



# NOTES FROM A DISTANCE

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

## FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2020

Day 36 Since Major League Baseball's Suspension of Spring Training

### TAMPA BAY RAYS REGULAR SEASON HISTORY

YEAR	RECORD	POS.	PCT.	GB/GA	PLAYOFFS	YEAR	RECORD	POS.	PCT.	GB/GA	PLAYOFFS	YEAR	RECORD	POS.	PCT.	GB/GA	PLAYOFFS	YEAR	RECORD	POS.	PCT.	GB/GA	PLAYOFFS
2019	96-66	2nd	.593	7.0	Lost in ALDS	2013	92-71	2nd	.564	5.5	Lost in ALDS	2007	66-96	5th	.407	30.0	--	2001	62-100	5th	.383	34.0	--
2018	90-72	3rd	.556	18.0	--	2012	90-72	3rd	.556	5.0	--	2006	61-101	5th	.377	36.0	--	2000	69-92	5th	.429	18.0	--
2017	80-82	3rd	.494	13.0	--	2011	91-71	2nd	.562	6.0	Lost in ALDS	2005	67-94	5th	.416	28.0	--	1999	69-93	5th	.426	29.0	--
2016	68-94	5th	.420	25.0	--	2010	96-66	1st	.593	1.0	Lost in ALDS	2004	70-91	4th	.435	30.5	--	1998	63-99	5th	.414	51.0	--
2015	80-82	4th	.494	13.0	--	2009	84-78	3rd	.519	19.0	--	2003	63-99	5th	.389	38.0	--						
2014	77-85	4th	.475	19.0	--	2008	97-65	1st	.599	2.0	Lost in WS	2002	55-106	5th	.342	48.0	--						

**MAKING AN IMPACT**—The Rays Baseball Foundation and Rowdies Soccer Fund is allocating \$1 million to nonprofit organizations in the Tampa Bay region in response to the COVID-19 crisis, and have already committed nearly \$700,000 to this effort...the RBF and RSF is now accepting applications for the newly established COVID-19 Relief Grant program...organizations with 501(c)(3) status and a focus on hunger relief, shelter and/or health and wellness and that have been impacted by COVID-19 are eligible to apply...for info or to apply, visit [raysbaseball.com/teamingup](http://raysbaseball.com/teamingup).

- + Yesterday the RBF announced recipients for its Community Partnership Grants and Community Fund Grants, all aimed at COVID-19 relief efforts...see the separate press release for more info.
- + The RBF and RSF, along with the Tampa Bay Lightning and Tampa Bay Buccaneers, contributed \$100,000 to the Relief Now, Rise Together Fund—a new relief fund for residents and small businesses in the City of Tampa facing economic uncertainty due to the pandemic...for more details, please visit [tampagov.net/relief-now](http://tampagov.net/relief-now).
- + The RBF and RSF is donating up to 2.5 million meals to Feeding Tampa Bay to help those in need during the COVID-19 crisis...fans are encouraged to join the campaign by purchasing essential food items or making a monetary donation by visiting [donate.feedingtampabay.org/teamingup](http://donate.feedingtampabay.org/teamingup)...the RBF and RSF kicked off the virtual food drive campaign with a \$100,000 donation, and pledged to match donations on the campaign page up to an additional \$150,000...currently, the drive has collected \$388,300 of its possible \$400,000 goal.
- + This Saturday and next, Lot 4 of Tropicana Field (1st Ave S and 17th St) continues to be used as a drive-thru mobile pantry for Feeding Tampa Bay's Pinellas clients, from 9 a.m.-noon...for details or updates to the schedule, visit [feedingtampabay.org/mobile-pantries](http://feedingtampabay.org/mobile-pantries).
- + On Wednesday, the Rays partnered with Papa Johns to deliver pizzas to Tampa police and nurses stationed at Raymond James.

**YARBROUGH HUG**—Yesterday morning, **Ryan Yarbrough** and his wife, **Nicole**, along with **Shane McClanahan**, delivered a breakfast of coffee and pastries to St. Joseph's Hospital critical care unit...it was enjoyed by more than 125 doctors, nurses and healthcare workers on the front lines.

- + On WDAE, Yarbrough will call in to Pat and Aaron today at 1 p.m.

**HOME PLATE PROJECT**—Fifty major league players, including **Charlie Morton** and **Joey Wendle**, have teamed up for nearly \$1 million, providing over 4 million meals as part of the "Home Plate Project" initiative to address childhood hunger due to the COVID-19 crisis...the effort is a partnership between MLB, **Garth Brooks'** Teammates for Kids Foundation and Big League Impact, which was founded by **STL Adam Wainwright**, and is currently led by Wainwright and **TEX Kyle Gibson**.

