

 2026
OPENING DAY™



2026 MLB OPENING DAY NOTES & STORYLINES

March 25, 2026





SEASON'S GREETINGS

This week marks the beginning of the 2026 Regular Season, with Opening Day widely celebrated by sports fanatics across the globe. The season begins tonight as the New York Yankees travel to the Bay Area in a showdown with the San Francisco Giants, in what will be Netflix's first Regular Season broadcast. Opening Day presented by Adobe continues with 11 matchups on Thursday, featuring five Interleague matchups and a pair of games presented on NBC/Peacock, featuring the Pittsburgh Pirates at New York Mets at 1:15 p.m. ET, and the Arizona Diamondbacks opening the year at the two-time defending World Series Champion Los Angeles Dodgers at 8:30 p.m. ET (5:30 p.m. local). Six additional clubs will open the season on Friday. The traditional opening date of March 26th will mark the earliest in Major League history, excluding special season-openers at international venues. Previously, the earliest traditional Opening Day for MLB had been on March 27th in 2025.

Special Events in 2026: In addition to All-Star Week festivities this summer in Philadelphia, which coincides with America's Semiquincentennial, MLB will celebrate a number of special events and occasions throughout 2026.

- **America 250:** MLB will recognize America's Semiquincentennial with an extensive set of initiatives throughout 2026 to celebrate the nation's founding 250 years ago and baseball's distinct place in the country, including a pledge of 250,000 volunteer hours to support charitable organizations and local communities nationwide. This MLB Together initiative will combine the efforts of the Commissioner's Office, all 30 MLB Clubs, all 120 Minor League Clubs, players of all levels, and the league's charitable partners to celebrate the country through community service, connecting baseball as an important part of America's past, present and future.
- **Jackie Robinson Day:** Seventy-nine years after he broke Baseball's color barrier and set a powerful example for our society, Jackie Robinson will once again be celebrated on April 15th. Players, managers and coaches will wear Robinson's iconic number with all teams using Dodger blue "42" jersey numbers.
- **Mexico City Series:** MLB's Mexico City Series will return in 2026, featuring two games between the Arizona Diamondbacks and San Diego Padres on Saturday, April 25th and Sunday, April 26th. The contests at Estadio Alfredo Harp Helú Béisbol, which will be the latest installment of MLB's WORLD TOUR, will be D-backs home games and will mark the third regular season visit by MLB to Mexico's capital city following the 2023 series between the Padres and San Francisco Giants, and the 2024 set between the Houston Astros and the Colorado Rockies.
- **Rivalry Weekend:** A new addition to the season calendar last year, Rivalry Weekend will return and take place from May 15th-17th, featuring 11 series between prime Interleague rivals and four other regional matchups which include Pittsburgh vs Philadelphia; Colorado vs. Arizona; Detroit vs. Toronto; and Houston vs. Texas. In 2026, each of the 30 Clubs will host the same Interleague opponents as they hosted in 2024.
- **Lou Gehrig Day:** Tuesday, June 2nd will mark the sixth "Lou Gehrig Day" across MLB. The celebration became a permanent fixture on the MLB calendar in 2021 to honor the legacy of the Hall of Fame first baseman and to raise awareness and funds to fight ALS, while spotlighting the members of the ALS community who are making a difference.



- **PLAY BALL Weekend:** In nearly every corner of the United States and on six continents around the world, fans of all ages will have a chance to be part of the “PLAY BALL Weekend” movement from June 12th-14th. Celebrating its 11th year in 2026, PLAY BALL is a worldwide effort to inspire participation in baseball and softball through activities hosted by MLB, MiLB & Partner League Clubs, MLB’s international offices throughout the world, and youth league partners.
- **MLB Draft Combine:** The Draft Combine will be hosted from June 23rd-27th at Chase Field in Phoenix, home of the Arizona Diamondbacks for a fourth consecutive year. The Combine will showcase 300 of the top Draft-eligible amateur players from the college and high school ranks, with MLB Network carrying the workouts live with analysis from former Major League players, coaches and managers.
- **All-Star Week and the 96th All-Star Game Presented by Mastercard:** In conjunction with America’s Semiquincentennial and America 250, the 96th Midsummer Classic will be played at Citizens Bank Park on Tuesday, July 14th, marking the fifth All-Star Game to be hosted in the city of Philadelphia. Previous sites to host the All-Star Game in Philadelphia include Shibe Park, which staged the Midsummer Classic in 1943 (hosted by the Philadelphia Athletics) and 1952, and Veterans Stadium which hosted the 1976 and 1996 All-Star Games. The Midsummer Classic will headline a series of events during All-Star Week, which will also include the All-Star Futures Game, the T-Mobile Home Run Derby, Capital One All-Star Village, the 2026 Draft and more. The official logo for the 2026 MLB All-Star Game is a powerful tribute to Philadelphia and the milestone 250th birthday of America. At the center of the design is the Liberty Bell, an iconic symbol of the city and the nation, reimagined with energy and movement to reflect the spirit of the Midsummer Classic. The typography takes cues from the bell’s historic inscriptions, blended with design touches inspired by the Phillies’ signature style. Anchored by patriotic themes and layered with modern flair, the mark is a dynamic expression of baseball’s place in American culture – past, present, and future.
- **MLB at Field of Dreams:** Major League Baseball will return to Iowa when the Minnesota Twins and the Philadelphia Phillies meet in the third edition of “MLB at Field of Dreams.” The Twins-Phillies matchup on August 13th will follow the previous two installments at the iconic location of the classic 1989 film Field of Dreams, with the first being played on August 12, 2021 between the Chicago White Sox and the New York Yankees, followed by the Cincinnati Reds and the Chicago Cubs playing on August 11, 2022. This event will be a Twins home date, with the Thursday game followed by a Friday off-day before the Clubs resume their three game-set at Target Field in Minneapolis on Saturday. The inaugural edition of MLB at Field of Dreams was named “Sports Event of the Year” by *Sports Business Journal*, and it earned a Sports Emmy Award for FOX Sports as Outstanding Live Special. Once again, a Minor League Baseball game will accompany MLB at Field of Dreams. On August 11th, the Iowa Cubs, the Triple-A affiliate of the Chicago Cubs, will host the St. Paul Saints, the Triple-A affiliate of the Twins. This will mark the second Minor League Baseball game played in Dyersville, as the Midwest League’s Cedar Rapids Kernels (Twins’ High-A affiliate) played the Quad Cities River Bandits (Kansas City Royals’ High-A affiliate) in Dyersville on August 9, 2022.
- **Players’ Weekend:** Following the success of a revamped Players’ Weekend in 2024, Players’ Weekend returns from August 21st-23rd. The event showcases MLB players beyond their stats and on-field performances while telling their stories in an appealing fashion for young fans and casual followers of baseball.
- **MLB Little League Classic presented by New York Life:** The Milwaukee Brewers and Atlanta Braves will meet at Historic Bowman Field in Williamsport, Pennsylvania on Sunday, August 23rd for the ninth installment of the MLB Little League Classic presented by New York Life. As is tradition for this annual occasion, Major Leaguers from both the Brewers and Braves will attend Little League World Series games earlier in the day on August 23rd, demonstrating their commitment to helping grow the game at the youth level and engage with young fans.
- **Roberto Clemente Day:** Tuesday, September 15th marks the annual celebration of Roberto Clemente Day across Major League Baseball. Roberto Clemente Day was established in 2002 to honor the enduring legacy of the late Hall of Famer and recognize Club nominees of the Roberto Clemente Award, Baseball’s most prestigious individual player honor.



New Umpires Appointed: Two new umpires have been promoted to the full-time Major League staff, including Tom Hanahan and Brian Walsh, following the retirements of Mark Carlson and Phil Cuzzi. The newest members promoted in 2026 join August 2025 appointment Charlie Ramos in approaching their first Opening Day as members of the full-time staff. Major League Umpire Jordan Baker has been named to the crew chief position vacated by Carlson, who has been named to MLB’s group of Umpire Supervisors, a capacity in which he will help train and evaluate Major League and Minor League Umpires.

Postseason Matchups Revisited: In a rematch of the 2025 NLCS, the World Series Champion Dodgers are scheduled to visit the Milwaukee Brewers from May 22nd-24th for a three-game series, while the Brewers will return to Dodger Stadium for a four-game set from August 13th-16th. The reigning American League Champion Toronto Blue Jays will visit the Seattle Mariners for a three-game matchup from July 3rd-5th, and the Mariners will return to Rogers Centre for another three-game series from August 28th-30th. The Dodgers and Blue Jays will meet in a rematch of the 2025 Fall Classic with a three-game series on April 6th-8th in Toronto.

Nice to Meet You: Several of MLB's top prospects are expected to impact their Major League clubs during the 2026 season. Notable members of the group include:

- **Travis Bazzana (CLE):** The top overall selection by the Guardians in the 2024 MLB Draft, Bazzana is the top prospect in Cleveland's system, and the 20th overall prospect in MLB, per *MLB Pipeline*. The 23-year-old progressed through the Arizona Complex League, Double-A and Triple-A last season, slashing .245/.389/.424 with nine homers, 39 RBI and a .813 OPS in 84 games in his first full professional season. The Sydney, Australia native is the first Australian-born player to be chosen with the first pick in MLB Draft history, and just the second player born outside of the United States to be drafted first overall, joining Carlos Correa (2012, HOU). He represented Australia in the 2026 World Baseball Classic.



- **Carson Benge (NYM):** The 19th overall selection by the Mets in the 2024 MLB Draft, Benge is the No. 2 prospect in the Mets' organization, and the 16th overall prospect in MLB, per *MLB Pipeline*. It was announced on Monday that the Oklahoma City native will be on the Mets' Opening Day roster. The 23-year-old slashed .366/.435/.439 across 14 games in Spring Training following two seasons in the Minors, slashing .280/.389/.468. Per *MLB.com's* Anthony DiComo, Benge will become the Mets highest ranked prospect to debut since Francisco Alvarez in 2022.



