARS



**Name:** Stefania Aradillas  
*Olympic Softball Player*

**Age:** 27

**From:** Mexico City, Mexico

**Big Wins:** Stefania received the 'Premio Nacional del Deporte' in 2020 - a national award given by the Mexican government to outstanding athletes

**Fun Fact:** Stefania has become a sneaker head little by little and now decides what she is going to wear based on her shoes

# WILD CARDS



**Name:** Liv Cooke  
Professional Football  
Freestyler

**Age:** 22

**From:** UK

**Big Wins:** Liv is the first female World Champion football freestyler, 5 x world record holder, and the youngest player in history to achieve this feat. She has previously been awarded the Parliamentary Rising Star and Woman of the Future awards

**Fun Fact:** With a passion for property & real estate, Liv founded Liv Cooke properties in 2019



**Name:** Spencer Owen  
Football Content Creator

**Age:** 33

**From:** UK

**Big Wins:** Spencer is known for creating the hugely successful Wembley Cup series and being a best-selling author of his book "GameChanger". He is also the Founder of Hashtag United

**Fun Fact:** Like Spencer, everyone in his family has a name beginning with S - his parents' names are Steve and Sindy, whilst his brothers are called Sebastian and Saunders

# WILD CARDS



**Name:** Yoongy Kwak  
Olympic Short Track Speed Skater

**Age:** 32

**From:** Seoul, South Korea

**Big Wins:** Yoongy is the first short track speed skater to be selected for the national team 10 times. He also holds 34 World Cup medals and 2 Olympics medals

**Fun Fact:** Yoongy started skating at the age of 6 in order to improve his fitness



**Name:** Daniel Corral  
Olympic Gymnast

**Age:** 32

**From:** Baja California, Mexico

**Big Wins:** 2012 Silver Medal in the World Championships. Three-time Olympian representing Mexico

**Fun Fact:** Daniel is due to get married later this year to professional cyclist Antoineta Gaxiola



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## HRDX PRESS KIT / CLUB INFORMATION

# BOSTON RED SOX



League:	American League East Division
Social Media:	@redsox
Website:	<a href="http://www.mlb.com/redsox">www.mlb.com/redsox</a>
Ballpark:	Fenway Park
World Series Titles:	9
Established:	1901

### 2021 Season Facts:

Total Home Runs: 219

Player with most Home Runs:  
Rafael Devers (38)

Longest Home Run: 474 ft by Franchy  
Cordero against Philadelphia Phillies

Standout defensive player: Christian  
Vazquez

Standout catch from 2021 season: Alex  
Verdugo vs Tampa Bay Rays

### 2021 All-Stars

Xander Bogaerts

Rafael Devers

J.D. Martinez

Nathan Eovaldi

Matt Barnes



## HRDX PRESS KIT / CLUB INFORMATION

# CHICAGO CUBS



League: National League Central Division

Social Media: @cubs

Website: [www.mlb.com/cubs](http://www.mlb.com/cubs)

Ballpark: Wrigley Field

World Series Titles: 3

Established: 1876

### 2021 Season Facts:

Total Home Runs: 210

Player with most Home Runs: Patrick Wisdom (28)

Longest Home Run: 464 ft by Willson Contreras against Cincinnati Reds

Standout defensive player: James Heyward

Standout catch from 2021 season: Rafael Ortega vs St. Louis Cardinals

### 2021 All-Stars

Kris Bryant

Craig Kimbrel



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# LOS ANGELES DODGERS



League:	National League West Division
Social Media:	@dodgers
Website:	<a href="http://www.mlb.com/dodgers">www.mlb.com/dodgers</a>
Ballpark:	Dodger Stadium
World Series Titles:	7
Established:	1883

**2021 Season Facts:**

Total Home Runs: 237

Player with most Home Runs: Max Muncy (36 total)

Longest Home Run: 472 ft by Luke Raley against Colorado Rockies

Standout defensive player: Mookie Betts

Standout catch from 2021 season: Mookie Betts vs Atlanta Braves

**2021 All-Stars**

Mookie Betts

Walker Buehler

Max Muncy

Chris Taylor

Justin Turner





## HRDX PRESS KIT / CLUB INFORMATION

# NEW YORK YANKEES



League: American League East Division  
Social Media: @yankees  
Website: [www.mlb.com/yankees](http://www.mlb.com/yankees)  
Ballpark: Yankee Stadium  
World Series Titles: 27  
Established: 1903

