

## MLB - 2010 Fantasy Baseball New York Mets Team Preview

Written by Jorge Pacheco

Saturday, 16 January 2010 13:00 - Last Updated Sunday, 17 January 2010 00:55

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We have many great articles planned leading up to the 2010 Fantasy Baseball season including sleepers, busts, rookies, strategy, full player rankings and projections all wrapped up into a nifty draft kit to help you win your league next year. Stay tuned for more, but for now, here's a team preview for you.

Ask a question about your fantasy team in our [FORUM](#) . Leave a comment about this article down below.

2009 RECORD: 70-92, 4th in NL East

Just when we thought things up in Queens couldn't get any messier, the Mets still managed to reach new lows. Their futile attempt to overcome back to back late season collapses included a one man rotation, \$100 million in salary on the DL, and a gigantic ballpark that swallows any fly ball. The result was a season that mirrored the New York Knicks' -- not a good one.

**Stat table note:** The better the ranking number, the better the stat, in all categories. For example, for the SO cat for hitting, a #2 ranking means that the team tallied the second fewest strikeouts. For the BB and SB cats for pitching, the #1 teams allowed the fewest bases on balls and steals.

Hitting	BA	R	HR	BB
Stats	270	671		
95	526			
928	122			
NL	1T			
11				
15	12			
1				
1				
MLB	5			
25				
30				
23				
1				
6				

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Pitching	BAA	ERA	HR	BB
Stats	264	4.45	158	616
NL	10	13	7	14
MLB	17	21		
8	29	25	3	

### LINE-UP

1. Reyes, Jose SS (hamstring, should be ready for spring training)
2. Murphy, Daniel 1B
3. Wright, David 3B
4. Beltran, Carlos CF (knee, out until May)
5. Bay, Jason LF
6. Francoeur, Jeff RF (thumb, should be ready for spring training)
7. Santos, Omir C
8. Castillo, Luis 2B

The .270 team batting average is something positive to build on. The Mets offense will rely on their top five hitters to carry most of the load. Team success depends heavily on a healthy **Jose Reyes**

setting the table.

#### **Murphy's**

patience and ability to put the ball in play makes him perfect for the 2 spot.

#### **Wright**

is a stud at the hot corner and will look to improve his power numbers this year.

#### **Beltran**

will likely be out until May, following offseason surgery, so look for

#### **Angel Pagan**

to patrol the endless center field at Citi until then. It seems like management felt pretty much obligated to sign

#### **Jason Bay**

as a sign of goodwill towards a frustrated fan base who's had to endure Yankee championship memorabilia for the past couple of months.

#### **Francoeur**

hit .311 with an .836 OPS in 75 games with the Mets last season, so the RF position is his to lose.

#### **Santos**

is serviceable and figures to be the opening day catcher, barring any free agent signings.

#### **Castillo**

will go as far as his ailing knees allow him to, so

#### **Anderson Hernandez**

is on call from day one. The bench is as versatile as they come, with

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### **Alex Cora, Nick Evans,**

Hernandez and Pagan all able to play multiple positions. Outfielder

### **Fernando Martinez**

figures to get a decent number of at bats for the sake of his development -- or marketability. The team is still looking into

### **Carlos Delgado's**

rehabilitation from hip surgery last season. Team officials are currently scouting his winter league games in Puerto Rico. An incentive-laden deal figures to be in the making.

## STARTING ROTATION

1. Santana, Johan LHP (elbow, should be ready for spring training)
2. Maine, John RHP
3. Pelfrey, Mike RHP
4. Perez, Oliver. LHP (knee, should be ready for spring training)
5. Niese, Jonathon LHP (hamstring, should be ready for spring training)
6. Nieve, Fernando RHP (quadriceps, should be ready for spring training)
7. Parnell, Bobby RHP
8. Figueroa, Nelson RHP

Some would guess that playing 81 games in a pitchers' ballpark would produce better overall pitching numbers, but allowing 1.5 base runners per inning pitched just won't get the job done. The pitching staff was hit by injuries as well. **Santana's** season was cut short due to elbow issues, but pencil him in as the opening day starter in 2010. From here on, it's "Johan and pray for rain".

**Maine** has to prove that his arm hasn't died on him.

### **Pelfrey**

has upside -- a big body with all the tools -- but has not put it all together yet. No one can really say what

### **Perez**

will bring to the table this year. It's a week to week situation with him.

### **Niese**

and

### **Nieve**

are coming back from injuries as well, and they should battle for the fifth spot accordingly.

### **Bobby Parnell**

and

### **Nelson Figueroa**

should be in the bullpen once things are settled, with Parnell having the stuff to vie for the setup role. Omar Minaya is still on the market lookout for another SP. Erik Bedard, Ben Sheets, Joel Piñeiro and Chin-Mein Wang are all viable options for team management.

### BULLPEN

1. Rodriguez, Francisco RHP
2. Igarashi, Ryota RHP
3. Feliciano, Pedro LHP
4. Escobar, Kelvim RHP (shoulder, should be ready for spring training)
5. Stokes, Brian RHP
6. Green, Sean RHP
7. Misch, Pat LHP
8. Kunz, Eddie RHP

Although the closer role is exclusively reserved for **Rodriguez** no matter what, don't think this is the same pitcher that busted out of the scene in Anaheim. A dip in velocity has forced him to rely on his off-speed breaking stuff, which is still nasty. Pencil him in for 30-35 saves and an ERA in the low 3's. After K-Rod, there's lots of loose ends to tie up.

#### **Igarashi**

was acquired from the Yakult Swallows of the Nippon Professional Baseball League, where he posted a 44-27 record with a 3.26 ERA in 11 years.

#### **Feliciano**

remains the LHP specialist, and a good one, as lefties hit only .215 off of him last year.

#### **Stokes**

has good stuff and is a workhorse out of that pen.

#### **Green**

looks to bounce back from a rocky transition to the NL, while

#### **Misch**

is a much needed and useful second LHP. The organization is still high on

#### **Eddie Kunz,**

labeling him as the closer of the future. I guess we'll see.

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