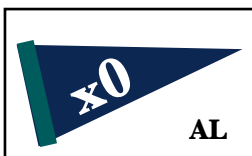




# SEATTLE MARINERS

American League West



**3514**  
FRANCHISE WINS

**88-74**  
2023 SEASON

**3rd**  
DIVISION

**#19**  
FARM SYSTEM RANK

Seattle, WA - T-Mobile Park (47,929)  
Manager: Scott Servais (616-578, 9th Season)

## '24 Mariners: Contenders or Pretenders?

After finally breaking a long postseason drought and locking up young superstar Julio Rodriguez to a 14-year contract extension in 2022, Seattle and their fans had high hopes that 2023 could be the year that they finally made a run at the World Series. However, it wasn't to be as the Mariners won 88 games and finished a game out of a playoff spot. Seattle caught fire with a 38-15 record in July and August but it wasn't enough to overcome a 38-42 record through the first three months. Manager Scott Servais returns for his 9th season with the team and the Mariners again have their sights set on the postseason.

### Batting

Any discussion of the Mariners has to start with one of the top young players in the game, **Julio Rodríguez**. Julio is a complete player: he robs home runs as a center fielder, hits homer runs, bats for average, and steals bases. As Rodríguez goes, so goes Seattle. He got off to a bit of a slow start in 2023 before going on a tear in July and August to give the Mariners a chance at the postseason. The rest of the Mariners' outfield looks quite a bit different with Jarred Kelenic traded to Atlanta and Teoscar Hernandez signing with the Dodgers. In their place are **Luke Raley** and **Mitch Haniger**. Raley showed a lot of potential last year with the Rays with 19 homers and 14 steals. Haniger enters his second stint with Seattle and he has always been an effective player when he is on the field. Unfortunately, that hasn't been very often as he has played more than 100 games in just two of his eight MLB seasons. Shortstop and leadoff hitter **J.P. Crawford** quietly had a very good season last year, hitting a career high 19 home runs while walking an AL-high 94 times. The Mariners' big move in the offseason was making a trade with the Twins to bring in **Jorge Polanco** to play second base. Polanco has struggled with injuries the past two years, but he provides strong production and is a power threat when on the field.

Catcher **Cal Raleigh** strikes out a lot and he won't hit for average, but when he gets the bat on the ball it usually goes a long way (30 home runs in 2023). **Mitch Garver** won the World Series with Texas last year and he is expected to fill the designated hitter role for the Mariners. Carver is another player who struggles to stay on the field, but his bat is very good with plus power (19 home runs in 87 games). **Ty France** made his first All-Star team in 2022, and was a key part of Seattle's run to the playoffs, but he is coming off a disappointing season that featured a drop in batting average and power. France will need to rebound if the Mariners are to have a real shot at the postseason in 2024. Third base will likely be shared by **Josh Rojas**, who played well after a midseason trade from Arizona, and **Luis Arias**, a former top prospect whose 2023 was largely lost to injuries. Don't expect either to contribute much offensively, though both are decent defenders and Rojas provides some speed on the bases.

### Pitching

While Seattle's offense has a lot of questions outside of Julio Rodríguez, the starting rotation is in a much better spot. **Luis Castillo** is the team's ace and he has been everything Seattle hoped he would be when they traded four prospects to the Reds in order to acquire him in 2022. He made the 2023 All-Star team and finished fifth in AL Cy Young voting while striking out the fourth-most batters in the American League. **Logan Gilbert** and **George Kirby** are both excellent young pitchers who limit walks and were among the league leaders in innings pitched last season. **Bryce Miller** and **Bryan Woo** both made their major league debuts in 2023 and put up decent numbers. They both had a couple of ugly starts throughout the year, but they also had some very good ones and they should be able to pitch well enough to keep the Mariners in the game the majority of the time.

The Mariners' bullpen is led by closer **Andrés Muñoz**. After Seattle traded Paul Sewald to the Diamondbacks at the 2023 trade deadline, Muñoz took over as the closer and saved 13 games down the stretch. He has elite strikeout stuff, with 163 Ks in 114 innings over the past two seasons. **Matt Brash** had a breakout season last year with 107 strikeouts in 71 innings, while pitching in a league-high 78 games. **Trent Thornton** arrived in a midseason trade from Toronto and pitched well for Seattle, but he won't strike out a lot of hitters. **Gregory Santos** is a 24-year-old with potential. He pitched to a 3.39 ERA with the White Sox in 2023 and showed an ability to close games if necessary with five saves.

