

MURFREESBORO LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL



KP MINOR REPORT--- OPENING DAY--- March 21, 2026

Dodgers.....9

Diamondbacks.....6

Coach Erick Blackwood's Dodgers earn a win on Opening Day!

Roman Blackwood started on the mound for the Dodgers with Tuck East closing out the victory. The duo combined for 9 strikeouts on the day.

Liam Kelley started on the mound for the Diamondbacks and tossed 5 strikeouts in the loss. Hudson Stroop came on in relief and struck out the side in the 3rd inning, finishing with 5 total strikeouts in his first appearance of the season.

Spencer Imamura went 2-for-3, scored 3 runs, and had 2 stolen bases to lead the Dodgers on offense. Caleb "Shug" Cope added a 1-for-3 performance with 2 RBI and a stolen base in the win.

Stroop led the Diamondbacks at the plate going 2-for-2 with 2 RBI. Castiel Price was 1-for-2 with an RBI in the loss.

Notable--- Stroop hit an inside the park home run in his first ever MLL at bat!

Phillies.....6

Cardinals.....9

Coach Jeff Farrar's Cardinals took control early and held off a late Phillies surge to earn the win!

Cardinals took the lead in the 1st inning when Luke Rhim drew a walk that scored a run.

Cardinals piled on 7 runs in the 2nd inning: Aiden Smith drew a walk, scoring a run; Lincoln Kemp's single drove in 2 runs; Colton Moore singled to bring in 2 runs; a steal of home scored a run; and Samuel Farrar hit an RBI triple.

Phillies pitchers Eli Ireland and Henry Hudson were strong on Opening Day to keep their team in the game.

Phillies fought back in the 4th inning by being patient at the plate which loaded the bases. Key singles by Hudson and Gavin Horsley led to 5 runs scored but the Cardinals early dominance was too much to overcome in this game.



Nationals.....1

Rays.....5

Coach Beau Noblitt's Rays pick up Opening Day win to start the season!

Liam Syes pitched a great game for the Rays striking out 11 batters while giving up zero hits in 4 innings. Battery mate Asher Wilson was solid behind the plate not letting anything by him.

Cameron Morton led the Rays on offense going 2-for-3 and scoring 2 runs.

Reed Merritt made his first start ever on the mound for the Nationals and kept the game close through 3 innings. Easton Toups entered in relief in the 4th inning and did not allow a run. William Bordenet made a tag out at home plate to end an inning and a throw out at 2nd base to keep the runners honest in support.

Nationals lone score came from a hard base hit from Wyatt Fones whose savvy base running turned a single into an inside the park home run.



Murfreesboro

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Royals.....1

Braves.....8

Coach Brian Walsh’s Braves had contributions up and down the lineup to begin the season with an Opening Day win!

Luke Thomason pitched 4 and 1/3 innings for the Braves, only giving up 1 run and had 10 strikeouts. Fletcher Hull came on in relief and slammed the door with 2 strikeouts.

For the Braves, the defensive highlight of the day was a great dig on a ball in the dirt by catcher Porter Richardson. He then fired the ball to 3B where Tillman Kelley picked the one hop throw and got the tag down to catch a runner trying to steal.

Braves had balls in play from 9 different batters. The team’s offensive highlight of the day was Vincent Stafford getting his first ever home run on a great line drive down the 3B line! Finn McGlone, Knox Brewer, and Richardson had 2 hits apiece in the win. One of Richardson’s hits was a solo homer.

Royals pitcher Ben Bartilson threw 71 pitches allowing no walks while notching 8 strikeouts on the day. Braves Coach Walsh commented, “Shout out to opposing pitcher Ben Bartilson. He pitched a complete game against us and had zero walks. Very impressive.”

Royals defense showed up early on to keep the game tight most of the way. Luke Trent had two big put-outs from left field: one was a strong throw to home plate where catcher Liam Orr put the tag on the runner just in time to prevent the score; the second put-out was a throw from the fence to 3rd base on a would be triple that Bartilson hustled over to receive and put a tag on the runner for the last out of the inning.

