



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 (0-1-0) vs. NEW YORK YANKEES (0-1-0)

LH Ryan Yarbrough (0-0, 0.00) vs. RH Jonathan Loaisiga (0-0, 0.00)

Sunday, February 23, 2020 • **First Pitch:** 1:05 p.m. • **Location:** Charlotte Sports Park • **TV:** FOX Sports Sun • **Radio:** WDAE 95.3 FM/620 AM

Spring Game No.: 2 • **vs. AL Opponents:** 0-1-0 • **vs. NL Opponents:** 0-0-0 • **Home Games:** 0-0-0 • **Road Games:** 0-1-0

Day 11 of Spring Training • 32 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
Sun., 2/23 vs. NYY	1:05 p.m.	TB —LH Ryan Yarbrough, RH Andrew Kittredge, RH Diego Castillo, LH Colin Poche; LH Anthony Banda, LH Shane McClanahan, LH Josh Fleming, LH Sean Gilmartin, LH Ryan Sherriff, LH D.J. Snelten, RH John Curtiss; NY —RH Jonathan Loaisiga, RH David Hale, RH Nick Nelson, RH Clark Schmidt	FOX Sports Sun, WDAE 95.3 FM/620 AM
Mon., 2/24 vs. BOS	1:05 p.m.	TB —RH Yonny Chirinos, RH Oliver Drake, RH Nick Anderson; BOS —TBD	FOX Sports Sun, MLB.com
Tues., 2/25 at BAL	1:05 p.m.	TB —TBD; BAL —LH John Means, Relievers TBD	None

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.

PLAY BALL!—Today is the club's second of 32 official Grapefruit League games (16 at Charlotte Sports Park, 16 on the road) and the first of six weekend home games games...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...starting with yesterday's spring training opener through the end of the regular season (Feb 22–Sep 27), the Rays are scheduled to play 195 games over a 219-day stretch.

- + Fans can purchase spring training season tickets, mini packs, group tickets or single-game spring training tickets at raysbaseball.com/spring or by calling 888-FAN-RAYS...single-game tickets for spring training are also available at the Charlotte Sports Park Box Office.

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 3B/OF **Yoshi Tsutsugo**, signed as a free agent from the Central League in Japan, and trade acquisitions 1B/DH **José Martínez** and OF **Randy Arozarena** (from St. Louis), and OF **Hunter Renfroe** and OF **Manuel Margot** (from San Diego).

MINOR MATTERS—*Baseball America's* annual Organizational Talent Rankings of minor league prospects were released earlier this month 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 league-high 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 McClanahan** and RH **Joe Ryan**.
- + On Friday, *Baseball America* ranked Double-A Montgomery No. 1 on its list of possible "super teams" for the 2020 season.

SINGLE-GAME TICKETS—Are currently on sale in the MLB Ballpark app and at raysbaseball.com...tomorrow at 10 a.m., single-game tickets will go on sale through all outlets, including the Rays Republic Team Store at Tropicana Field or through 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 2020...all three will be available for purchase starting tomorrow at 10 a.m. in the MLB Ballpark app and at raysbaseball.com/ticketpacks.

- + Ballpark Pass—offers a standing room ticket to any game at Tropicana Field for \$36 per month (raysbaseball.com/ballparkpass)
- + Rays Win Pack—For \$99 per pack, select any four regular season home games...if buyers select and attend four games 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.
- + Flex Packs—Includes five lower level tickets for \$99 per pack.

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 dropped their Grapefruit League opener, 4-3, in Fort Myers (Red Sox)...RH **Sam McWilliams** allowed 3 runs in the 8th inning, but the Rays nearly overcame a 4-0 deficit in the 9th...C **Ronaldo Hernández** and LF **Ryan LaMarre** both hit RBI singles.

RAYS vs. YANKEES—Today is the first of two meetings between the two clubs this spring, both over a 5-day stretch...the only other meeting is on Thursday in Tampa, which is a split-squad day for the Rays...the Rays went 0-2 against the Yankees last spring and 7-12 in the regular season (5-4 at home, 2-8 on the road), including 5-3 in the last 8 games...the Rays were a Game 5 ALDS win away from playing the Yankees in the ALCS.

- + The first 7 games between the two clubs this season are at Tropicana Field, including 3 games (March 30–April 1) on the season-opening homestand...nine of the next 12 games are at Yankee Stadium, including 3 games there to end the regular season.

TODAY'S STARTER vs. NYY—LH Ryan Yarbrough (0-0, 0.00 ERA)

- + **2019 Majors:** 11-6, 4.13 ERA (141.2-IP, 65-ER) in 28 apps (14 starts)
- + **2019 Minors:** 2-1, 3.81 ERA (26-IP, 11-ER) in 5 apps (4 starts)
- + Made 28 apps (14 starts) over four stints with the Rays last season: Opening Day–April 24, May 5 (did not pitch), May 23–July 1, July 14 through season's end...ranked 2nd on the team with 141.2 IP.
- + Is the only pitcher in club history with double-digit wins in his first two seasons in the majors...owns a 27-12 (.692) record over the past two years, tied for the 7th-best in the majors over that stretch.
- + Yielded 20 BB last season for a 1.27 BB/9 IP ratio...ranked 3rd in the majors behind LAD **Hyun-Jin Ryu** (1.18) and SEA/ARI **Mike Leake** (1.23) and 2nd in club history to **David Price** (1.21) in 2014.
- + Recorded a 1.00 WHIP, which was 3rd among AL pitchers (min. 100 IP) to HOU **Justin Verlander** (0.80) and HOU **Gerri Cole** (0.89).
- + Led the majors in averaging 14.5 pitches per inning, ahead of ATL **Mike Soroka** (14.6)...his 3.65 pitches/BF was 7th in the majors.
- + From the start of his third stint on May 23 through season's end, went 9-5 with a 3.60 ERA (125-IP, 50-ER) in 23 apps (14 starts)...his 1.15 BB/9 IP ratio over that stretch led the AL.