- **Max Clark (DET):** The third overall selection by the Tigers in the 2023 MLB Draft, Clark is the No. 2 prospect in the Tigers' organization, and the 10th overall prospect in MLB, per *MLB Pipeline*. The 21-year-old appeared in 111 games between High-A West Michigan and Double-A Erie, batting .271 with 14 homers, 67 RBI, 85 runs scored and 19 stolen bases. The Franklin, Indiana native appeared in 10 games during Spring Training with the Tigers and is slated to start the season with Triple-A Toledo. He appeared in the third annual Spring Breakout, drawing a walk and tallying an RBI.



- **Justin Crawford (PHI):** The 17th overall selection by the Phillies in the 2022 MLB Draft, Crawford is the No. 3 prospect in Philadelphia's organization and 53rd overall in MLB, per *MLB Pipeline*. Along with his teammate Painter, Crawford will open up the season on the Phillies' roster. The Phoenix, Arizona native slashed .322/.385/.446 across five levels of the Minors since his debut in 2022. Crawford spent all of last season with the Lehigh Valley IronPigs, the Phillies Triple-A affiliate, putting up personal bests in batting average (.334), and on-base percentage (.385). Crawford is the son of four-time All-Star Carl Crawford.



- **Leo De Vries (ATH):** An international signing by the Padres at age 17, De Vries is the Athletics' top prospect and fourth overall prospect in MLB, per *MLB Pipeline*. The Dominican Republic native played 75 games in Single-A for the Padres before being traded to the Athletics in a deal that sent reliever Mason Miller to San Diego at last year's Trade Deadline. The shortstop saw action in High-A and Double-A in 2025, hitting .248/.358/.447 with 15 home runs, 74 RBI, 72 runs and 11 stolen bases across 118 contests.



- **Colt Emerson (SEA):** The 22nd overall selection by the Mariners in the 2023 MLB Draft, Emerson is Seattle's top prospect and the ninth overall prospect in MLB, per *MLB Pipeline*. The 20-year-old, who will start the season in Triple-A had an impressive Spring Training, slashing .268/.488/.828 with two homers, eight RBI and 11 hits across 18 games. If the infielder were to debut with the Mariners this season, he would become the youngest player to do so with the club since Taijuan Walker in 2013, and the youngest infielder to debut since René Rivera in 2004.



- **Konnor Griffin (PIT):** The ninth overall selection by the Pirates in the 2024 MLB Draft, Griffin is the top prospect in MLB, per *MLB Pipeline*. The shortstop and centerfielder saw action in Single-A, High-A and Double-A in his first season in the Minors, slashing .333/.415/.527 with 21 homers, 23 doubles and 94 RBI in 122 games. While he will begin the season with Triple-A Indianapolis, if the top prospect were to debut at any point this season, he would become the youngest to do so for Pittsburgh since Aramis Ramirez made his debut with the club in 1998.



- **Kevin McGonigle (DET):** The 37th overall selection by the Tigers in the 2023 MLB Draft, McGonigle is the top prospect in the Tigers' organization and No.2 overall prospect in MLB, per *MLB Pipeline*. Since his Minor League debut in 2023, the Pennsylvania native has slashed .308/.410/.512 with 51 doubles and 25 home runs over 183 games. If McGonigle were to make his debut on Opening Day for the Club, he would become the youngest hitter to debut for the Tigers since Isaac Paredes did so at 21 years 181 days old in 2020.



- **Andrew Painter (PHI):** The 13th overall selection by the Phillies in 2021 MLB Draft, Painter is the No. 2 prospect in the Phillies organization and 28th overall in MLB, per *MLB Pipeline*. It was announced last Friday that the right-hander will be on the Opening Day roster, with his debut slated for March 31st. The Pompano Beach, Florida native debuted in the Florida Complex League in 2021 and has appeared in all five levels of the Minors in 2021-22 and 2025. The 22-year-old started 52 games, pitching to an 11-10 record with a 3.44 ERA and 290 strikeouts across 227.2 innings pitched since his professional debut. When Painter makes his first career start on the 31st, he would become the youngest starting pitcher to debut for the Club since Ranger Suárez did so in 2018 (22 years old).



- **JJ Wetherholt (STL):** The seventh overall selection by the Cardinals in the MLB Draft, Wetherholt is the Cardinals top prospect and the fifth overall MLB prospect, per *MLB Pipeline*. Since making his Minor League debut in 2023, the infielder has appeared in 138 games, 47 of those coming in Triple-A. Across the 138 contests, the left-handed hitting shortstop slashed .304/.418/.487 with 79 RBI and 19 home runs. The top prospect saw 44 plate appearances during Spring Training, recording six hits, nine walks, two homers, driving in seven runs and scoring six of his own.



In addition to the prospects above who have not yet made their Major League debut, below is a sample of players who are still within MLB Pipeline's Top 100 prospects, who debuted with their clubs last season.

- **Samuel Basallo (BAL):** Originally an international free agent signee by the Orioles in 2021, Basallo made his debut with Baltimore on August 17th last season. The Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic native made his debut at catcher on August 18th, and became the first player in team history (since 1954) to have multiple RBI in each of his first two career games. On August 22, 2025, he agreed to an eight-year contract extension through 2033, with a club option for 2034. The backstop appeared in 31 games in 2025 for the Orioles, slugging four homers and six double while tallying 15 RBI. Basallo was officially named to Baltimore's Opening Day roster earlier today.



- **Owen Caissie (MIA):** A second round pick in the MLB Draft by the Padres, Caissie made his Major league debut with the Cubs in August of last season after being part of the 2020 trade that sent starting pitcher Yu Darvish to the Padres. The outfielder played in 12 games last season, collecting five hits, four RBI and a homer. The Ontario native, now a member of the Marlins after being a part of the Edward Cabrera trade, also appeared in his second World Baseball Classic with team Canada this year, slashing .412/.476/.765 and helping the national team secure their first-ever Quarterfinals berth.



- **Bubba Chandler (PIT):** A third round selection by the Pirates in the 2021 MLB Draft, Chandler made his Major League debut with the Club in September of last season. The right-hander appeared in seven games, starting four of them, finishing his season with a 4-1 record, 4.02 ERA, 31 strikeouts and four walks across 31.1 innings. The Georgia native is slated to begin the season as a member of Pittsburgh's starting rotation, and currently sits at No. 11 in *MLB Pipeline's* overall MLB prospect rankings and number two in the Pirates organization, behind only top MLB prospect Konnor Griffin.



- **Connelly Early (BOS):** A fifth round selection by the Red Sox in the 2023 MLB Draft, Early made his Major League debut with the Club in September, starting four games and pitching to a 2.33 ERA with 29 strikeouts and four walks across 19.1 innings pitched. The 23-year-old, who started American League Wild Card Game 3 last season, became the fourth player in franchise history to start a sudden death Postseason game at age 23-or-younger. The southpaw is currently the Red Sox third-best prospect and 56th overall prospect in MLB, per *MLB Pipeline*.



- **Bryce Eldridge (SF):** The 16th overall selection by the Giants in the 2023 MLB Draft, Eldridge made his Major League debut with the Club in September of last season. The lefty batter appeared in 10 games, collecting his first hit and RBI on September 20th. The Giants' top prospect and 25th overall prospect in MLB, per *MLB Pipeline*, will begin his season in Triple-A. Across two seasons and 74 games in Triple-A, the 21-year-old slashed .250/.324/.486 with 18 home runs, 65 RBI and 34 runs.



- **Nolan McLean (NYM):** A third round selection by the Mets in the 2023 MLB Draft, McLean burst onto the Major League roster last August, going 5-1 with a 2.06 ERA in eight games for the Mets. His ERA is the third-best in franchise history through a player's first eight career games, only trailing Terry Leach's 1.68 ERA and Rick Aguilera's 1.92 ERA. The 24-year-old was selected to represent the United States in the World Baseball Classic, starting the Championship Game against Venezuela.



MLB Develops Alumni: In addition to all of the young talent in today's game, many current Major Leaguers are alumni of programs through Major League Baseball's Youth Development Events, known as MLB Develops. Through MLB Develops programming, MLB has developed and identified a pipeline of diverse athletes with opportunities in front of college coaches, professional scouts, and for some memorable experiences on some of baseball's largest stages including All-Star Week, the World Series, and more. Below is a look at a few MLB Develops alumni that will take the field on Opening Day:



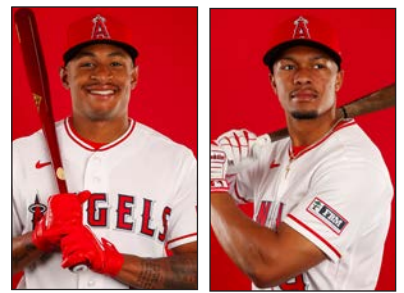
- **J.P. Crawford (SEA):** The Compton Nike RBI and Compton Youth Academy alumni enters his 10th year in MLB. The Long Beach native spent his first two seasons with the Phillies before spending the last seven with the Mariners. The 2020 Gold Glove Award winner owns a career slash line of .248/.340/.369. In four career postseason series, the 16th overall pick in the 2013 MLB Draft has accumulated 12 hits, two homers, eight RBI and seven walks across 71 plate appearances.



- **Lawrence Butler (ATH):** After being drafted in the sixth round of the 2018 MLB Draft, Lawrence Butler enters his fourth season in the Majors with the Athletics. The lefty batter, who is hitting .242/.303/.429 over his career, has racked up 47 home runs, 130 RBI, 156 runs and 40 stolen bases through 319 career games. The New Jersey native took part in MLB Develops' 2016 and 2017 Breakthrough Series, 2016 and 2017 Elite Development Invitational, 2017 Ways to Play and was a member of the 2016 and 2017 Atlanta Braves Nike RBI programs.



