

ARIZONA FALL LEAGUE

GAME NOTES - SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2024











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Arizona Fall League Headlines

The Arizona Fall League, in its 32nd year, is designed to serve as the "finishing school" of the minor leagues for players, coaches, umpires & aspiring employees.

AFL Championship Game Matchup

Salt River Rafters vs. Surprise Saguaros LHP Dustin Saenz (WSH) vs. RHP Josh Stephan (TEX)

6:00 pm MT at Salt River Fields
LIVE on MLB Network, MLB.com & the MLB app

AFL Championship Game Preview

SCENE-SETTER: The 2024 Arizona Fall League season concludes with tonight's championship game as the league's No. 1 seed and regular season champion Surprise Saguaros are set to face the No. 3 seed Salt River Rafters, who beat the Scottsdale Scorpions in last night's Play-In Semifinal.

SEASON SERIES: Surprise won the regular season series 4-games-to-2, but both teams scored 41 runs over the six games. Surprise's biggest win was 10-2 on November 14, the final day of the regular season. Salt River's biggest win was 14-1 on October 12.

TEAM TRENDS: Salt River and Surprise each averaged 6.6 runs per game during the regular season to tie for the league lead in that category. Surprise scored 10+ runs in a game eight times to lead the league, while the Rafters did it seven times, plus once more in the Play-In Semifinal.

SAGUAROS TITLES: The Surprise Saguaros have won the last two AFL championships, and three overall in their history. The Saguaros defeated the Peoria Javelinas, 6-5, in 2023 and beat the Glendale Desert Dogs, 7-6 in 10 innings, in 2022. This is also their fifth straight championship appearance, dating back to 2019.

RAFTERS TITLES: The Salt River Rafters have won three AFL championships and their last title came in 2019 when they defeated the Surprise Saguaros, 5-1. This is also their fifth championship appearance since 2011.

Championship Game Batting Practice Info

BP times for the Championship Game are as follows: Salt River: 3:25-4:25 pm Surprise: 4:25-5:25 pm

Play-In Semifinal Recap

Salt River 13, Scottsdale 4

The Salt River Rafters defeated the Scottsdale Scorpions en route to a spot in the title game while they ended the Scorpions' seven-game winning streak. The Rafters scored four runs in the first inning before they made an out. Home Run Derby champion Garrett Martin's three-run home run was the big blow in the inning, and the Rafters never looked back.

Salt River scored multiple runs in five separate innings, all nine starters had a hit, eight starters scored a run, and seven starters had an RBI. Chase Solesky started and worked four scoreless frames while Michael Prosecky tossed three shutout innings in relief. The Scorpions didn't score until the eighth inning, and their three-run rally in the ninth was too little, too late.

Media Inquiries & Schedule

For Arizona Fall League media inquiries, please contact:

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Media Credential Application: https://www.mlb.com/arizona-fall-league/about/media-credential

Full 2024 AFL Schedule: https://www.mlb.com/arizona-fall-league/about/full-season-schedule

inal 2024 AFL Standings GB **Streak** Surprise Saguaros 18-10 W2 **Scottsdale Scorpions** 16-14 3.0 W7 Salt River Rafters 16-14 3.0 L2 Glendale Desert Dogs L2 16-14 3.0 Mesa Solar Sox 14-16 5.0 L1 Peoria Javelinas 8-20 10.0 W₁

Salt River vs. Surprise Head-to-Head

October 11 @ Surprise Stadium Surprise 11, Salt River 10 (F/10)

October 12 @ Salt River Fields Salt River 14, Surprise 1

October 15 @ Surprise Stadium Surprise 6, Salt River 4

October 23 @ Salt River Fields Salt River 6, Surprise 5

November 13 @ Surprise Stadium Surprise 8, Salt River 5

November 14 @ Salt River Fields Surprise 10, Salt River 2

Players of the Week Tracker

Week 1:

Co-Hitter: **Kemp Alderman** (Peoria; MIA) Co-Hitter: **Colt Emerson** (Peoria; SEA) Pitcher: **Connor Phillips** (Glendale; CIN)

Week 2:

Hitter: **Josue Briceño** (Scottsdale; DET) Pitcher: **Alex Santos II** (Surprise; HOU)

Week 3:

Hitter: **Caleb Durbin** (Salt River; NYY) Pitcher: **Jose Acuña** (Glendale; CIN)

Week 4:

Hitter: **Nick Kurtz** (Mesa; ATH) Co-Pitcher: **Leandro Lopez** (Surprise; TEX) Co-Pitcher: **Josh Stephan** (Surprise; TEX)

Week 5:

Hitter: **Jonathon Long** (Mesa; CHI) Pitcher: **Jake Miller** (Scottsdale; DET)

MLB Pipeline Top 100 Prospects in AFL (12)

- 17. Jac Caglianone 1B/LHP, Surprise Saguaros (KC)
- 19. Ethan Salas C, Peoria Javelinas (SD)
- 27. Colt Emerson SS, Peoria Javelinas (SEA) 28. Leodalis De Vries - SS, Peoria Javelinas (SD)
- 32. Andrew Painter RHP, Glendale Desert Dogs (PHI)
- 36. Xavier Isaac 1B, Mesa Solar Sox (TB)
- 41. Chase DeLauter OF, Surprise Saguaros (CLE) 44. Moises Ballesteros - C/1B, Mesa Solar Sox (CHI)
- 45. Nick Kurtz 1B, Mesa Solar Sox (OAK)
- 52. Jett Williams SS/OF, Scottsdale Scorpions (NYM)
- 65. Edwin Arroyo SS, Glendale Desert Dogs (CIN)
- 74. Drew Gilbert OF, Scottsdale Scorpions (NYM)