ON THE AIRWAVES—Today's game will air on WDAE 95.3 FM/620 AM, with **Dave Wills** and **Andy Freed** on the call and **Neil Solondz** providing in-game reports...Dave and Andy are entering their 16th season together; only the Giants and Tigers have longer-tenured full-season radio broadcast duos...pitching coach **Kyle Snyder** and RH **Charlie Morton** are guests on this week's edition of the Countdown to Opening Day radio show, airing today at 12:30 p.m. ...tomorrow's game will be on MLB.com, with Solondz and Montgomery broadcaster **Chris Adams-Wall** on the call.

RAYS ON THE TUBE—Today is the first of a club-record-tying 11 spring broadcasts on FOX Sports Sun, which includes nine at Charlotte Sports Park...the 11-game slate features 7 games against AL East opponents and the March 24 exhibition against Rays prospects at Tropicana Field...in addition to televising the games, each broadcast will be made available for live streaming on FOX Sports GO...the broadcast schedule will feature a mix of play-by-play by **Dewayne Staats**, analysis by **Brian Anderson**, reporting by **Tricia Whitaker** and special guest appearances in the booth.

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										Kiermaier										Renfroe									5
Arozarena								3		LaMarre						3				Robertson					5				
Brosseau				3						Lowe, B			5							Smith	5								
Bruján		3								Lowe, N				5						Sullivan		3							
Choi										Margot						5				Tsutsugo									
Cozens						3				Martínez		5								Walls					3				
Díaz										Mastrobuoni								2		Wendle									
Fox										Meadows										Zunino									
Gray										O'Grady							5												
Hernández	3									Padlo																			
Herrmann								6		Perez																			
Kelly										Pinto																			

Spring Transactions

FEBRUARY

14Signed 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	0-1-0	--	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		292-318-41	1,589,163

2020 Tampa Bay Rays Spring Training Schedule									
Day	Date	Opponent	Site	R/TV	Time/Score	W-L-T	Winner	Loser	Att.
Sat	Feb 22	@Boston	Fort Myers	W	L, 3-4	0-1-0	Kickham (1-0)	Ryan (0-1)	9,641
Sun	Feb 23	New York-AL	Charlotte County	W/F	1:05 p.m.				
Mon	Feb 24	Boston	Charlotte County	M/F	1:05 p.m.				
Tues	Feb 25	@Baltimore	Sarasota		1:05 p.m.				
Wed	Feb 26	Minnesota	Charlotte County	M	1:05 p.m.				
Thurs	Feb 27	Detroit	Charlotte County	M	1:05 p.m.				
		@New York-AL	Tampa		1:05 p.m.				
Fri	Feb 28	@Washington	Palm Beach		1:05 p.m.				
Sat	Feb 29	Atlanta	Charlotte County	W	6:05 p.m.				
Sun	March 1	Minnesota	Charlotte County	W/F	1:05 p.m.				
Mon	March 2	@Baltimore	Sarasota		1:05 p.m.				
Tues	March 3	@Atlanta	North Port		1:05 p.m.				
Wed	March 4	Toronto	Charlotte County	M	1:05 p.m.				
Thurs	March 5	Pittsburgh	Charlotte County	M/F	1:05 p.m.				
Fri	March 6	@Minnesota	Lee County		1:05 p.m.				
Sat	March 7	Baltimore	Charlotte County	W/F	1:05 p.m.				
		@Atlanta	North Port		1:05 p.m.				
Sun	March 8	Pittsburgh	Charlotte County	W	1:05 p.m.				
Mon	March 9	@Toronto	Dunedin		1:07 p.m.				
Wed	March 11	Boston	Charlotte County	W/F	6:35 p.m.				
Thurs	March 12	Philadelphia	Charlotte County	M	1:05 p.m.				
Fri	March 13	@Boston	Fort Myers		1:05 p.m.				
Sat	March 14	@Toronto	Dunedin	W	1:07 p.m.				
Sun	March 15	Baltimore	Charlotte County	W	1:05 p.m.				
Mon	March 16	Atlanta	Charlotte County	M/F	1:05 p.m.				
Wed	March 18	@Philadelphia	Clearwater		1:05 p.m.				
Thurs	March 19	Toronto	Charlotte County	M/F	1:05 p.m.				
		@Boston	Fort Myers		1:05 p.m.				
Fri	March 20	Washington	Charlotte County	M/F	1:05 p.m.				
Sat	March 21	@Philadelphia	Clearwater	W	1:05 p.m.				
Sun	March 22	@Pittsburgh	Bradenton	W	1:05 p.m.				
Mon	March 23	@Philadelphia	Clearwater		1:05 p.m.				
Tues	March 24	Prospects	Tropicana Field	M/F	12:35 p.m.				

Home Games shaded gray

RADIO: WDAE 95.3 FM/620 AM (W), MLB.com (M)

TELEVISION: FOX Sports Sun (F)