



MINNESOTA TWINS vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATES

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024 – 1:05 PM (ET) – RADIO: TIBN, THE WOLF, WCCO // TV: NONE

RHP Louie Varland vs. LHP Bailey Falter

Spring Game 1

Spring Home Game 1

UPCOMING PROBABLE PITCHERS & BROADCAST SCHEDULE

DATE	OPP.	PITCHERS	TIME	RADIO / TV
2/25	at BOS	RHP Bailey Ober vs. RHP Lucas Giolito	1:05 pm (ET)	TIBN, WCCO, The Wolf / None
2/26	at NYY	RHP Simeon Woods Richardson vs. LHP Nestor Cortes	1:05 pm (ET)	None / None
2/27	PHI	TBA vs. TBA	1:05 pm (ET)	TIBN / None
2/28	BAL	TBA vs. TBA	1:05 pm (ET)	TIBN / None

TODAY'S PITCHERS

Twins: Louie Varland (R), Jorge Alcala (R), Daniel Duarte (R), Jeff Brigham (R), Justin Topa (R)
Pirates: Bailey Falter (L), Jared Jones (R), Michael Passmeyer (L), Josh Fleming (L), Jose Hernandez (L), Kyle Nicolas (R), Hunter Stratton (R)

TOMORROW'S PITCHERS

Twins: Bailey Ober (R), Jay Jackson (R), Cole Sands (R), Kody Funderburk (L), Jordan Balazovic (R)
Red Sox: Lucas Giolito (R), Chris Murphy (L), Greg Weissert (R), Wikelman Gonzalez (R), Luis Peralas (R)

ROSTER BREAKDOWN

59 active players in camp (19 non-roster):
31 pitchers (9 non-roster)
7 catchers (4 non-roster)
12 infielders (4 non-roster)
7 outfielders (1 non-roster)
2 utility (1 non-roster)

TWINS AT A GLANCE

Spring Record:
Home Record:
Road Record:
vs. AL Teams:
vs. NL Teams:
When Twins score first:
When opponent scores first:
Most 6L games over .500:
Most 6L games under .500:
Longest winning-streak:
Longest losing-streak:
Team-high hits:
Team-high runs:
Opponent-high hits:
Opponent-high runs:

RECENT SPRING INFO

YEAR	ATTENDANCE (DATES)	RECORD
2012	117,503 (16)	18-15
2013	113,845 (17)	17-16
2014	107,806 (14)	9-16-3
2015	123,994 (16)	13-16-3
2016	121,005 (15)	19-11-2
2017	108,365 (15)	17-13-3
2018	115,147 (16)	14-14-3
2019	121,798 (18)	14-13-3
2020	69,998 (9)	7-9-4
2021	34,586 (14)	11-15-2
2022	45,055 (9)	9-10
2023	98,318 (16)	13-15-3
2024	--	--

DAYS UNTIL OPENING DAY

33 THURSDAY, MARCH 28 at KC

SPRING HAS SPRUNG: Today the Twins will play the second of 35 scheduled spring training games and the first *official* spring game...18 more games will be played at Lee Health Sports Complex and 16 games will be played on the road...since 2006, the Twins are 11-8-1 in their first official spring game of the season.

ABOUT LAST NIGHT: The Twins defeated the University of Minnesota last night, 13-2, in an exhibition game at Lee Health Sports Complex... Chris Paddock was the starter and did not factor into the decision in his first spring training appearance as a Twin, allowing one hit and one walk in 1.2 innings, with two strikeouts...third baseman Michael Helman (1-for-2) and his replacement Jake Rucker (1-for-2) each homered out of the ninth spot in the batting order, with Helman starting the scoring with a third-inning solo shot and Rucker driving in the first runs of the Twins' nine-run eighth inning with a three-run blast...Alex Isola also went 3-for-3 with two RBI and two runs scored off the bench...the game concluded with one out in the bottom of the eighth, after the Twins plated nine runs and Twins manager Rocco Baldelli and Golden Gophers manager John Anderson agreed that it was time to stop playing.

FORT MYERS IS TWINS TERRITORY: 2024 marks the Twins' 34th spring training season in Lee County...over 33 years, the Twins have drawn a total of 3,331,268 fans over 491 dates (total does not include 17 replacement games in 1995 – 49,240 fans)...they have an overall spring training record (since 1961) of 882-875-32...their top three spring win totals are: 20-12 in 2011, 20-11 in 2004 and 21-10 in 1991...last season, the Twins drew 98,318 fans through 16 dates for an average of 6,145 per opening.