- **Christian Moore & Kyren Paris (LAA):** A pair of Angels, Christian Moore and Kyren Paris are set to enter their second and fourth year, respectively. Moore appeared in 53 games in his rookie season, collecting 32 hits, seven home runs, 16 RBI, 20 runs and three stolen bases. Paris enters his fourth season with the Angels after appearing in 80 games over the past three seasons. The 2019 second round pick has amassed 34 hits, seven homers, 17 RBI, 20 runs and 11 stolen bases since his debut. Moore is an alumni of MLB Develops' 2018, 2019 and 2020 DREAM Series, 2018 and 2019 Breakthrough Series and 2019 Hank Aaron Invitational. Paris is an alumni of MLB Develops' 2015, 2017 and 2018 Elite Development Invitational and 2017 and 2018 Breakthrough Series.



- **Michael Harris II (ATL):** Third round pick in the 2019 MLB Draft by the Braves, Michael Harris II enters his fifth year with Atlanta. The 2022 National League Rookie of the Year award winner is an alumni of MLB Develops' 2017 and 2018 Elite Development Invitational, 2018 and 2019 DREAM Series and 2018 Breakthrough Series along with 2016-18 Atlanta Braves Nike RBI programs. The Georgia native has posted a .274/.307/.451 line while amassing 539 hits, 73 home runs, 255 RBI, 264 runs and 70 stolen bases across 522 career games.



- **Devin Williams (NYM):** A second round pick in the 2013 MLB Draft, Devin Williams enters his eighth season in the Majors after spending his first six with the Brewers and last season with the Yankees. Williams is a two-time Hoffman Reliever of the Year Award winner and two-time All-Star. The 2011 and 2012 Breakthrough Series alumni enters his first season with the Mets following career highs in games and innings pitched last season. Altogether, the 31-year-old has a record of 31-16 with a 2.45 ERA, 465 strikeouts and 137 walks across 297.2 innings pitched.



- Other MLB Develops alumni with Major League experience include: **Akil Baddoo** (Milwaukee Brewers); **Brett Baty** (New York Mets); **Taj Bradley** (Minnesota Twins); **Kristian Campbell** (Boston Red Sox); **J.C. Escarra** (New York Yankees); **Joey Estes** (Athletics); **Harry Ford** (Washington Nationals); **Josiah Gray** (Washington Nationals); **Hunter Greene** (Cincinnati Reds); **Luis Guerrero** (Tampa Bay Rays); **David Hamilton** (Milwaukee Brewers); **Ke'Bryan Hayes** (Cincinnati Reds); **Jimmy Herget** (Colorado Rockies); **Kyle Higashioka** (Texas Rangers); **Jaden Hill** (Colorado Rockies); **Joe Jimenez** (Atlanta Braves); **CJ Kayfus** (Cleveland Guardians); **Ramon Laureano** (San Diego Padres); **Justyn-Henry Malloy** (Tampa Bay Rays); **Brice Matthews** (Houston Astros); **Wade Miley** (Cincinnati Reds); **Jose Miranda** (San Diego Padres); **Lars Nootbaar** (St. Louis Cardinals); **Nasim Nuñez** (Washington Nationals); **Blake Perkins** (Milwaukee Brewers); **Kumar Rocker** (Texas Rangers); **Carlos Rodón** (New York Yankees); **Chandler Simpson** (Tampa Bay Rays); **Cam Smith** (Houston Astros); **Dominic Smith** (Atlanta Braves); **Alek Thomas** (Arizona Diamondbacks); **Taylor Trammell** (Houston Astros); **George Valera** (Cleveland Guardians); **Jordan Walker** (St. Louis Cardinals); and **Simeon Woods Richardson** (Minnesota Twins).

All-Stars on the Move: As Opening Day rosters become official, 11 players who were named All-Stars for the 95th Midsummer Classic in Atlanta, Georgia will be debuting with a new club in 2026. The group includes Pete Alonso (NYM-BAL); Alex Bregman (BOS-CHC); Edwin Díaz (NYM-LAD); Brendan Donovan (STL-SEA); MacKenzie Gore (WSH-TEX); Brandon Lowe (TB-PIT); Ryan O'Hearn (BAL/SD-PIT); Freddy Peralta (MIL-NYM); Eugenio Suárez (AZ/SEA-CIN); Robert Suarez (SD-ATL); and Kyle Tucker (CHC-LAD).

PREVIOUS YEAR ALL-STARS TO DEBUT WITH NEW CLUB ON OPENING DAY	
Season	# of All-Stars with New Club
2026	11
2025	13
2024	12
2023	12
2022	20
2020	7
2019	15
2018	9
2017	11
2016	7
2015	14
2014	9
2013	6
2012	8
2011	11



- **Pete Alonso (BAL):** Pete Alonso joins the Baltimore Orioles via free agency following his 2025 All-Star season with the New York Mets. The Florida native spent the first seven seasons of his career with the Mets, where he racked up five All-Star appearances, a Silver Slugger Award, and a Rookie of the Year Award, while becoming the franchise's all-time home run leader with 264 career home runs. The 31-year-old has hit 30-or-more home runs in every full season of his career, including three seasons with 40-or-more, starting with a 53-home run rookie campaign in 2019. He will return to Citi Field to take on the Mets in a three-game series beginning on September 26th.



• **Alex Bregman (CHC):** Alex Bregman joins the Chicago Cubs via free agency following his 2025 All-Star campaign with the Boston Red Sox. The two-time World Series champion, who ranks in the top-10 all-time in Postseason games played, home runs, and RBI, and 12th in hits, will bring a veteran presence to the Cubs at third base. The New Mexico native has collected three All-Star appearances, a Gold Glove, a Silver Slugger, and an All-Star Game MVP award in his 10 seasons in the Majors. He will have the chance to return to Fenway Park for a three-game series against the Boston Red Sox starting September 26th.



• **Edwin Díaz (LAD):** Edwin Díaz joins the Los Angeles Dodgers via free agency following his 2025 All-Star campaign with the New York Mets. The Puerto Rico native is a two-time Trevor Hoffman National League Reliever of the Year Award winner (2022 & 2025) and was named the 2018 Mariano Rivera American League Reliever of the Year Award winner. Since making his Major League debut in 2016, he has recorded 253 career saves, the second-most in MLB over that span. The 31-year-old is also tied for second all-time for the most saves in a single season after recording 57 in 2018. He will face the Mets in a three-game series at Dodger Stadium beginning on April 13th before returning to Citi Field for another three-game series starting on July 24th.



• **Brendan Donovan (SEA):** Brendan Donovan joins the Seattle Mariners following his 2025 All-Star season with the St. Louis Cardinals. The Mariners acquired the Gold Glove Award winner in a three-team trade that sent Jurrangel Cijntje, Tai Peete, and Colton Ledbetter to St. Louis, Ben Williamson to the Rays, and Donovan to the Mariners. The utility man looks to improve upon his career-best average (.287) in 2025 as he transitions to the American League for the first time in his career. The 29-year-old averaged over one hit per game in 2025 with 132 hits in 118 games played. He will return to Busch Stadium in a three-game series beginning on April 24th.



• **MacKenzie Gore (TEX):** MacKenzie Gore joins the Texas Rangers following his 2025 All-Star campaign with the Washington Nationals. The Rangers acquired the North Carolina native via trade that sent Gavin Fien, Alejandro Rosario, Devin Fitz-Gerald, Yeremy Cabrera, and Abimelec Ortiz to the Nationals in exchange for Gore. Over four seasons with the Nationals, the 27-year-old has posted a rate of 10.0 strikeouts per 9.0 innings, while racking up 589 strikeouts. The 2025 All-Star was rated as high as the number three overall prospect in all of baseball in his time coming up through the Padres farm system. He will get the chance to face the Nationals at Globe Life Field in a three-game series starting on August 19th.



• **Brandon Lowe (PIT):** Brandon Lowe joins the Pittsburgh Pirates following his 2025 All-Star campaign with the Tampa Bay Rays. The Virginia native joins the Pirates as part of a trade that sent Jacob Melton and Anderson Brito to the Rays, while Brandon Lowe, Jake Mangum, and Mason Montgomery were dealt to the Pirates. The two-time All-Star spent all eight of his career seasons with the Rays, where his 157 home runs rank third in franchise history. The University of Maryland alum slugged 31 homers last season. He will get the chance to square off against the Rays in a three-game series at PNC Park beginning on April 17th.



• **Ryan O'Hearn (PIT):** Ryan O'Hearn joins the Pittsburgh Pirates via free agency following his 2025 All-Star season where he split time with the Baltimore Orioles and San Diego Padres. The Florida native put up career-best numbers in 2025 in average (.281), home runs (17), RBI (63), and OPS (.803). This will be his fourth club going into his ninth season in the Majors, previously spending time with the Royals, Orioles, and Padres. He will have the opportunity to play back-to-back three-game series against the Orioles and Padres beginning on April 3rd and April 6th, respectively, before returning to Petco Park for another three-game series starting on August 24th.



• **Freddy Peralta (NYM):** Freddy Peralta joins the New York Mets following his 2025 All-Star season with the Milwaukee Brewers. The right-hander was acquired by the Mets, along with Tobias Myers, via an offseason trade which sent Brandon Sproat and Jett Williams to the Brewers. The two-time All-Star led the National League with 17 wins last season, ranked fourth in ERA (2.70), and finished sixth in strikeouts (204). The 29-year-old is looking to build on a season in which he posted career-best numbers in games started, wins, ERA, and innings pitched while helping lead the Brewers to the NLCS in 2025. He will have the chance to return to American Family Field for a three-game series against the Brewers beginning on July 20th.



