

MLB - 2010 Fantasy Baseball Pittsburgh Pirates Team Preview

Written by Dave Gawron

Friday, 15 January 2010 13:00 - Last Updated Friday, 22 January 2010 23:26

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: 62-100, 6th (last) in NL Central (2nd-worst in baseball)

The Pirates had a awful year in 2009. How can you compete in the MLB these days with such a low payroll? The good news is that they actually have some decent young talent. Of course, we know they'll all be traded away eventually, but the Pirates should at least be a little better in 2010 -- maybe just the 3rd-worst team in baseball).

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 Stats 499	BA 252 1142	R 636 90	HR 125	BB
NL 7 8	14	16	14	14
MLB 18	28 15	30	28	25
Pitching Stats 107	BAA 276	ERA 4.59	HR 152	BB 563
NL 6 15 13T	15T 8	14		

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are pretty good infield reserves, and

Ryan Church, Delwyn Young,

and prospect

Jose Tabata

provide good outfield depth. Should Clement fail, one of the aforementioned outfielders could push Jones to first, or perhaps failed prospect

Steve Pearce

could get one more shot. Look for the Bucs' offense to improve in 2010 if the youngsters continue to develop and can avoid injuries.

STARTING ROTATION

1. Duke, Zach LHP
2. Maholm, Paul LHP
3. Ohlendorf, Ross RHP
4. McCutchen, Daniel RHP
5. Morton, Charlie RHP
6. Hart, Kevin RHP
7. Veal, Donnie LHP

This is not a good starting rotation. They didn't walk many batters or allow many home runs, but otherwise, there is not much they did well. **Duke, Maholm,** and **Ohlendorf** are nothing more than innings-eaters. They are not helpful fantasy options.

McCutchen

and

Morton

offer a little upside, but they're not likely to offer much consistency this season.

BULLPEN

1. Dotel, Octavio RHP
2. Hanrahan, Joel RHP
3. Lopez, Javier LHP
4. Donnelly, Brendan RHP
5. Taschner, Jack LHP
6. Jakubauskus, Chris RHP
7. Burres, Brian LHP
8. Hansen, Craig RHP (shoulder, should be ready for spring training)

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9. Chulk, Vinnie RHP
10. Karstens, Jeff RHP
11. Carrasco, D.J. RHP
12. Ledezma, Wil LHP
13. Vazquez, Virgil RHP

The bullpen is one of the worst in the majors and can be virtually ignored in all fantasy leagues. Note that a bunch of these guys (**Jakubauskus**, **Burres**, **Karstens**, **Ledezma**, and **Vazquez**) are capable of joining the rotation if needed. If that happens, of all of them, Karstens is the one that might be worth using. Sure, draft

Dotel

for potential cheap saves and strikeouts late, and

Hanrahan

should provide NL-only leaguers with some nice set-up man numbers, but ignore the rest of this motley crew.

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