Royals Coach Steven Trent commented, “Credit to the Braves for a really well-played game right out of the gate this season.”

Notable--- Royals player TJ Harris, Jr. had 2 hits in his first game at the kid pitch level.



Randall K. Thomason, CPA



Angels.....17

Mariners.....9

Coach Jason Elam’s Angels get hard fought win on Opening Day!

In a tightly contested game, both teams battled back and forth all the way to a 10–9 score heading into the top of the 6th inning before the Angels took a commanding lead to end the game.

Coen Sellers powered the Angels offense going a perfect 4-for-4 at the plate with 2 inside the park home runs, 4 RBI, and 2 stolen bases. Ben Elam added an inside the park home run and scored 2 runs. Angels had 19 total hits in the win with these players also having multiple hits: Griffin Yeargan, Luke Tisdell, Owen Quail, Johnathan Napier, Harrison Hayes, and Easton Busey.

Walter Trenchard and Tisdell combined on the mound for the Angels in the win. Trenchard pitched 3 innings, striking out 6 batters. Tisdell hurled 3 strikeouts in an inning of work.

Jacob Norwood made an impressive pitching debut for the Mariners, throwing 4 strong innings with 9 strikeouts and no walks. Behind the plate, Will Vehr anchored the defense, catching all 6 innings in his first game and helping guide the team through a high-scoring, back-and-forth matchup.

Mariners showed great resilience, refusing to give up when they fell behind early in this contest as they exploded for 7 runs in the bottom of the 4th inning, highlighted by Vehr’s clutch two-RBI single to center field.

Norwood contributed at the plate for the Mariners with an RBI single. William Woodward added a milestone moment of his own, recording his first hit in kid pitch with a single to left field!

This was a competitive, exciting game from start to finish, with momentum constantly shifting and both teams delivering big plays in key moments.

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Mets.....15
Blue Jays.....2

Coach Chad Fisher’s Mets open the season in resounding fashion enroute to victory on Saturday!

Jaxson Galgano took the mound for the Mets in the bottom of the 1st inning with 3 up and 3 down on strikeouts, with 5 total strikeouts on the day across 8 batters. Boaz Griffith came on in relief notching 2 strikeouts to round out the bottom of the 3rd inning.

Mets defense was solid in support. Cade Fisher caught a rocket line drive at second base to start the bottom of the 2nd inning with the first out. Easton King ended the same inning by making a tag out at home on an attempted steal. All at bats today for the Mets had contact on the ball, with most getting base hits, including doubles by Griffith, King, and Judah Herriman.

Red Sox.....18
Rangers.....0

Coach Kyle Hartman’s Red Sox open play firing on all cylinders to get the win!

Camden Wyant hit an inside the park home run for the Red Sox. Colton Ehrhardt was a perfect 3-for-3 at the plate. Claire Harper had a good hit to left field. All the Red Sox collected hits on offense and stole a ton of bases enroute to victory.

Nate Griffin threw 22 strikes out of 34 pitches on the mound for the Red Sox. Ehrhardt tossed 6 strikes in 9 pitches.

Red Sox defense was solid in support during this matchup with Harper making 2 outs in one inning for the highlight.

Cubs.....4
Reds.....13

Coach Tim Egbert’s Reds secure the Opening Day win on Saturday against the Cubs!

Kam Knight opened on the mound striking out 5 batters over 2 innings. Tedie Egbert started at catcher allowing no passed balls before he came in relief to strike out the side throwing 14 strikes out of 17 pitches.

Egbert led the Reds on offense with a double, single, RBI, 5 stolen bases, and 2 runs scored. Allan Mendez, Knight, and Titus Hubbard also singled. Reds dominated the base paths with 15 stolen bases on the day, Mendez and Knight contributing 2 each.

Cubs showed flashes in the batter’s box with Camden Porter and Ridar Boatman both contributing doubles in the loss.