2023 RECAP: The Twins finished the 2023 season with a record of 87-75 and won the AL Central by 9.0 games up on the Detroit Tigers... they went on to sweep the Blue Jays at Target Field in two games during the AL Wild Card Series, winning Game 1 by a score of 3-1 and Game 2 by a score of 2-0...they advanced to the AL Division Series and played the Astros, losing three games to one, winning just Game 2 at Minute Maid Park...Minnesota spent 176 days in first place of the division...Target Field drew 1,974,124 in attendance in its 14th season.

TWINS AND BUCS: The Twins and Pirates play each other today for the first of two scheduled Grapefruit League matchups...the Twins will make the trek north to Bradenton on Friday, March 8...Twins went 0-2-1 against the Pirates in 2023 spring, including a 2-2 tie in the two club's lone game in Lee County...Minnesota took two of three from Pittsburgh in the 2023 regular season, hosting the Pirates from August 18-20 at Target Field; the two teams are slated to face off in the coming regular season for a three-game series from June 7-9 at PNC Park.

#OLDFRIEND: Pirates manager Derek Shelton served as bench coach for the Twins from 2018-19, once under Paul Molitor in 2018 and once under Rocco Baldelli in 2019...during his two seasons as Twins bench coach, the club went 179-145...his only managerial experience prior to joining the Pirates was two games over Hall of Fame Weekend in 2018, filling in for Paul Molitor as he attended the induction ceremony in Cooperstown; the Twins lost both games to the Red Sox...Shelty is 4-2-2 all-time vs. the Twins in spring training.

LOU WORLD ORDER: Louie Varland is making his first appearance of the spring today...2024 marks his second career spring training after making two starts last season, going 0-1, 11.25 ERA (4.0 IP, 5 ER) and was optioned to Triple-A St. Paul on March 19, where he started the season...he had three stints with the Twins in 2023, appearing in 17 games (10 starts) for Minnesota and 16 games (15 starts) for St. Paul... he combined to go 11-4, 4.27 ERA (149.2 IP, 71 ER) with 43 walks and 159 strikeouts in 33 appearances (25 starts) between Minnesota and Triple-A St. Paul...appeared in relief for both games of the ALWCS vs. Toronto, pitching 0.1 inning in Game 1, holding a 3-1 lead... appeared in Game 2, throwing another 0.1 inning, holding a 2-0 lead...was on the ALDS roster vs. Houston but did not appear in the series.

DATE	TEAM	W-L	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO	
2/24	vs. PIT	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
SPRING TOTALS		0-0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000 BAA / 0.00 WHIP

TWINS BASEBALL, SIGHTS AND SOUNDS: Bally Sports North will telecast eight Twins Grapefruit League games, all of which will also be streamed live on the Bally Sports app...there will be 20 audio broadcasts produced by the Treasure Island Baseball Network; 14 will be carried in the Twin Cities on News Talk 830 WCCO (and simulcast on 102.9 The Wolf), while all 20 will be streamed, live and free of charge, via the Audacy app, smart speakers and website within a geofence that expands across the Upper Midwest.

⊕ The Bally Sports North (BSN) eight-game broadcast schedule will consist of three contests called by new television play-by-play voice Cory Provus, who begins his 13th season in a Twins broadcast booth, alongside Twins Hall of Famer Justin Morneau and Twins Special Assistant LaTroy Hawkins; two simulcasts featuring a combination of BSN cameras, graphics and replays, accompanied by analysis and play-by-play from the new primary voice of the Treasure Island Baseball Network, Kris Atteberry, and Twins Hall of Famer Dan Gladden; and three simulcasts of the opponents' broadcast feed (Thursday, March 12 at Detroit; Wednesday, March 13 at Tampa Bay; and Monday, March 25 at Atlanta).

⊕ The Treasure Island Baseball Network's 20 games will feature a combination of Atteberry, who enters his 18th season with the Twins and first as the primary play-by-play talent, and Gladden, who enters his 26th year in the Twins radio booth.