• **Eugenio Suárez (CIN):** Eugenio Suárez joins the Cincinnati Reds via free agency following his 2025 All-Star season in which he split time with the Arizona Diamondbacks and Seattle Mariners. The Venezuela native returns to Cincinnati, where he spent seven seasons of his career and made his only other All-Star appearance as a Reds representative in 2018. The two-time All-Star blasted 49 home runs in 2025, the fifth-most in MLB, surpassing the 300 career home run milestone, and bringing his career total to 325 entering the 2026 season. He will face the Diamondbacks for the first time in a three-game series beginning on June 12th, before taking on the Mariners in a three-game series starting on July 20th.



• **Robert Suarez (ATL):** Robert Suarez joins the Atlanta Braves via free agency following the 2025 All-Star campaign with the San Diego Padres. The two-time All-Star is coming off a career-high season in saves (40), Innings pitched (69.2), and strikeouts (75). The Venezuela native did not make his MLB debut until he was 31 years old, but in the past four seasons he has put up a career 2.91 ERA in 210.0 innings pitched, with 76 saves combined in the past two seasons. He will get the chance to return to Petco Park in a three-game series against the Padres beginning on June 22nd.



• **Kyle Tucker (LAD):** Kyle Tucker joins the Los Angeles Dodgers via free agency following his 2025 All-Star campaign with the Chicago Cubs. The 29-year-old was second on his team in OPS (.861) and average (.266) in 2025 on his way to his fourth All-Star appearance. The two-time Silver Slugger winner will join his third team in as many years after spending the past two seasons with the Houston Astros and Cubs. He will have the chance to face off against his former team when the Dodgers take on the Cubs at Dodger Stadium for a three-game series beginning April 24th. The Florida native will make his return to Wrigley Field for a three-game series starting August 3rd.



FROM THE MANAGER'S OFFICE

The 2026 managerial crop includes nine new full-time managers, including seven new managers from the end of the 2025 season. The seven new managers are: Blake Butera of the Washington Nationals; Skip Schumaker of the Texas Rangers; Derek Shelton of the Minnesota Twins; Craig Stammen of the San Diego Padres; Kurt Suzuki of the Los Angeles Angels; Tony Vitello of the San Francisco Giants; and Walt Weiss of the Atlanta Braves.

Craig Albarnaz of the Baltimore Orioles; Don Kelly of the Pittsburgh Pirates; and Warren Schaeffer of the Colorado Rockies will embark on their first full season with their respective clubs after taking over managerial duties during the 2025 season. Kelly was named the full-time manager of the Pirates on May 9, 2025, while Albarnaz and Schaeffer managed the 2025 season under interim titles. Overall, there are 10 Clubs with new managers since last Opening Day for the 16th time in Major League history and the first time since 2019. Further, it is just the fourth time since MLB expanded to 30 teams in 1998 that at least 10 clubs have a new manager since the previous Opening Day.

MOST MLB TEAMS WITH NEW MANAGERS SINCE 1998 (PRIOR OPENING DAY TO CURRENT OPENING DAY)		
Year	# of Teams	Teams with New Manager
2002	13	Chicago Cubs, Cleveland Indians, Colorado Rockies, Detroit Tigers, Kansas City Royals, Milwaukee Brewers, New York Mets, Oakland Athletics, San Francisco Giants, Seattle Mariners, Tampa Bay Devil Rays, Texas Rangers, Toronto Blue Jays
2010	12	Arizona Diamondbacks, Atlanta Braves, Baltimore Orioles, Chicago Cubs, Florida Marlins, Kansas City Royals, Los Angeles Dodgers, Milwaukee Brewers, New York Mets, Pittsburgh Pirates, Seattle Mariners, Toronto Blue Jays
2026	10	Atlanta Braves, Baltimore Orioles, Colorado Rockies, Los Angeles Angels, Minnesota Twins, Pittsburgh Pirates, San Diego Padres, San Francisco Giants, Texas Rangers, Washington Nationals
2019	10	Boston Red Sox, Chicago Cubs, Houston Astros, Kansas City Royals, Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, New York Mets, Philadelphia Phillies, Pittsburgh Pirates, San Diego Padres, San Francisco Giants

Seventeen of the current 30 Major League managers previously played in the Majors. The 13 managers to not appear in a Major League game include Albarnaz, Butera, Joe Espada, Oliver Marmol, Carlos Mendoza, Clayton McCullough, Pat Murphy, Matt Quatraro, Schaeffer, John Schneider, Derek Shelton, Rob Thomson and Tony Vitello.

Eleven of the managers were primarily catchers during their professional careers (Albarnaz, Kevin Cash, A.J. Hinch, McCullough, Quatraro, Schneider, Shelton, Suzuki, Thomson, Steven Vogt and Dan Wilson); six were shortstops (Alex Cora, Espada, Marmol, Mendoza, Schaeffer, and Weiss); five were outfielders (Kelly, Mark Kotsay, Dave Roberts, Skip Schumaker and Venable); three were second basemen (Butera, Counsell and Torey Lovullo); two were pitchers (Murphy and Stammen); one was a first baseman (Francona); and one was a third basemen (Aaron Boone).

Other notes about baseball's current managerial crop:

- The average age of a Major League manager entering Opening Day is 50.2, younger than last year's Opening Day average (53.9). Per Elias, the average Opening Day age of managers is the youngest in any season since MLB expanded to 30 clubs in 1998. Murphy is the oldest at 72 years of age, while the youngest is Butera (33). Butera is the youngest manager since Frank Quilici managed the Twins at 33 years, 27 days old in 1972.
- Seven managers of diverse backgrounds include Cora, Espada, Marmol, Mendoza, Roberts, Suzuki and Venable.
- The longest tenured manager with his current Club is Tampa Bay's Kevin Cash (2015).
- Fifteen of the 30 Major League managers at one time played in the organizations for which they now manage (Boone – NYY; Cash – TB; Cora – BOS; Francona – CIN; Hinch – DET; Kelly – PIT; Kotsay – ATH; Marmol – STL; Roberts – LAD; Schneider – TOR; Suzuki – LAA; Stammen – SD; Schaeffer – COL; Weiss – ATL and Wilson – SEA). In addition, 12 of the 15 (except Marmol; Schaeffer; Schneider;) played a game in the Major Leagues with the team they now manage.
- Twelve managed in the Minor Leagues prior to becoming a Major League skipper including Albarnaz; Butera; Francona; Lovullo; Marmol; McCullough; Murphy; Quatraro; Schaeffer; Schneider; Shelton; and Thomson.
- Five managers made the All-Star team at least once as a player (Boone, Suzuki, Vogt, Wilson and Weiss).



THE BALL IS YOURS

Twenty-Four All-Star Hurlers to Make Opening Day Starts

Major League Baseball, in conjunction with the 30 Clubs, announced today the scheduled pitching matchups for Opening Day presented by Adobe, spanning Wednesday, March 25th; Thursday, March 26th; and Friday, March 27th.

The Opening Day starters are headlined by reigning Cy Young Award winners Paul Skenes of the Pittsburgh Pirates and Tarik Skubal of the Detroit Tigers. The 23-year-old Skenes, who was also the NL Rookie of the Year just two seasons ago, will take the mound on the road against the New York Mets at Citi Field. The two-time All-Star, who became Pittsburgh's youngest Opening Day starter last season, will be the first Cy Young winner to take the mound for the Pirates on Opening Day since Doug Drabek in 1992 and the first reigning Cy Young winner to do so for Pittsburgh since Drabek also started in 1991 following his award-winning 1990 campaign. In the NBC opener at 1:15 p.m. (ET) on Thursday, Skenes will square off against Freddy Peralta, who is the lone pitcher across the Majors debuting for a new club in an Opening Day start.

The 29-year-old Skubal will make his third consecutive Opening Day start for the Tigers in a road contest against the San Diego Padres at Petco Park. Skubal, the 12th pitcher in Major League history to win back-to-back Cy Young Awards, will become the ninth pitcher to start on Opening Day following consecutive award-winning seasons, joining Hall of Famer Jim Palmer (1976-77); Hall of Famer Greg Maddux (1993-96); Roger Clemens (1998-99); Hall of Famer Randy Johnson (2000-03); Hall of Famer Pedro Martínez (2000-01); Tim Lincecum (2009-10); Clayton Kershaw (2014-15); and Jacob deGrom (2019-20). Additionally, Skubal will become the first Tigers hurler to start three consecutive Opening Day contests since his teammate Justin Verlander made seven consecutive Opening Day starts for Detroit from 2008-14. With the start by Skubal, Detroit will start a left-hander on Opening Day for a seventh consecutive season, marking the longest active stretch in the Majors.

Three-time All-Star Max Fried of the New York Yankees and two-time All-Star Logan Webb of the San Francisco Giants will meet in the season-opening game on Wednesday, March 25th at 8:05 p.m. (ET)/5:05 p.m. (PT) on Netflix. Reigning Willie Mays World Series Most Valuable Player Yoshinobu Yamamoto of the Los Angeles Dodgers will toe the rubber against Zac Gallen and the Arizona Diamondbacks as the NL West rivals meet up in NBC's prime time opener at 8:30 p.m. (ET)/5:30 p.m. (PT) on Thursday night. With the start, Yamamoto will be the first reigning World Series MVP to start on Opening Day since Madison Bumgarner for the Giants in 2015.

