

2021 Final Power Rankings

Overall Rank. Team, Record, Playoff Record (Division Rank)(Previous Ranking)

1. Twins, 8-2, 2-0 (Cardinal B&S 1)(1)

The curse is broken. For the first time in SWBL history, the Twins stayed at the number one spot in every power rankings throughout a season. This team was the team of destiny. The three-headed monster of Cory (MVP), Spencer, and Chris Meador was too much for defenses to handle, plus Chris and Spencer both won a gold glove and Will contended again for the CY Wiffle. They were down 8-0 in the finals against the Yankees, and pulled Will for Spencer as they made the comeback ending with a Spencer Bogad walk off home run, who wins Playoff MVP honors. Chris Meador is back in the lead with a league leading six championships in SWBL history, as this team will be back for Season 20, and looks to repeat with the same roster that ran through this year handedly.

2. Yankees, 6-4, 1-1 (Koetting Eye Center 1)(2)

After two ugly losses to the Marlins and Brewers but still winning the division, the Yankees turned it around against the Astros in the first round of the playoffs getting just enough offense to get into the Championship. It looked to continue as they had an 8-0 lead over the Twins in the finals, only to fall short, losing 12-11 on a Spencer Bogad walk off home run. Jackson Crosley wins his second CY Wiffle and will hit free agency in the offseason. A down year for Kevin Pohle at the plate, but Sam Bakula turned it around to help Scott Pohle on offense as the Yankees will look to break the mold and stay on a winning trajectory in Season 20 and beyond.

3. Royals, 5-5, 1-1 (Cardinal B&S 2)(5)

After a Sam Skibbe error against the Rockies that all but looked like they were out of the playoffs, they dug their heels in and defeated the Twins 7-1, and then followed that up with a huge Wild Card victory against the Rockies 13-4, only to fall short on a walk off against the Twins in the semifinals, 7-6. On Monday, they looked like the Royals offense of old and were looking to be the third wild card team in a row to head to the championship, but the Twins offense was just too much to handle coupled with Gus Skibbe being the league leader in pitching walks. Rumors are swirling as this could be the last year the Royals are a franchise. Only time will tell, and if it is true, these are some big name free agents that should find a spot somewhere.

4. Astros, 6-4, 0-1 (Glendale CDJR 1)(3)

The best record in franchise history, they made the playoffs but couldn't get passed the Yankees, even with a late surge for their offense. A fantastic year for the Astros as John Calloway wins Comeback Player of the Year leading this offense and Bryan Benware wins Manager of the Year pulling out all the right moves to put his team in contention. Keaton, Cam, and Cole all had big moments, and Olderman pitched well for the Stros all season. It'll be an interesting offseason trying to replace John's bat as he heads off to start his own franchise in 2022 as the Astros look to build on their 2021 successes.

5. Rockies, 6-4, 0-1 (Glendale CDJR 2)(4)

Of course, they made the playoffs again, continuing to be the only franchise in the era to make the playoffs in every season. A win against the Royals on Monday, but still lost the division as the Astros kept the tiebreaker. Therefore, the Rockies faced off against the Royals again in the Wild Card and got it handed to them, 13-4. After starting the season 4-1, the Rockies lost 4 of their next 6 and left 2021 with a bad taste in their mouth. The Rockies offense was rough overall with everyone hitting under 500, and their pitching actually kept them in the running. Chad Young was a great find for the team pitching an ace's share going 3-3 in his rookie campaign.

6. Athletics, 5-5, 0-0 (Cardinal B&S 3)(6)

5-5 and so close to a playoff spot, losing out on the run differential tiebreaker to the Royals for the final spot. The Athletics had a fantastic year when expectations were very low. Josh Rogers and Paul Castellano handled the pitching duties, both doing very well, keeping them in games (except for the Twins loss). Jordan Smith stepped up as a good fourth hitter, and Chris Vorbeck won the Rookie of the Year by a landslide, looking to be one of the best rookies in SWBL history. But the most exciting highlight of 2021 was the resurgence of Steve Hays! All Star bid and gold glove in RF, Steve led this team on offense and looked to power his way to a playoff spot, falling just short. Alex Heck has so much to build on in the offseason, especially with the hopeful return of Mike Karl.

7. Marlins, 3-7, 0-0 (Koetting Eye Center 2)(8)

THREE WINS! Yes, you heard it here, the Marlins are no longer someone to be looked over with wins over the Expos, Brewers, and a 14-1 trouncing of the Yankees, the three teams I think they were looking forward to beating most. 4 of their 7 losses were decided by 3 or less runs as the Marlins will take this as a win for their franchise and look to Season 20 to continue a push towards playoff contention. Josh Anthony and Trent Davis made tremendous strides on the mound, which should lead the Marlins to focus on offense production in 2022 and beyond.

8. Expos, 3-7, 0-0 (Glendale CDJR 3)(7)

A year to forget for the 2020 Champions. Brett went 0-3 on the mound, but was the only Expo to hit over .400, hitting .459. Not one Expo hit double-digit home runs, the only team with that statistic, as they garnered the worst run differential in the league. Jimmy led the league in strikeouts pitching and finished second in strikeouts at the plate. This will be an interesting offseason as the Expos number one priority will be to keep Brett Spencer and possibly add a piece to their offensive puzzle if they want to have another chance at playoffs in the future.

9. Brewers, 3-7, 0-0 (Koetting Eye Center 3)(9)

The first team to declare they will not return next season as captain Peter Leicht will enter free agency after a forgetful season and a stain on the rich history of this amazing franchise. The least amount of runs scored in Season 19, and the injury of Kyle Cornell was too much to get over, hitting .176 injured in 21 plate appearances. Derek Cornell hits free agency leading the team in power numbers and should easily find a spot with buddy John Calloway starting a franchise. Some other big name players will hit free agency as well including Kyle, Jeremy

Worrell, Jim Stout, the return of PG, and of course, Peter. Should be an interesting offseason as the Brewers sail off into the sunset with so many close years, but never quite getting over the championship hump.