

2015 Preseason Power Rankings:

Overall Rank. Team (League Rank)

1. Rays (AL1) – The front office almost unanimously ranked the three time defending champions atop the power rankings after the news of Derek Thompson returning for an unprecedented, fourth championship in a row. This team will continue to be in the hunt for years to come if they continue their style of “when it matters” mentality. There is a HUGE target on their back entering Season 13 and with the curse of the number one ranking looming, will they content or will the dynasty finally fall?
2. Royals (AL2) – After recording the first undefeated regular season in 2014, the Royals return to build on that success. Spencer and Edloe had one of the best seasons in their careers in 2014 and look to continue progressing, while reigning CY Wiffle winner and captain Gus Skibbe, is in his pitching prime. BUT, the biggest impact comes from preseason MVP favorite, entering the dreaded Sophomore Slump season, Ty Butler.
3. Brewers (NL1) – They didn’t make the playoffs in 2014 after the curse of the number one ranking took their season away, losing to the Cardinals twice in Season 12 to seal their fate. In 2015, David Olderman returns from injury and Peter will always contend for MVP, but the Brewers hope franchise cornerstones, PG and Cornell can turn their days of 9-1 seasons back to the fold with better play in 2015.
4. Cardinals (NL2) – The Cardinals have only improved with the signing of Preseason Rookie of the Year, Matt Patterson, who finally gives this team a fourth player that could help offensively. With time running out for Brett and Sam, this could be the best team they have had in the franchise era.

5. Rockies (NL3) – Up from a preseason ranking of 6 the past two seasons, the Rockies are the only team in the National League to make it to the playoffs all three years of the franchise era, and still were voted out of the playoffs in the front office preseason rankings. The Rockies had a down year offensively, but BK made his first All-Star appearance and Kyle Breda added a nice spark in 2014, recording the first ever SWBL Perfect Game.

6. Athletics (AL3) – There is much to be proud of for this team in their first two seasons, but this year seems like it won't be the year again for the A's. Luke Bakula can only carry the team so far without the help of franchise player, Steve Hays who is day to day with an injury. The A's lost Ray McGrew and look to rookies to help fill their roster and get them over the hump in 2015.

7. Yankees (AL4) – With the news of Scott Pohle out for at least half of Season 13, the Yankees drop to their lowest preseason ranking in franchise history. The reigning MVP will not be in attendance and will be replaced for the start of 2015 by John Calloway's brother, James. The Yankees look to be out of playoff contention before Memorial Day weekend even begins, but maybe they can play the role of spoiler when Scott returns.

8. Expos (NL4) – While the fourth spot in the National League has amounted to a 0-30 record the past three seasons, the Expos look to be a team to finally give the National League some credibility at the bottom. SWBL Co-Founder, Kevin Wiethuchter looks to build a team full of rookies to test their luck against the proven SWBL veteran teams. The front office thinks we may have found a team that can win not just one game in 2015, but *maybe* multiple.