### The Bottom Line

The Mariners' success in 2024 will be determined largely on how well their offense performs. Their rotation has a top three that can compete with most teams in baseball, but Seattle's offense disappointed last year and at least on paper they are worse this year with the subtractions of Kelenic and Hernandez. Mariners fans were frustrated with ownership's unwillingness to invest more money in the team after making the playoffs in 2022, and so far, that has continued into 2024. If new acquisitions Polanco, Garver, and Haniger are able to stay healthy and produce, then the Mariners can contend for a postseason spot. The starting rotation has a high ceiling and will keep the team in games the majority of the time, but the offense likely has too many questions to be a serious contender in the AL West or the American League.

**2024 Projection: 82-80, 3rd in AL West**

**Julio Rodríguez**



Photo via The Seattle Times



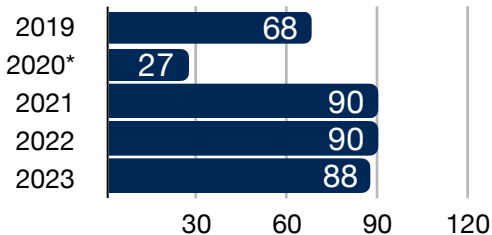
**2023 MLB Ranks**  
RPG - 4.68 (12th)  
HITS - 1332 (20th)  
HR - 210 (11th)  
ERA - 3.74 (3rd)  
SO - 1459 (8th)  
FD% - .987% (8th)

## Luis Castillo



Photo via The Boston Globe

### MARINERS 5-YEAR WIN TREND



### 1977 < Number to Know

Seattle had its first major league season in 1977 and the team still has not played in a World Series. Fans in the PNW hope Rodríguez and Co. can finally lead them to the Fall Classic.

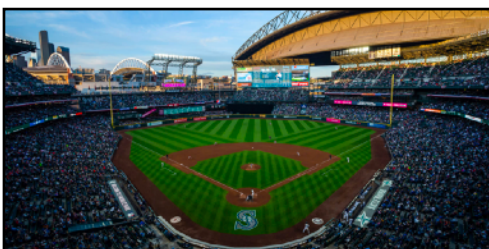


Photo via MLB

### PROSPECT TO WATCH Harry Ford - C

The Mariners drafted Harry Ford out of high school in 2021 and he has quickly risen up Seattle's prospect rankings. He is a rare catcher with speed, stealing 24 bases during 2023 and he has a great arm behind the plate. While he probably won't be a home run hitter in the majors, he has hit 15 home runs in 118 games in the minors. Ford's parents hail from the UK and he helped lead Great Britain to their first World Baseball Classic appearance in the country's history in 2023, hitting .429 in the European qualifiers. His skills are still a little raw (as are most players drafted out of high school) so he probably won't contribute in the majors this year, but he is definitely a name to watch in 2025.



Photo via MLB

Projected Lineup			'23 AVG
3	J.P. Crawford	SS	.266
44	Julio Rodríguez	CF	.275
7	Jorge Polanco	2B	.255
18	Mitch Garver	DH	.270
29	Cal Raleigh	C	.232
23	Ty France	1B	.250
20	Luke Raley	LF	.249
17	Mitch Haniger	RF	.209
4	Josh Rojas	3B	.245

Projected Rotation			'23 ERA
58	Luis Castillo	SP	3.34
68	George Kirby	SP	3.35
36	Logan Gilbert	SP	3.73
50	Bryce Miller	SP	4.32
22	Bryan Woo	SP	4.21
75	Andrés Muñoz	CL	2.94

### PLAYER SPOTLIGHT George Kirby - SP



#### 2023 Statistics

APP IP ERA K BB  
31 190.2 3.35 172 19

George Kirby has established himself as a top young pitcher in baseball over the last two seasons. The key to his success is the very low number of batters that he walks. In 321 career innings, Kirby has remarkably only walked 41 hitters. In 2023, he walked only 2.5% of the hitters he faced and allowed more home runs (22) than walks (19). Only ten pitchers since 1946 have had a walk rate that low. Kirby also strikes batters out, with 172 Ks in 190 innings last season.

