

## A Year in Review

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## A Year in Review



*Vladimir Guerrero and Raleigh Middle Fingers take the crown*

When it is all said and done, Coach Lipps will have the bragging rights for this entire offseason. [Raleigh Middle Fingers](#) finished off 2024 with a 180 to 147.83 victory over Fostoria Screwballs, giving them a 19 - 6 final record. Although they did well, Raleigh Middle Fingers also benefited from the 2nd easiest schedule this year (measured by points against).

On the coaching front, Coach Blue stood out as the best decision-maker this year. His lineup moves gave his squad 158.4 more points than the experts would have. That was 213.1 points better than Coach Chris Burkett, who was the worst coach in the league. He cost his team wins in two different games, including a week 10 loss where his decisions were 25 points worse than the experts that week.

Coach Welly did a good job coaching this year, but needed to be a little bit better. Fostoria Screwballs finished up in 2nd place in the league at 14 - 11. Their good standing can be attributed, in part, to their outfielders, who ranked 2nd in the league.

## Mirror Mirror

**Key Stat for [Pittsburgh Brahma Bulls](#):**Record When [Juan Soto](#) Overperforms: 11 - 3

Record When Juan Soto Underperforms: 4 - 7

There was no better indicator of Pittsburgh Brahma Bulls' fortunes this year than the performance of Juan Soto. Pittsburgh Brahma Bulls looked unstoppable when Soto topped his projections, and merely so-so when he didn't. Coach Rudd got enough good efforts from Soto to wind up at 15 - 10.

## Pulling the Right Levers

**Key Stat:**

Average Coach's Points: 28.2

Coach Blue's Points: 158.4

Coach Blue can hang his hat on the fact that he was the best gameday coach in the league. He gave his team the victory in three different games, including a week 23 win where his decisions were 24 points better than the experts that week. Despite that coaching performance, Fuquay Nine finished the regular season with a 9 - 14 record.

## Nobody Does It Better

**Key Stat:**[Raleigh Middle Fingers](#): 180

Fostoria Screwballs: 147.83

All twelve teams started the 2024 season with dreams of a championship, but only Raleigh Middle Fingers and Coach Lipps made it a reality. Raleigh Middle Fingers finished off 2024 with a 180 to 147.83 victory over Fostoria Screwballs, giving them a 19 - 6 final record. Although they did well, Raleigh Middle Fingers also benefited from the 2nd easiest schedule this year (measured by points against).

## Problem Children

**Key Stat:**

Average Infielder Points/Week: 56.6

New Hill Barrelmen Infielder Points/Week: 43.4

New Hill Barrelmen struggled to find the right mix with their infielders, who averaged only 43.39 points per game. That was worse than any other team this year. [Ke'Bryan Hayes](#) shares a big part of the blame for that lackluster group's performance, averaging 6.4 points in his 18 starts for New Hill Barrelmen this year. Despite those infielder problems, New Hill Barrelmen finished up tied for the 6th best regular season record in the league at 12 - 11.

## Better Luck Next Year

**Key Stat:**

Average Team Points per Game (reg. season): 171.9

[Spivey's Corner Knockouts](#) Points per Game (reg. season): 150.1

There's always next year for Coach Warren. This year, however, Spivey's Corner Knockouts wound up in last place in the overall standings at 3 - 20. Coach Warren can only blame himself as he forgot to set his lineup 2 times this season.

## Exceedingly Average

**Key Stat:**

Average Team Points per Game (reg. season): 171.9

Ellicott City Black Sox Points per Game (reg. season): 172.4

No team had a more 'ho-hum' season than Ellicott City Black Sox. They ended up with 172.4 points per game for the regular season, which was the closest to average of any team in the league. Not surprisingly, that average point total led to a very average 12 - 11 record.

## Knowing the Role

### Key Stat for Power Rangers:

Average Shortstop Points Per Game: 13.6

Bobby Witt Points Per Game Started: 22.8

Power Rangers leaned on [Bobby Witt](#) all year, as he was the league's best shortstop, scoring 578 points. Witt's best game came in week eight, when he put up 39 points in leading Power Rangers to victory over Spivey's Corner Knockouts. In part because of his efforts, Power Rangers wound up in 2nd place during the regular season with a 16 - 7 record.

## Not Coachable

### Key Stat:

Average Coach's Points: 28.2

Coach Chris Burkett's Points: -54.7

Coach Chris Burkett has plenty of decisions to regret after his lineup choices left him as the worst gameday coach in the league. He cost his team wins in two different games, including a week 10 loss where his decisions were 25 points worse than the experts that week. That coaching performance goes a long way towards explaining why Hickory Scorpions wound up tied for 8th place during the regular season with a 10 - 13 record.

## Lopsided

### Key Stat:

Mauer Patch Kids Top 3 Players PPA: 473.9

Mauer Patch Kids 4-6 Players PPA: 108.6

Mauer Patch Kids were the most top-heavy squad in the league this year, with a huge gap between their top three players and their next three best starters. The group of [Shohei Ohtani](#), [Jordan Alvarez](#), and [Josh Naylor](#) wound up at +473.9 Points Vs Positional Average (PPA) while in the starting lineup this year. Their next three best players, [Steven Kwan](#), [Bryan Reynolds](#), and [Nick Lodolo](#), finished up well behind at +108.6 PPA.

## There Goes the Franchise

### Key Stat for Durham Indians:

4

That's how many home runs Ronald Acuna Jr. hit before suffering a season-ending ACL tear in May. Coach Close chose Acuna as a keeper prior to the draft, and that put them in a hole they never recovered from, as they finished the season at 8 - 15.

## Trying New Things

### Key Stat:

Average Number of Starters: 41.9

Ball Hawks Starters: 50

Like a fashionista picking out shoes or an oenophile picking a fine wine, Coach Matthew Burkett just could not decide who to start from day to day. Ball Hawks had more starters than any other team, putting 50 different players into the lineup over the course of the regular season. Overall, Ball Hawks finished in 8th place during the regular season with a record of 10 - 13.

# Bully

## Key Stat for Fostoria Screwballs:

Record Vs. Above 0.500 Teams: 4 - 10

Record Vs. Below 0.500 Teams: 9 - 0

Fostoria Screwballs mopped up the bottom dwellers in the league, but struggled big time against top competition. Their mastery over bottom dwellers ended up being enough to give them a 13 - 10 regular season record. Coach Welly also had a hand in the impressive record, since he was the 2nd best gameday coach in the league.

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