### 2021 Season Facts:

Total Home Runs: 222

Player with most Home Runs:  
Aaron Judge (39)

Longest Home Run: 472 ft by Giancarlo  
Stanton against Oakland Athletics

Standout defensive player: Joey Gallo  
(Gold Glove finalist 2021)

Standout catch from 2021 season: Aaron  
Judge vs. Blue Jays

### 2021 All-Stars

Aaron Judge

Aroldis Chapman

Gerrit Cole





FAQs

FAQs

FAQs

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# WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT HOME RUN DERBY X?

## **What is Home Run Derby X?**

Home Run Derby X is an electrifying new baseball format that takes MLB on a global tour. Home Runs and epic catches steal the show, while live music and ballpark culture push it to the next level.

## **How is Home Run Derby X different from regular baseball?**

In Home Run Derby X, the field of play is smaller, with teams going head-to-head and points up for grabs on both offense and defense. Each batter has one at-bat of 25 pitches. They'll be swinging for the fences, while two of their opponents patrol the outfield. A Home Run scores one point for the offense and a catch is one point for the defense.

In Home Run Derby X there are additional ways to score - Target Hits in the infield, and beyond the fence, can earn extra points for the batters. Each batter also has a Hot Streak - five consecutive pitches where Home Runs and Target Hits count double but a catch in the Hot Streak is also double points for the defense.

## **How is it different to All Star Home Run Derby?**

Home Run Derby X is a team game, rather than an individual competition. There are 5 players per team, made up of four batters and one pitcher. Home Run Derby X is about offense and defense. Batters can score points via Home Runs and Target Hits but Fielders can also score points for their team if they catch a ball in the catch zone. The Hot Streak will allow for double points for both the offense and defense.

## **Will Home Run Derby X be on every year?**

Major League Baseball is committed to the long-term development of Home Run Derby X. This is a multi-year initiative with plans for future expansion



## WHO IS TAKING PART?

### Which Clubs will be involved?

Home Run Derby X will have 4 teams who each represent 4 iconic Major League Baseball Clubs; Boston Red Sox, Chicago Cubs, Los Angeles Dodgers & New York Yankees.

### How many people are on a team?

At each event, a team will have 5 players; MLB Legend, Superstar, Rookie, Wild Card and Pitcher.

### Who will be playing?

Teams will consist of MLB Legends, Superstars, Rookies, Wild Cards and Pitchers.

MLB Legends are former MLB players, and will be the star hitters on the team.

Superstars are the best talent from women's baseball and softball.

Rookies are the most exciting local talent drawn from the men's baseball development system.

Wild Cards are high-profile content creators trained up by MLB and can be male or female

Pitchers will put the ball in the right spot every time and will be on the same team as their Batters. Full details of the teams will be revealed before each event.



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### **Will the same players be part of every Home Run Derby X event?**

The teams will remain fixed unless scheduling, injury or illness dictate otherwise.

### **What experience do the Rookies have?**

Rookies are male players drawn from the baseball development system. Home Run Derby X gives MLB the opportunity to highlight talent in international markets, providing a platform for local talent to showcase their skills.

### **What training will the Wild Cards do ahead of Home Run Derby X?**

MLB have developed an intensive, elite training program to take each Wild Card from baseball novice to big hitter. Each Wild Card has been assigned a personal baseball coach who will work with them throughout the Home Run Derby X tour. They are receiving mentoring from the Legends and will also attend a Home Run Derby X training camp.



# HOW DOES THE GAMEPLAY WORK?

## How do you score a Home Run?

A Home Run is when a fair ball travels beyond the Outfield Fence without bouncing. It scores 1 point for the batting team.

## Can you score points in any other way?

Yes, players can also score points from Target Hits or Catches. There are 4 Targets in the field of play; 2 infield and 2 beyond the outfield fence. When hit by the Batting team, they earn 1 point. In the case of the outfield fence targets, this would result in 2 points; 1 point for a target and 1 point for a Home Run. When a fielder catches a fly ball in the Catch Zone, they score 1 Point for their team.