The crop of 30 Opening Day starters include 24 All-Star pitchers and four Cy Young Award winners (Sandy Alcantara of the Miami Marlins; Chris Sale of the Atlanta Braves; Skenes; and Skubal). Atlanta's Sale leads the way with his seventh Opening Day assignment, and he is followed by Miami's Alcantara (sixth); Nathan Eovaldi of the Texas Rangers (sixth); Colorado's Kyle Freeland (fifth); and San Francisco's Webb (fifth). The Opening Day starters include 12 pitchers who also opened the season in 2025, as well as 12 pitchers who will make their first career Opening Day start, including Cincinnati's Andrew Abbott; Cleveland's Tanner Bibee; Houston's Hunter Brown; Washington's Cade Cavalli; Matthew Liberatore of the St. Louis Cardinals; Milwaukee's Jacob Misiorowski; San Diego's Nick Pivetta; Tampa Bay's Drew Rasmussen; Baltimore's Trevor Rogers; Philadelphia's Cristopher Sánchez; Shane Smith of the Chicago White Sox; and José Soriano of the Los Angeles Angels.

The 2026 Opening Day pitching matchups across the Majors feature:

2026 OPENING DAY PITCHING MATCHUPS			
Date	Game	Pitching Matchup	Time
3/25	NY Yankees at SF	Max Fried vs. Logan Webb	8:05 p.m. (ET)/5:05 p.m. (PT) on Netflix
3/26	PIT at NY Mets	Paul Skenes vs. Freddy Peralta	1:15 p.m. (ET) on NBC
3/26	CWS at MIL	Shane Smith vs. Jacob Misiorowski	2:10 p.m. (ET)/1:10 p.m. (CT)
3/26	WSH at CHC	Cade Cavalli vs. Matthew Boyd	2:20 p.m. (ET)/1:20 p.m. (CT)
3/26	MIN at BAL	Joe Ryan vs. Trevor Rogers	3:05 p.m. (ET)
3/26	BOS at CIN	Garrett Crochet vs. Andrew Abbott	4:10 p.m. (ET)
3/26	LAA at HOU	José Soriano vs. Hunter Brown	4:10 p.m. (ET)/3:10 p.m. (CT)
3/26	DET at SD	Tarik Skubal vs. Nick Pivetta	4:10 p.m. (ET)/1:10 p.m. (PT)
3/26	TB at STL	Drew Rasmussen vs. Matthew Liberatore	4:15 p.m. (ET)/3:15 p.m. (CT)
3/26	TEX at PHI	Nathan Eovaldi vs. Cristopher Sánchez	4:15 p.m. (ET)
3/26	AZ at LAD	Zac Gallen vs. Yoshinobu Yamamoto	8:30 p.m. (ET)/5:30 p.m. (PT) on NBC
3/26	CLE at SEA	Tanner Bibee vs. Logan Gilbert	10:10 p.m. (ET)/7:10 p.m. (PT)
3/27	ATH at TOR	Luis Severino vs. Kevin Gausman	7:07 p.m. (ET)
3/27	COL at MIA	Kyle Freeland vs. Sandy Alcantara	7:10 p.m. (ET)
3/27	KC at ATL	Cole Ragans vs. Chris Sale	7:15 p.m. (ET)



OPENING DAY 2026

Presented by



LHP MAX FRIED, NEW YORK YANKEES – 4TH OPENING DAY START

- 🇺🇸 New York's Max Fried will make his fourth career Opening Day start, and first since joining the Yankees in 2025. The three-time All-Star previously toed the rubber three times on Opening Day for the Atlanta Braves in 2021-23, at Philadelphia, against Cincinnati and at Washington, respectively.
- 🇺🇸 Following Opening Day starts by fellow southpaws Nestor Cortes in 2024 and Carlos Ródon in 2025, it will mark the first time in Yankees' history that a different left-hander starts on Opening Day in three consecutive seasons.

RHP LOGAN WEBB, SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS – 5TH OPENING DAY START

- 🇺🇸 San Francisco's Logan Webb will make his fifth career Opening Day start and fifth consecutive for the Giants. Previously, he faced the Marlins in 2022, the Yankees in 2023, the Padres in 2024 and the Reds in 2025. It will mark his second season Opener at Oracle Park, joining his 2022 start against Miami.
- 🇺🇸 The 29-year-old will become the seventh pitcher to make at least five Opening Day starts for the Giants, joining Hall of Famer Juan Marichal (10); Hall of Famer Carl Hubbell (6); Madison Bumgarner (5); Larry Jansen (5); Hall of Famer Mickey Welch (5); and Hall of Famer Amos Rusie (5).
- 🇺🇸 The right-hander will become the second Giants starter to toe the rubber in at least five consecutive season openers, joining Marichal, who started six consecutive Opening Days from 1964-69.

RHP PAUL SKENES, PITTSBURGH PIRATES – 2ND OPENING DAY START

- 🇵🇸 Pittsburgh's Paul Skenes will make his second Opening Day start following his start last season at Miami.
- 🇵🇸 The 23-year-old, who became Pittsburgh's youngest Opening Day starter last year, will also be the fifth-youngest pitcher to be tabbed as the Opening Day starter in franchise history. Overall, it is the seventh time that a pitcher under the age of 24 will toe the rubber to begin the season for the Pirates.
- 🇵🇸 The reigning NL Cy Young Award winner is the first Cy Young Award winner to take the mound for Pittsburgh in the opener since Doug Drabek took the mound in 1992. Skenes is also the first reigning Cy Young Award winner to start for the Pirates since Drabek also started in 1991 following his Cy Young Award in 1990.

RHP FREDDY PERALTA, NEW YORK METS – 3RD OPENING DAY START

- 🇪🇨 New York's Freddy Peralta will make his third career Opening Day start, and third consecutive Opening start after taking the ball for the Milwaukee Brewers in 2024 (at NYM) and 2025 (at NYY).
- 🇪🇨 The Moca, Dominican Republic native will be the fifth internationally-born pitcher to start Opening Day for New York, joining Jose Quintana (2024); Bartolo Colon (2015); Johan Santana (2008-10, 2012); and Hall of Famer Pedro Martínez (2005).
- 🇪🇨 The 29-year-old will be the second consecutive Opening Day starter to make his Mets debut, following Clay Holmes last season. Overall, he will be the eighth player to make his Mets debut as the starting pitcher on Opening Day.
- 🇪🇨 Peralta will be the sixth different starter for New York since Jacob deGrom made three consecutive starts from 2019-2021. The Mets rolled out eight different starters in consecutive seasons from 2010-2017, with Johan Santana (2010 & 2012) being the only repeat starter during the stretch.

RHP SHANE SMITH, CHICAGO WHITE SOX – 1ST OPENING DAY START

- 🇺🇸 Chicago's Shane Smith will make his first career Opening Day start on the heels of his rookie campaign last year in which he made 29 starts and was named an All-Star. He is the seventh right-hander to be tabbed as Chicago's Opening Day starter in the last nine seasons dating to 2018.
- 🇺🇸 Smith's start will mark the third consecutive Opening Day in which the White Sox send a pitcher aged 25-or-younger to the mound, following Garrett Crochet in 2024 (24.281) and Sean Burke in 2025 (25.099). The only other stretch of at least three consecutive seasons in which Chicago sent a pitcher aged 25-or-younger to the mound to begin the season was 2002-04, when Mark Buehrle took the ball.
- 🇺🇸 It will mark the fifth consecutive season in which Chicago has opened the season with a different starting pitcher, following starts by Lucas Giolito (2020-22); Dylan Cease (2023); Crochet (2024); and Burke (2025).

RHP JACOB MISIOROWSKI, MILWAUKEE BREWERS – 1ST OPENING DAY START

- 🇺🇸 Milwaukee's Jacob Misorowski will make his first career Opening Day start following his rookie season in which he made 14 starts, appeared in 15 games and was named an All-Star.
- 🇺🇸 The 23-year-old will become the third-youngest Opening Day starting pitcher in Brewers' history, trailing only Bill Parsons, who was 23 years, 242 days old when he took the ball on April 15, 1972, and Ben Sheets, who was aged 23 years, 258 days when he started on April 2, 2002 (one day before Misorowski was born).
- 🇺🇸 It will mark the 20th consecutive season in which Milwaukee has tabbed a right-hander to start on Opening Day. The last southpaw to open the season on the mound for the Brewers was Doug Davis in 2006.
- 🇺🇸 The matchup between Misorowski and Smith is one of three Opening Day matchups to feature both starters making their first career Opening Day start.

RHP CADE CAVALLI, WASHINGTON NATIONALS – 1ST OPENING DAY START

- 🇺🇸 Washington's Cade Cavalli is making his first career Opening Day start. It will mark the fourth consecutive season in which the Nationals have opened the season with a different hurler following starts by Patrick Corbin (2022-23); Josiah Gray (2024); and MacKenzie Gore (2025).
- 🇺🇸 The 27-year-old joins John Patterson (2007), John Lannan (2009-10) and Stephen Strasburg (2012-14, 2017) as the only pitchers to start Opening Day for the Nationals after being drafted by the organization (Montreal or Washington). Patterson was drafted fifth overall by the Montreal Expos in 1996; Lannan was selected in the 11th round in 2005; Strasburg was selected first overall in 2009; and Cavalli was the 22nd overall pick in 2020.

LHP MATTHEW BOYD, CHICAGO CUBS – 3RD OPENING DAY START

- Chicago's Matthew Boyd will make his third career Opening Day start and first for the Cubs, following his season-Opening starts for Detroit in 2020 at Cincinnati and 2021 against Cleveland.
- When the Washington native toes the rubber, it will mark the fifth consecutive Opening Day that the Cubs have deployed a different starting pitcher, following starts by Kyle Hendricks (2020-22); Marcus Stroman (2023); Justin Steele (2024); and Shota Imanaga (2025). It is the longest streak for Chicago in which a different starting pitcher took the ball on Opening Day since a six-year stretch from 1994-2000, when six different pitchers were tabbed for the season openers.
- The 35-year-old will be the oldest starting pitcher for Chicago on Opening Day since Jon Lester took the ball at age 35 in 2019. Overall, it is just the 10th time in franchise history that the Cubs will deploy a starting pitcher on Opening Day who is over the age of 34.