**GAMING FOR GOOD**—**Blake Snell**, playing as the Rays in the *MLB The Show* Players League, is 10-2 thus far, including a 9-game winning streak...his 10-2 mark leads the AL East, ahead of **TOR Bo Bichette** (9-3), and is 2nd among all 30 players behind **TEX Joey Gallo** (11-1)...updated standings, schedule, stats and results are available at [mlb.com/playersleague](http://mlb.com/playersleague)...the two-week regular season schedule features 29 three-inning games, round-robin style, followed by a postseason similar to the MLB format...fans can watch streams of games throughout the season on a variety of digital plat-

forms, including Twitch and YouTube...games begin at 9 p.m. each night.

- + MLB, the MLBPA and Sony will donate a total of \$175,000 to the Boys & Girls Clubs through this effort, with \$5,000 donated on behalf of each player to a Boys & Girls Club affiliate in their community, and an extra \$25,000 going to the local affiliate of the championship player.
- + Last night Snell continued his weekly takeover of MLB's Instagram Live for *The Snell Show*, with special guest LAD **Cody Bellinger**...last week NYY **Aaron Judge** was his guest for the first edition.

**CLIMBING THE FLOW CHART**—**Tyler Glasnow** defeated NYM **Noah Syndergaard** to advance to the Final Four in MLB Network's "Best Hair in Baseball" bracket...Final Four voting begins today via Twitter polling (@MLBNetworkRadio), with Glasnow opposing LAD **Dustin May**...the opposite bracket is down to ATL **Dansby Swanson** and SF **Brandon Crawford**.

- + This week's edition of *This Week in Rays Baseball* podcast, hosted by **Neil Solondz**, features Glasnow and *Tampa Bay Times* beat writer **Marc Topkin**...Neil also released a podcast this morning with **Dan Johnson** recalling the 2008 season and his Game 162 homer.

**DREAM BRACKET**—Yesterday Major League Baseball, in conjunction with Out of the Park Baseball, unveiled the MLB Dream Bracket presented by DraftKings, which begins on Monday...the bracket is a 32-team best-of-seven simulation featuring all-time teams for each of the 30 current franchises, as well as teams consisting of Negro Leagues Stars and 25-and-Under Stars...the finals are scheduled for May 4-5...for more info, visit [mlb.com/dreambracket](http://mlb.com/dreambracket)...the Rays all-time roster is as follows:

- + **Pitchers:** David Price, James Shields, Scott Kazmir, Blake Snell, Chris Archer, Alex Cobb, Matt Garza, Alex Colomé, Fernando Rodney, Jake McGee, Roberto Hernandez
- + **Starters:** C Dioner Navarro, 1B Carlos Peña, 2B Ben Zobrist, 3B Evan Longoria, SS Julio Lugo, LF Carl Crawford, CF Kevin Kiermaier, RF B.J. Upton, DH Fred McGriff
- + **Bench:** Jason Bartlett, Akinori Iwamura, Matt Joyce, Rocco Baldelli, Aubrey Huff, Toby Hall

**2020 DREAMMAKER**—The Children's Dream Fund has named **Kevin Kiermaier** as the recipient of the 2020 Dreammaker Award, largely due to the Kiermaier's Kids program that sponsors dream experiences for children...the luncheon, originally scheduled for this past Tuesday, has been postponed.

**COMFORTS OF HOME**—FOX Sports Sun continues to re-air every Rays victory from last season in succession...these will complement "Rays Classics," which begin on Monday with the franchise's inaugural game from March 31, 1998 vs. DET...tonight at 7 p.m. and midnight, FOX Sports Sun will air the 7-2 win from May 23 at CLE...tomorrow at noon will be the 6-2 win from May 25 at CLE, with **Charlie Morton** reaching double-digit strikeouts for the first time as a Ray...on Sunday at noon and midnight, they will air the 6-3 win from May 26 at CLE, which included a leadoff homer from **Austin Meadows** as part of a 4-for-4 performance.

- + WDAE 95.3 FM and 620 AM is re-airing Rays wins from last season every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7 p.m. and every Saturday and Sunday at noon...tonight, tomorrow and Sunday are the games from March 31 vs. HOU, April 1 vs. COL and April 2 vs. COL.

**TAMPA BAY RAYS COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT**

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