

Scoresheet Baseball July 6th, 2009

Hi Again: I hope you all had a great 4th of July weekend. I had a fun time Saturday, but now I have to get rid of the two pounds I added eating hot dogs and hamburgers all day. The day long BBQ is my favorite part of the July 4th holiday – I enjoy that even more than watching fireworks.

5TH STARTER ALSO LISTED IN THE PEN:

The **All-Star** break is coming up (the All-Star game is on Tuesday, July 14th this year.) In Scoresheet, all regular season pitching cards must list a normal **5 man rotation**. But during the All-Star week almost all Scoresheet teams will only play 4 games, so if all 5 of your rotation's pitchers do pitch in the majors during the All-Star week your 5th starter will not be needed as a starter that week. So starting last week and lasting thru the All-Star week, the web lineup card form automatically also lists your 5th starter at the top of your bullpen so that you can set whatever strategy numbers you want used if/when that 5th starter is used out of the bullpen during the All-Star week.

If you do not turn in a new web lineup, or if you send in lineups by postal mail or fax, then your 5th starter will **automatically** be moved to the top of the bullpen during the All-Star week, with an earliest inning of 1, a hook of 3, and a rank of 5 versus both RHBs and LHBs. To avoid using those assigned default numbers, you **can** choose to also list your 5th starter at the top of your bullpen on your postal/faxed lineup, with whatever hook, rank and earliest inning used numbers you want. Then, if that 5th starter needs to be used as a starter we'll use his starter numbers, and if he is not needed to start a game he'll be eligible to come out of the pen, with either the numbers you show for him, or the default numbers if you don't list him in the pen.

That listing of your 5th starter in the bullpen will **only** matter during the All-Star week and in the playoffs, since in all other weeks you must use a 5 man rotation in Scoresheet, and if a rotation pitcher starts a game that week in Scoresheet he can NOT also be used as a reliever. When we say 'list your 5th starter in the pen' we mean that you can list him twice on your lineup card, once as your 5th starter in the rotation, and also as your first (top line) listed pitcher out of the pen. Also, it is only the 5th starter that can be listed in the bullpen (not the 3rd or 4th starter).

ALL STAR WEEK LINEUP DEADLINE: As discussed quite a bit this season, any lineup changes or trades meant to be used for a week's Scoresheet games must be sent in by/before the first major league game starts that week. So, in the All-Star

week, for a lineup or trade to take effect for that short week, it just needs to be sent in by/before Thursday afternoon July 16th, since there are no games Monday thru Wednesday next week. For *Scoresheet* games using the major leagues stats of the All-Star week we will accept lineups/trades up until 7 PM Eastern/4 PM Pacific time on Thursday the 16th (when the first major league game is scheduled to begin), but we do ask that if possible you send in your changes by/before Thursday morning to give us a little more time to get them processed.

However, if using postal mail, you should NOT wait until Thursday to send in any new lineups or trade notes, as they are unlikely to get here before we play the games on our computer Monday if you wait that long. **We strongly suggest if using postal mail you mail any new lineups or trades by/before Tuesday next week** to give them a chance to get here before we play the games on our computer on Monday the 20th.

Carry-Over starts: If one of your starting rotation pitchers has an 'unused start' from a previous week (meaning he was in your rotation some week and started twice in the majors, but was only needed to start once for your team), that unused 'saved' start can be used in a future week. If a starting pitcher needs to use an unused start from a previous week then the stats from that unused start get added into the current week's major league performance. So, **both** his starts for you that week will be based on the combination of his major league stats for the current week, and the stats of his unused start. (This is why we put an asterisk next to both your pitcher's starts in a week when a carry-over is used). Unfortunately this can make it harder for you to predict how your pitchers will do just from looking at that week's major league boxscores, but we figure most of us need all of the starting pitching innings we can get! Finally, 'carry-over' starts do count the same as real starts when figuring out who should start twice for you in a week. This means that if more than one pitcher has 2 starts available the pitcher higher in your rotation gets two starts, except when a lower listed pitcher is facing a team you have listed in his 'prefer to face' column.

Have a great week! - Jeff Barton

P.S. This year we are having three 3 round in-season drafts, instead of the two 4 round drafts we had in previous seasons. We have already had two of those drafts – the third and final draft will be held the week of August 17th thru 23rd. Play Ball! - Jeff