RHP JOE RYAN, MINNESOTA TWINS – 2ND OPENING DAY START

- Minnesota's Joe Ryan will make his second career Opening Day start after opening the season for the Twins against Seattle in 2022.
- The 29-year-old right-hander has combined with Pablo López to start each of Minnesota's openers over the last five seasons. Ryan will be the Twins' oldest Opening Day starter since 32-year-old Kenta Maeda took the ball in 2021.

LHP TREVOR ROGERS, BALTIMORE ORIOLES – 1ST OPENING DAY START

- Baltimore's Trevor Rogers is making his first career Opening Day start. It will mark the fifth consecutive season in which the Orioles have opened the season with a different hurler following starts by John Means (2021-22); Kyle Gibson (2023); Corbin Burnes (2024); and Zach Eflin (2025).
- The southpaw from Carlsbad, New Mexico will be the first left-hander to start Opening Day for Baltimore since John Means made back-to-back starts in 2021-22.

LHP GARRETT CROCHET, BOSTON RED SOX – 3RD OPENING DAY START

- Boston's Garrett Crochet will make his third career Opening Day start following his start with the White Sox in 2024 and his club debut with the Red Sox last season.
- The southpaw is Boston's first pitcher to make consecutive Opening Day starts since Nathan Eovaldi took the ball in three consecutive openers from 2020-22. Crochet is the first left-hander to make consecutive Opening Day starts for the Red Sox since Chris Sale started in 2018 and 2019. Overall, it is the 26th time in Red Sox history that a left-hander will toe the rubber on Opening Day.
- When the 26-year-old Crochet takes the ball, it will mark the third consecutive year in which Boston has sent a pitcher aged 26-or-younger to the mound for the season opener, following Crochet's start last year (age 25) and Brayan Bello's start in 2024 (age 24). It is the first time a pitcher aged 26-or-younger has started three consecutive Opening Days for Boston since Hall of Famer Dennis Eckersley took the ball at age 24, 25 and 26 from 1979-81, opening a stretch of five consecutive Opening Day starts for Boston.

LHP ANDREW ABBOTT, CINCINNATI REDS – 1ST OPENING DAY START

- Cincinnati's Andrew Abbott will make his first career Opening Day start following his All-Star campaign in 2025.
- The southpaw will be Cincinnati's first left-handed starter on Opening Day since Mike Remlinger in 1998, snapping a 27-season streak in which the Reds started a right-hander on Opening Day, which had been the longest active streak in the Majors.
- Since Johnny Cueto started four straight season openers from 2012-15, the Reds have not had a pitcher take the mound for a start in consecutive seasons on Opening Day.

RHP JOSÉ SORIANO, LOS ANGELES ANGELS – 1ST OPENING DAY START

- Los Angeles' José Soriano will make his first career Opening Day start following his 2025 campaign in which he made a career-high 31 starts.
- The 27-year-old will mark the fourth different starter used by Los Angeles since 2023, following starts by Shohei Ohtani (2022-23); Patrick Sandoval (2024); and Yusei Kikuchi (2025).
- The native of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic will be the fifth internationally-born pitcher to start Opening Day for the Angels, following Shohei Ohtani (2022-23); Bartolo Colon (2004-06); and Hall of Famer Bert Blyleven (1990).
- The right-hander is seeking to be the first Angels starter to earn a winning decision on Opening Day since 2012, when Jered Weaver dealt 8.0 scoreless frames.

RHP HUNTER BROWN, HOUSTON ASTROS – 1ST OPENING DAY START

- Houston's Hunter Brown will make his first career Opening Day start on the heels of his first career All-Star selection in 2025.
- The 27-year-old toes the rubber following a four-year stretch from 2022-25 in which Framber Valdez started for Houston on Opening Day.
- The matchup between Soriano and Brown is one of three Opening Day matchups to feature both starters making their first career Opening Day start. Brown will be the 13th starting pitcher deployed by Houston on Opening Day over the last 30 years (since 1996).




LHP TARIK SKUBAL, DETROIT TIGERS – 3RD OPENING DAY START

- ✎ Detroit's Tarik Skubal will make his third career and third consecutive Opening Day start for the Tigers following his 2024 start at the White Sox and his 2025 start at the Dodgers.
- ✎ The back-to-back reigning AL Cy Young winner, who became the 12th pitcher in MLB history to win consecutive Cy Young Awards, will become the ninth pitcher to start on Opening Day following consecutive award-winning seasons, joining Hall of Famer Jim Palmer (1976-77); Hall of Famer Greg Maddux (1993-96); Roger Clemens (1998-99); Hall of Famer Randy Johnson (2000-03); Hall of Famer Pedro Martínez (2000-01); Tim Lincecum (2009-10); Clayton Kershaw (2014-15); and Jacob deGrom (2019-20).
- ✎ The 29-year-old will be Detroit's first starter to open the season in three consecutive years since his current rotation-mate Justin Verlander made seven consecutive Opening Day starts for the Tigers from 2008-2014.
- ✎ With the start, the Tigers will have deployed a left-hander on Opening Day in seven consecutive seasons, marking the longest active stretch across the Majors.





RHP NICK PIVETTA, SAN DIEGO PADRES – 1ST OPENING DAY START

- ✎ San Diego's Nick Pivetta is making his first career Opening Day start in his second season with the club. The Padres are the fourth club the nine-year veteran has toed the rubber for, following stints with the Phillies (2017-2020) and Red Sox (2021-24).
- ✎ The right-hander is the 14th different pitcher to take the ball for San Diego across the last 17 season openers dating to 2010, with Yu Darvish (2021-22, 24) and Edinson Vólquez (2012-23) being the only pitchers to make multiple starts during the stretch. The Padres have turned to a right-hander in 14 of the 17 seasons.
- ✎ The native of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada will become the fourth foreign-born Opening Day starter for San Diego, joining Yu Darvish (2021-22, 24) of Japan; Jhoulys Chacín (2017) of Venezuela; and Edinson Vólquez (2012-23) of the Dominican Republic.





RHP DREW RASMUSSEN, TAMPA BAY RAYS – 1ST OPENING DAY START

-  Tampa Bay's Drew Rasmussen will make his first career Opening Day start in his sixth season with the Rays after previously pitching for the Brewers (2020-21).
-  The 2025 All-Star will become the seventh different arm deployed by the Rays on Opening Day in the last eight years (Shane McClellan was the only pitcher to start multiple times; 2022-23).
-  The 30-year-old will become the third-oldest pitcher to take the mound on Opening Day for the club, younger than only Tanyon Sturtze (30.172 in 2002) and 36-year-old Charlie Morton in 2020.




LHP MATTHEW LIBERATORE, ST. LOUIS CARDINALS – 1ST OPENING DAY START

-  St. Louis' Matthew Liberatore will make his first career Opening Day start after debuting with the Club in 2022 and appearing in 120 games over the last four seasons.
-  The matchup between Rasmussen and Liberatore is one of three Opening Day matchups to feature both starters making their first career Opening Day start.
-  The southpaw is the first left-handed pitcher to start on Opening Day for the franchise since Donovan Osborne did so in 1999.
-  The 26-year-old will become one of just 16 left-handers to make an Opening Day start for the club since 1901.




RHP NATHAN EOVALDI, TEXAS RANGERS – 6TH OPENING DAY START

-  Texas' Nathan Eovaldi will make his third consecutive and sixth career Opening Day start.
-  The Houston native previously made three Opening Day starts with the Red Sox from 2020-22 and in each of the last two seasons as a member of the Rangers.
-  The 36-year-old will become the 12th-oldest pitcher in Club history to take the mound on Opening Day.
-  Eovaldi is already one of only two native Texans to ever start on Opening Day for the Rangers, joining his fellow Alvin (TX) High School alum and Hall of Famer Nolan Ryan.






LHP CRISTOPHER SÁNCHEZ, PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES – 1ST OPENING DAY START

-  Philadelphia's Cristopher Sánchez will make his first career Opening Day start following his 2025 campaign in which he finished second in Cy Young voting and boasted career-bests in innings pitched, strikeouts and ERA.
-  The 29-year-old's Opening Day start will mark the first time a southpaw has started since Cole Hamels in 2015, and will be just the sixth left-hander to start for the Club since 1996.
-  The La Romana native will be the first Dominican-born player in franchise history to take the bump on Opening Day.




RHP ZAC GALLEN, ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS – 4TH OPENING DAY START

-  Arizona's Zac Gallen will make his fourth consecutive and fourth overall Opening Day start with the Diamondbacks.
-  The right-hander will join Hall of Famer Randy Johnson (six times, 1999-2004) and Brandon Webb (four times, 2006-09) as the only pitchers in franchise history to start at least four Opening Day contests.
-  The New Jersey native is one of just eight right-handed pitchers to start an Opening Day in Diamondbacks history.





RHP YOSHINOBU YAMAMOTO, LOS ANGELES DODGERS – 2ND OPENING DAY START

-  Los Angeles' Yoshinobu Yamamoto will make his second career and second consecutive Opening Day start for the Dodgers.
-  Yamamoto will become the first reigning World Series MVP to start the following Opening Day since Madison Bumgarner of the Giants won World Series MVP in 2014 and started Opening Day in 2015.
-  The Bizen native will join Hideo Nomo (2003-04) as the only Japanese-born players in franchise history to make multiple Opening Day starts.
-  Yamamoto will also join Nomo (2003-04); Yu Darvish (2017, 2021-22, 2024); Masahiro Tanaka (2015-17, 2019); and teammate Shohei Ohtani (2022-23) as the only Japanese-born pitchers to start multiple Opening Days.
-  In his first Opening Day start, the right-hander became one of just five pitchers in franchise history and the first since 2019 (eighth occurrence) to pitch at least 5.0 innings and allow four baserunners-or-less.