ROCCO BAL: This season marks Rocco Baldelli's sixth as the Twins' manager...he will enter the regular season with a career managerial record of 375-333 and three division titles (2019, '20 and '23)...Baldelli is one of five managers in team history (since 1961) with 350 victories, joining Tom Kelly (1,140), Ron Gardenhire (1,068), Sam Mele (522) and Gene Mauch (378).

⊕ Rocco's coaching staff for 2024 includes: first base/catching coach Hank Conger, quality control coach Nate Dammann, assistant bench coach Tony Diaz, hitting coach Rudy Hernandez, pitching coach Pete Maki, bullpen coach Colby Suggs, hitting coach David Popkins, assistant pitching coach Luis Ramirez, assistant hitting coach Derek Shoman, bench coach Jayce Ingler and third base/outfield coach Tommy Watkins – all returning from 2023, marking the first time in Rocco's tenure that the entire coaching staff remains exactly the same entering a new season.

FIRST-TIME CAMPERS: The following players are full participants in major league camp with the Twins for the first time: 12 pitchers: Matt Bowman, Jeff Brigham, Anthony DeSclafani, Daniel Duarte, David Festa, Kody Funderburk, Jay Jackson, Ryan Jensen, Steven Okert, Josh Staumont, Justin Topa and Zack Weiss...three catchers: Alex Isola, Brian O'Keefe and Pat Winkel...three infielders: Anthony Prato, Carlos Santana and Yunior Severino...two outfielders: DaShawn Keirse Jr. and Emmanuel Rodriguez.

2024 SPRING SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	WINNER	LOSER	SAVE	ATTENDANCE	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	WINNER	LOSER	SAVE	ATTENDANCE
2/23	U of Minnesota	13-2	Carr	Whelan	Schulfer	4,307	3/12	at Detroit	1:05 pm (ET)			BSN	
2/24	Pittsburgh	1:05 pm (ET)			TIBN/WCCO/The Wolf		3/13	St. Louis (ss)	1:05 pm (ET)				TIBN
2/25	at Boston	1:05 pm (ET)			TIBN/WCCO/The Wolf			at Tampa Bay (ss)	1:05 pm (ET)			BSN	
2/26	at New York-AL	1:05 pm (ET)					3/14	Toronto	1:05 pm (ET)				TIBN
2/27	Philadelphia	1:05 pm (ET)				TIBN	3/15	at Boston	6:05 pm (ET)			TIBN/WCCO/The Wolf	
2/28	Baltimore	1:05 pm (ET)				TIBN	3/16	Tampa Bay (ss)	1:05 pm (ET)			BSN TIBN/WCCO/The Wolf	
2/29	at Atlanta	1:05 pm (ET)						Tampa Bay	4:05 pm (ET)				
3/1	Boston	1:05 pm (ET)			TIBN/WCCO/The Wolf		3/17	at Toronto	1:07 pm (ET)			TIBN/WCCO/The Wolf	
3/2	at Philadelphia	1:05 pm (ET)			TIBN/WCCO/The Wolf		3/18	Boston	1:05 pm (ET)			BSN	TIBN
3/3	Tampa Bay	1:05 pm (ET)			TIBN/WCCO/The Wolf		3/19	OFF DAY					
3/4	Atlanta (ss)	1:05 pm (ET)				TIBN	3/20	Detroit	1:05 pm (ET)			BSN	
	at Baltimore (ss)	1:05 pm (ET)					3/21	at Washington	1:05 pm (ET)				
3/5	at St. Louis	1:05 pm (ET)					3/22	Atlanta	1:05 pm (ET)			BSN TIBN/WCCO/The Wolf	
3/6	Boston	1:05 pm (ET)						at Tampa Bay	1:05 pm (ET)				
3/7	OFF DAY						3/23	at Boston	6:05 pm (ET)			TIBN/WCCO/The Wolf	
3/8	at Pittsburgh	1:05 pm (ET)					3/24	Baltimore	1:05 pm (ET)			BSN TIBN/WCCO/The Wolf	
3/9	New York-AL	1:05 pm (ET)			TIBN/WCCO/The Wolf		3/25	at Atlanta	1:05 pm (ET)			BSN	
3/10	Washington	1:05 pm (ET)			TIBN/WCCO/The Wolf		3/26	Atlanta	1:05 pm (ET)				
3/11	at Atlanta	1:05 pm (ET)											

Bold - Denotes Home Game | * - Denotes Sellout | ^ - Rain Shortened

