

2017 Day 1 Power Rankings:

Overall Rank. Team (Record) (Division Rank)

1. Royals (1-0) (Sandbar 1) – A tough fought game against the Athletics, but the Royals came out on top to get the first game jitters as the #1 team off their back. Sam filled up the zone and movement was working, but still gave up seven home runs in his debut back from a CY Wiffle year. The Skibbe brothers each hit three home runs at the plate and newest Royal, Tyler Flakne went 5 for 5 from the left side. Even with Ty only getting one hit in his first game, the Royals still managed to beat the A's and hold on to the number one spot in the rankings.

2. Rockies (2-0) (Sportsbarn 1) – No surprise here but the Rockies have instantly moved up the power rankings after day one. Brett was a monster on the mound holding the Brewers to 2 runs, then pitching a no-hitter against the Expos. At the plate, Blake was still solid despite injury concerns and Breda broke out to lead his team in home runs. They sit pretty atop their division and look to continue their strong start on Saturday.

3. Yankees (1-0) (Glendale 2) – Day 1 front-runner for MVP, and captain, Scott Pohle went off going 4-4 with 4 home runs. With him at the plate, and Jackson with a solid outing on the mound, they led the pinstripes to a big win over the Twins to claim the early number one spot for their division. Even if just one of either Kevin, John, or Sam can get hot to compliment Scott, these guys are only going to get better throughout the weekend.

4. Twins (1-1) (Glendale 1) – A tough-luck first game loss against the Yankees losing 6-5, followed by a win against the Diamondbacks puts this team in the middle tier after Day 1. Boggs was not the Boggs of 2016 and will need to turn it around for this team to get back to rising success. A huge surprise, besides Edloe's amazing Jimmy Cole home run robbing catch, was Will Rath leading this team in home runs after day one. If and when Derek returns, will they keep Will in the lineup or will he fall back to his pitching only role?

5. Athletics (0-1) (San Francisco 2) – Yes, last year, the A's shocked the world. This year, they are just plain good. They can hang with any team, and will indeed make a strong run for a playoff spot and beyond. Despite losing a close game against the number one team in the country, they will continue to build off of their strong start. Steve Hays is becoming a star in this league, destroying every pitch he sees, and if and when Luke Bakula returns, we may have a new set of bash brothers in town.

6. Brewers (0-1) (Milwaukee 2) – The Brewers played a tough game against division rival, Rockies, losing 4-2 in a pitcher's duel against Brett. David Olderman pitched well despite a couple of heat checks, but Kyle Cornelli and Jimmy Stout both laid eggs at the plate. PG and Peter each added a solo home run as the Brewers lone sources of offense. This team quickly needs to right the ship and with the looming 7:15 AM game against their drinking buddies, the Astros, they should be able to do just that.

7. Astros (0-0) (Houston 3) – The Astros stay at the seven spot in the rankings as the only team to not play on Friday of Season 15. The Pennsylvania imports are in town, saw the arch, bought their SWBL hats, and are itching to get out there. Benware sang a great live version of the National Anthem and set the tone for the season. Let's hope all of their excitement and passion spills over into their gameplay in 2017.

8. Diamondbax (0-1) (Glendale 3) – The D-Bax made their SWBL debut with Rookie of the Year favorite Jimmy Cole on the mound. Jimmy has some great movement with his pitches and held the Twins to just 7 runs, but in this game, the “X” stood for lack of offense. Captain, Trent Steffes provided the only run with a solo shot to center, but if this team expects to win more than one game in 2017, Trent cannot lead their team in home runs. The key for this team will be getting used to the SWBL style of play, but if you don’t adapt quickly, you blink and the season is already over.

9. Expos (0-1) (Sportsbarn 3) –The Expos got no hit on day one and might get no hit a few more times this season if they continue to bat six. John Leicht, Evan Close, and Jimmy Nelson need to get more at bats and get into a rhythm if this team expects to match their win total from last year, or else they are at a very high risk of going 0-10 again in Season 15.