RHP TANNER BIBEE, CLEVELAND GUARDIANS – 1ST OPENING DAY START

-  Cleveland's Tanner Bibee will make his first career Opening Day start in his fourth year with the Guardians.
-  The 27-year-old will be just the fifth different pitcher to start on Opening Day for Cleveland since 2012.
-  Bibee's start will mark the 17th consecutive year in which a right-hander will start on the bump for the Guardians, with Cliff Lee's 2009 Opening Day start being the last time a southpaw has opened up the season on the mound for the franchise.




RHP LOGAN GILBERT, SEATTLE MARINERS – 2ND OPENING DAY START

-  Seattle's Logan Gilbert will make his second consecutive and second career Opening Day start for the Mariners.
-  The 28-year-old became just the third pitcher in franchise history to toss at least 7.0 innings and allow two hits-or-less for the Club in his first Opening Day start last season.
-  Gilbert's start will mark the 15th time in the last 20 seasons that a right-hander will toe the rubber on Opening Day for Seattle, and he will become just the eighth right-hander in franchise history to make multiple Opening Day starts for the club.
-  The Winter Park native is the only Florida-born pitcher to take the mound on Opening Day for Seattle, and one of just 14 American-born starters to toe the rubber. He is also one of just four American-born pitchers to start Opening Day for Seattle since 2000.




RHP LUIS SEVERINO, ATHLETICS – 3RD OPENING DAY START

-  Luis Severino will make his second consecutive and third career Opening Day start.
-  The 32-year-old previously made an Opening Day start as a member of the Yankees in 2018, and last year in his first season with the Athletics.
-  The Sabana de la Mar native is one of two Dominican-born pitchers to start an Opening Day contest for the Athletics, along with Frankie Montas, who started in 2020 and 2022 for the A's.
-  Severino's start marks the second consecutive time and 15th time in the past 20 seasons (since 2007) in which a right-hander will toe the rubber on Opening Day for the Athletics. He will also become the first pitcher to make consecutive Opening Day starts for the A's since Kendall Graveman in 2017 and 2018.




RHP KEVIN GAUSMAN, TORONTO BLUE JAYS – 3RD OPENING DAY START

-  Toronto's Kevin Gausman will make his third career Opening Day start and first with the Blue Jays. The right-hander previously made starts on Opening Day as a member of the Orioles in 2017 and as a member of the Giants in 2021.
-  Entering his 14th season in the Majors, Gausman will make his 11th career start against the Athletics. He owns a 2-4 record with a 3.00 ERA against the Club, including a 10-strikeout shutout in 2024.
-  The Colorado native's start will mark the seventh different Opening Day starter for the Blue Jays in the past 10 seasons. The 35-year-old will become the eighth-oldest pitcher to start an Opening Day for the Blue Jays.

LHP KYLE FREELAND, COLORADO ROCKIES – 5TH OPENING DAY START

-  Colorado's Kyle Freeland will start his third consecutive and fifth overall Opening Day with the Colorado Rockies.
-  His five career Opening Day starts are the most in Rockies history, ahead of former teammate Germán Márquez's three such starts. The 32-year-old will become the fifth-oldest pitcher to start on Opening Day in Rockies history.
-  Freeland, along with Jorge De La Rosa in 2016, is one of two left-handed pitchers to start an Opening Day contest for Colorado since 2005. Freeland is also one of just five southpaws overall to start on Opening Day in franchise history.

RHP SANDY ALCANTARA, MIAMI MARLINS – 6TH OPENING DAY START

-  Miami's Sandy Alcantara will suit up for his sixth career and second consecutive Opening Day start for the Marlins. The right-hander previously toed the rubber on Opening Day in 2020 against the Phillies; 2021 against the Rays; 2022 against the Giants; 2023 against the Mets; and last year against the Pirates.
-  The 30-year-old already holds the franchise record for most Opening Day starts, ranking ahead of Josh Beckett (three times, 2003-05) and Josh Johnson (three times, 2010-12).
-  Alcantara became the seventh-youngest Opening Day hurler in franchise history when he made his first start in 2020, and will now become the ninth-oldest Opening Day starter in Marlins history with his 2026 Opening Day start.

LHP COLE RAGANS, KANSAS CITY ROYALS – 3RD OPENING DAY START

- Cole Ragans will make his third overall and third consecutive Opening Day start for the Royals. The All-Star southpaw will look for his first Opening Day victory after being pinned with a loss against the Twins on Opening Day in 2024, and receiving a no-decision against the Guardians in 2025.
- With his Opening Day start, Ragans will join Bud Black (1984-1986) as the only left-handers in franchise history to start three consecutive Opening Day contests.
- The 28-year-old will also become just one of six to start three-or-more consecutive Opening Day contests for the Royals, joining Dennis Leonard (three times, 1978-1980); Black (three times, 1984-1986); Kevin Appier (six times, 1992-1997); Jeff Suppan (three times, 2000-2002); and Gil Meche (three, 2007-2009).
- The nine-strikeout performance by Ragans on Opening Day 2024 remains the franchise record for strikeouts in an Opening Day contest.

LHP CHRIS SALE, ATLANTA BRAVES – 7TH OPENING DAY START

- Atlanta's Chris Sale will make his seventh career Opening Day start and second overall and consecutive as a member of the Braves.
- The left-hander previously made Opening Day starts for the White Sox in 2013-14 and 2016, and for the Red Sox in 2018-19.
- The Florida native was the fifth-youngest pitcher to start an Opening Day for the White Sox and will become the 14th-oldest pitcher in Braves franchise history to start on Opening Day.
- Sale will become the sixth left-hander in franchise history to start multiple Opening Day contests, joining Irv Young (1906-08); Ed Brandt (1932, 1934-35); Hall of Famer Warren Spahn (1950, 1952, 1955, 1957-62, 1964); Hall of Famer Tom Glavine (1990, 1992, 1999, 2002); and Max Fried (2021-23).
- Sale and Fried (2021-23) are the only lefty hurlers to start on Opening Day for Atlanta since Glavine in 2002.

OPENING DAY ACTIVE LEADERS

Below are the active leaders on Opening Day in a variety of categories

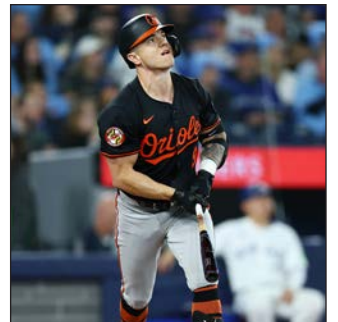
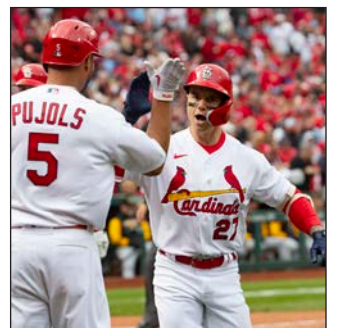
HOME RUNS	
HR	Player
6	Bryce Harper
6	Tyler O'Neill
5	Nolan Arenado
5	Giancarlo Stanton
4	George Springer
4	Mike Trout

RBI	
RBI	Player
15	Nolan Arenado
14	Tyler O'Neill
13	Giancarlo Stanton
11	Joc Pederson
10	Andrew Benintendi
10	Nick Castellanos

GAMES STARTED	
GS	Player
12	Justin Verlander
7	Max Scherzer
6	Aaron Nola
6	Chris Sale
5	Sandy Alcantara
5	Shane Bieber
5	Nathan Eovaldi
5	Gerrit Cole
5	José Berríos

WINS	
W	Player
5	Justin Verlander
3	Sonny Gray
3	Chris Sale
2	Many Tied

Baltimore's Tyler O'Neill has hit a home run in an AL/NL record six consecutive Opening Day games, dating back to 2020. The previous record of four was shared by Todd Hundley (1994-97); Hall of Famer Gary Carter (1977-80); and Hall of Famer Yogi Berra (1955-58). He has homered against Pittsburgh (2020 & 2022); at Cincinnati (2021); against Toronto (2023); at Seattle (2024); and at Toronto (2025). O'Neill has homered on Opening Day as a member of the Cardinals (2020-23); Red Sox (2024); and Orioles (2025).



OPENING DAY 2026

Presented by





10 Players Who Could Reach Career Milestones in 2026 – Sarah Langs

With each new baseball season, there are always more milestones to look out for -- and 2026 is no exception to that rule. Here is a look at some major milestones on the horizon for 2026 and beyond, along with a breakdown of each player's chances of getting there this year.

Written for MLB.com (click to view)

Aaron Judge: 400 home runs

Judge enters the season with 368 career home runs, the most in MLB since his debut season of 2016. He reached 300 homers in 955 games, the fewest in MLB history, so it's worth wondering where he may rank for fewest games to 400 career home runs. He's played 1,145 games so far. The list:

- Mark McGwire: 1,412 games
- Babe Ruth: 1,475
- Alex Rodriguez: 1,489
- Giancarlo Stanton: 1,520
- Albert Pujols: 1,523

Will it happen?

Judge needs 32 home runs, which certainly seems doable for a player who hit 62 in '22, 52 in '17, 37 in just 106 games in 2023, 58 in 2024 and 53 last season. And he'll get there in the fewest games as long as he does it in the next season and a half.