## What is a Hot Streak?

Any time during their at-bat, the hitter may call for their Hot Streak: five consecutive pitches where the outcome of the play scores double points. This can also mean double points for the defense if they make a successful catch within the catch zone.

## What is a Target Hit?

A Target Hit is when a batter hits a Target without the ball bouncing. A successful Target Hit scores 1 point for the batter's team.



## HRDX PRESS KIT / FAQs

### Is Home Run Derby X played on a regular baseball field?

The Field of Play is a reduced version of a baseball field, with Home Plate mounted on a stage and the Pitcher's Mound on a podium.

### How is a game decided?

After all four batters have completed their at-bats for both teams, the winner is the team with the most points.

### What happens if there is a tied game?

Each team selects one batter to participate in a 10 pitch swing-off to determine the winner. In the Tiebreaker, only Home Runs can score points - no points are on offer for outfield catches or Target Hits.

### How many Home Run Derby X games are there at each event?

The four teams will compete in a total of four Home Run Derby X games at each event.

Two Preliminary Round games will decide the teams that compete in the Final and 3rd Place Play Off. Each event will have a winning team, with the Home Run Derby X Tour Champions crowned at the end of the tour.



# HOW DOES THE TOUR WORK?

## Where will Home Run Derby X take place?

In 2022, Home Run Derby X will take place in London, Seoul & Mexico City.

July 9 – Crystal Palace Park, LONDON

September 17 – SEOUL, venue to be announced

October 15 – MEXICO CITY, venue to be announced

## Is there a final? Or an ultimate winner?

Yes – based on where they rank at each event, teams will be awarded points which will determine their position on the Home Run Derby X Tour leaderboard.

The leaderboard will determine seedings for the final event of the Tour which will be played as a knock-out competition to determine the Home Run Derby X Tour Champions.





## WHAT ELSE HAPPENS AT THE EVENTS?

### **What else will be at the events?**

Home Run Derby X is a full-day festival experience. The Home Run Derby X competition is at the heart and it will be surrounded by other activities. There will be digital and physical baseball activations, ballpark-inspired food and drink, live music and DJs. Full details will be announced closer to each event.

### **Will there be food?**

Yes, at each event you will find ballpark inspired food and drink.

### **Will there be music?**

Yes, at each Home Run Derby X event there will be DJs and headline music artists. More details will be announced soon.

### **What measures will be in place at events regarding Covid-19?**

MLB will continue to monitor the Covid situation in all Home Run Derby X host cities and will be guided by local health authority rulings and MLB policy.



# WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TICKETS?

## **Where can I buy tickets?**

Information about buying tickets for each Home Run Derby X event will be released in due course. Please register at [mlb.com/HomeRunDerbyX](http://mlb.com/HomeRunDerbyX) to be kept up-to-date and to hear the latest information.

## **How much is a ticket?**

Information about buying tickets will be released in due course. Please register at [mlb.com/HomeRunDerbyX](http://mlb.com/HomeRunDerbyX) to be kept up-to-date and to hear the latest on tickets going on sale for each event.

## **Can I buy a full 'tour' ticket? I.e. for all events?**

This is the first year of Home Run Derby X and if you would like to attend all events, you would need to purchase each ticket independently.



**HRDX PRESS KIT / FAQs**

# HOW CAN I BE A PART OF THE ACTION?

**Where can I find out more?**

All details about Home Run Derby X can be found at [mlb.com/HomeRunDerbyX](https://mlb.com/HomeRunDerbyX) Follow @mlb for all the latest news.

**If I can't attend, is there another way to watch Home Run Derby X online or on TV?**

Yes, Home Run Derby X events will be livestreamed and highlights will also be available to watch. More details will be announced soon.

**Where can I find the links to the livestream?**

[mlb.com/HomeRunDerbyX](https://mlb.com/HomeRunDerbyX) & @mlb



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For more information please contact:  
[hrdxmedia@mlb.com](mailto:hrdxmedia@mlb.com)