### 2024 Schedule

March/April 2024											
						BOS 10:10				BOS 9:40	BOS 30 9:40
BOS 31 4:10	CLE 1 9:40	CLE 2 9:40	CLE 3 4:10					MIL 5 8:10	MIL 6 7:10		
MIL 7 2:10	TOR 8 7:07	TOR 9 7:07	TOR 10 3:07					CHC 12 9:40	CHC 13 9:40		
CHC 14 4:10	CIN 15 9:42	CIN 16 9:40	CIN 17 4:10					COL 19 8:40	COL 20 8:10		
COL 21 3:10		TEX 23 8:05	TEX 24 8:05	TEX 25 2:35				ARI 26 9:40	ARI 27 9:40		
ARI 28 4:10	ATL 29 9:40	ATL 30 9:40									

May 2024											
				ATL 1 3:40				HOU 3 8:10	HOU 4 7:15		
HOU 5 2:10	MIN 6 7:40	MIN 7 7:40	MIN 8 7:40	MIN 9 1:10		OAK 10 9:40	OAK 11 9:40				
OAK 12 4:10	KC 13 9:40	KC 14 9:40	KC 15 4:10			BAL 17 7:05	BAL 18 4:05				
BAL 19 1:35	NYG 20 7:05	NYG 21 7:05	NYG 22 7:05	NYG 23 12:35		WSH 24 6:45	WSH 25 4:05				
WSH 26 1:35	HOU 27 9:40	HOU 28 9:40	HOU 29 9:40	HOU 30 4:10		LAA 31 10:10					

June 2024											
										LAA 1 7:15	
LAA 2 4:10			OAK 4 9:40	OAK 5 9:40	OAK 6 3:37	KC 7 8:10	KC 8 4:10				
KC 9 2:10	CWS 10 9:40	CWS 11 9:40	CWS 12 9:40	CWS 13 9:40	TEX 14 10:10	TEX 15 7:15					
TEX 16 4:10		CLE 18 6:40	CLE 19 6:40	CLE 20 1:10	MIA 21 7:10	MIA 22 4:10					
MIA 23 1:40	TB 24 6:50	TB 25 6:50	TB 26 12:10			MIN 28 9:40	MIN 29 10:10				
MIN 30 4:10											

July 2024												
			BAL 2 9:40	BAL 3 10:10	BAL 4 4:10	TOR 5 9:40	TOR 6 4:10					
TOR 7 4:10			SD 9 9:40	SD 10 6:40	LAA 11 9:38	LAA 12 9:38	LAA 13 9:38					
LAA 14 4:07		All-Star Break - Arlington, TX					HOU 19 10:10	HOU 20 9:40				
HOU 21 4:10	LAA 22 9:40	LAA 23 9:40	LAA 24 3:40			CWS 26 8:10	CWS 27 7:15					
CWS 28 2:10	BOS 29 7:10	BOS 30 7:10	BOS 31 4:10									

August 2024											
								PHI 2 9:40	PHI 3 9:40		
PHI 4 4:10			DET 6 9:40	DET 7 9:40	DET 8 9:40	NYM 9 10:10	NYM 10 9:40				
NYM 11 4:10			DET 13 6:40	DET 14 6:40	DET 15 1:10	PIT 16 6:40	PIT 17 1:05				
PIT 18 1:35	LAD 19 10:10	LAD 20 10:10	LAD 21 10:10			SF 23 10:10	SF 24 4:10				
SF 25 4:10	TB 26 9:40	TB 27 9:40	TB 28 4:10			LAA 30 9:38	LAA 31 9:38				

September 2024											
LAA 1 4:07	OAK 2 7:07	OAK 3 9:40	OAK 4 9:40	OAK 5 3:37	STL 6 8:15	STL 7 7:15					
STL 8 2:15			SD 10 9:40	SD 11 9:40	TEX 12 9:40	TEX 13 10:10	TEX 14 9:40				
TEX 15 4:10			NYG 17 9:40	NYG 18 9:40	NYG 19 4:10	TEX 20 8:05	TEX 21 7:05				
TEX 22 2:35	HOU 23 8:10	HOU 24 8:10	HOU 25 2:10			OAK 27 10:10	OAK 28 9:40				
OAK 29 3:10											

HOME AWAY