Juan Soto: 1,000 walks, most walks before turning 29

Soto's 896 career walks are most in MLB history before turning 27, which he turned in October, and 28, which he will turn this October. He's already set the pre-28 record, and he's yet to even play a regular-season game as a 27-year-old. Thus, we look ahead. The most before turning 29 is 1,003 walks, by Mickey Mantle. Given that Soto has the most career walks before turning 20 years old (79 BB), 21 (187), 23 (373), 24 (508), 25 (640), 26 (769), 27 (896), 28 (896 & counting), it's worth wondering where he may pace in terms of fewest games to 1,000 walks. The list, per the Elias Sports Bureau:

- Ted Williams: 1,091 games
- Max Bishop: 1,121
- Frank Thomas: 1,246
- Babe Ruth: 1,263
- Eddie Yost: 1,320

Will it happen?

That first Soto Shuffle of the regular season is as sure a sign of spring as there is. Soto needs 104 walks for 1,000. His fewest in a season where he played at least 120 games was 108, in 2019. He's had at least 127 walks in each season since the start of 2021. As for the fewest games list, he's played 1,096 games so far and figures to land at No. 3 or 4 when he reaches 1,000.



José Ramírez: 300 home runs and 300 SB, most total bases in CLE history

Ramírez enters the season with 285 career home runs and 287 stolen bases. There are only eight players in MLB history with at least 300 homers and 300 stolen bases:

- Carlos Beltrán
- Alex Rodriguez
- Barry Bonds
- Reggie Sanders
- Steve Finley
- Andre Dawson
- Bobby Bonds
- Willie Mays

He also has 3,007 career total bases, second to only Earl Averill's 3,201 in Cleveland history, per Elias.

Will it happen?

He needs 15 homers and 13 stolen bases for 300-300. Considering he's had a 30-40 season in each of the last two years, this seems quite likely. Speaking of which, the only player to record at least three consecutive 30-30 seasons is Barry Bonds (1995-97), and nobody has had 30-40 in three straight seasons. He needs 195 total bases for the franchise record. Since becoming an everyday player in 2016, his fewest total bases in a non-2020 season is 231 in 2019.



Max Scherzer and Justin Verlander: 3,500 strikeouts, moving up top 10 all-time

The two-time former teammates enter the year 8th and 11th all-time in career strikeouts. Verlander is 8th with 3,553 and Scherzer is 11th at 3,489, both within striking distance of seventh all-time. Here's the relevant list, according to Elias:

Most strikeouts all-time:

1. Nolan Ryan: 5,714
2. Randy Johnson: 4,875
3. Roger Clemens: 4,672
4. Steve Carlton: 4,136
5. Bert Blyleven: 3,701
6. Tom Seaver: 3,640
7. Don Sutton: 3,574
8. Justin Verlander: 3,553
9. Gaylord Perry: 3,534
10. Walter Johnson: 3,515

Will it happen?

The two future Hall of Famers will continue moving up the list in tandem, and the seventh spot is definitely reachable. Verlander is 22 strikeouts from passing Sutton and Scherzer is 86 from passing the mark. Both of those can be doable in a full season. Verlander had 137 strikeouts in 152 innings last year and in Scherzer's last season with at least 150 innings, in 2023, he had 174.



Tyler Glasnow: 1,000 strikeouts

Glasnow enters with 952 career strikeouts in 754 innings. Glasnow is on pace to have the fewest innings to the reach mark among pitchers who started in at least 50% of their appearances by the time of their 1,000th strikeouts, according to Elias. The list:

- Freddy Peralta: 804.2 IP
- Robbie Ray: 810.0 IP
- Yu Darvish: 812.0 IP
- Blake Snell: 820.2 IP
- Dylan Cease: 830.1 IP

Will it happen?

Glasnow is 48 strikeouts away. Last season, he had 106 strikeouts in 90.1 innings, and in 2024, he had 168 strikeouts in 134 innings. Based on his career numbers, he's on pace to reach this mark in fewer than 795 innings, which would top the list and then some.



Jacob deGrom: 2,000 strikeouts

deGrom enters with 1,851 career strikeouts in 1,539.2 innings. He is on pace to have among the fewest innings to the reach mark among pitchers who started in at least 50% of their appearances by the time of their 2,000th strikeouts, according to Elias. The list:

- Chris Sale: 1,696.0 IP
- Yu Darvish: 1,697.1 IP
- Pedro Martinez: 1,711.1 IP
- Gerrit Cole: 1,714.2 IP
- Randy Johnson: 1,733.1 IP

Will it happen?

deGrom is 149 strikeouts away. Last season, he had 185 strikeouts in 172.2 innings in his return to healthy form. Based on his career numbers, he's on pace to reach this mark in fewer innings than anyone else, and even if we go with his pace from 2025, still strikeout-heavy but not where he was in his Cy Young years, he's still likely to top the list.



A few more to keep an eye on...

Shohei Ohtani, 300 home runs and 700 strikeouts: Ohtani enters the year with 280 home runs. He has 670 career strikeouts as a pitcher. He's already one of two players in MLB history with at least 200 home runs and more than 15 strikeouts on the mound, along with Babe Ruth (714 home runs, 501 pitching strikeouts).

Ronald Acuña Jr., 200 home runs & 200 SB: MLB's only 40-70 club member has 186 career homers and 205 stolen bases in 817 games. He's 28. The only players to reach 200-200 before turning 29 are Mike Trout and Barry Bonds, and the fewest games to the combined mark is 929, by Alfonso Soriano.

Kenley Jansen, third-most saves: Jansen enters the year fourth all-time with 476 saves, looking up at Lee Smith in third with 478.

2026 SEASON OPENS WITH FULL SLATE OF NATIONAL GAMES

Opening Week Features Debut of MLB on Netflix and Return to NBC & Peacock

FOX Sports, Apple TV & TBS Return with Primetime Matchups

Major League Baseball will open the 2026 season with a full weekend of nationally televised matchups across its expanded roster of media partners, giving fans more ways than ever to watch the game's biggest stars. Throughout MLB Opening Week presented by Adobe, MLB's national partners will deliver a robust slate of games across television and streaming platforms. Fans can visit [MLB.com/Watch](https://mlb.com/watch) for a complete schedule on where every game will air throughout the season.

To help fans stay informed each week, MLB will publish a weekly national games graphic across its digital platforms and social channels, highlighting the upcoming slate of nationally televised matchups and where to watch them.

The action begins tonight when Netflix makes its live MLB debut by exclusively carrying Opening Night presented by Adobe, featuring Aaron Judge and the New York Yankees visiting Rafael Devers and the San Francisco Giants at 8 p.m. ET.

The spotlight shifts to Opening Day presented by Adobe tomorrow as NBC and Peacock mark the return of Major League Baseball to the network with a special Opening Day doubleheader. The first game features reigning NL Cy Young winner Paul Skenes and the Pittsburgh Pirates taking on Juan Soto and the New York Mets at 1 p.m. Eastern. Later in the day, the defending World Series champions Los Angeles Dodgers, led by reigning NL MVP Shohei Ohtani, will host the Arizona Diamondbacks in primetime at 8 p.m. Eastern. Both games will be available on NBC and Peacock.

Opening Week rolls on Friday, March 27, with the first "Friday Night Baseball" doubleheader on Apple TV, showcasing the Los Angeles Angels at the Houston Astros, followed by the Cleveland Guardians at the Seattle Mariners.

The weekend continues on Saturday, March 28, with FOX featuring New York Yankees vs. San Francisco Giants (also available on FOX Deportes via the FOX Sports app), alongside regional coverage of the Kansas City Royals vs. Atlanta Braves in select markets.

On Sunday night, Peacock will stream the Cleveland Guardians against the Seattle Mariners at 7:20 p.m. Eastern.

In addition, nationally televised non-exclusive matchups include the following list of games, which also will be available where each Clubs' local games are normally carried:

- Thursday, March 26, 4 p.m. ET: Detroit Tigers vs. San Diego Padres (MLB Network)
- Friday, March 27, 7 p.m. ET: Athletics vs. Toronto Blue Jays (MLB Network)
- Friday, March 27, 10 p.m. ET: Arizona Diamondbacks vs. Los Angeles Dodgers (MLB Network)
- Saturday, March 28, 4 p.m. ET: Minnesota Twins vs. Baltimore Orioles (FS1, FOX Deportes)
- Saturday, March 28, 9:30 p.m. ET: Cleveland Guardians vs. Seattle Mariners (MLB Network)
- Sunday, March 29, 1:30 p.m. ET: Kansas City Royals vs. Atlanta Braves (MLB Network)
- Monday, March 30, 6:40 p.m. ET: Pittsburgh Pirates vs. Cincinnati Reds (FS1, FOX Deportes)
- Monday, March 30, 9:40 p.m. ET: San Francisco Giants vs. San Diego Padres (FS1, FOX Deportes)
- Tuesday, March 31, 6:30 p.m. ET: Washington Nationals vs. Philadelphia Phillies (MLB Network)
- Tuesday, March 31, 9:40 p.m. ET: New York Yankees vs. Seattle Mariners (TBS)

Throughout the regular season, fans can follow a consistent national broadcast rhythm, beginning with "Friday Night Baseball" on Apple TV, followed by Saturday matchups on FOX and FS1. FOX/FOX Deportes also will broadcast the MLB All-Star Game presented by Mastercard from Philadelphia in July. Sunday nights will feature the return of Sunday Night Baseball on NBC and Peacock, while TBS continues its Tuesday night coverage. ESPN will complement the weekly lineup with select primetime games and key moments across the calendar, including Jackie Robinson Day, Memorial Day, the Little League Classic presented by New York Life, and additional summer matchups. In addition, Netflix will stream the T Mobile Home Run Derby and MLB at Field of Dreams in 2026.

Fans can visit [MLB.com/Watch](https://mlb.com/watch) to explore the full 2026 regular season schedule, including daily matchups, probable pitchers, and broadcast information across MLB's national and local partners.

