



Gator Dugout Days



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First Fall GDC Meeting

The first Gator Dugout Club Meeting of the Fall was held on September 10th at First Magnitude Brewing. Members reacquainted with one another after the three-month hiatus and were updated on GDC activities. The guest for this meeting was Jarrett Cooper, the Head Groundskeeper for Florida Gators Baseball.



(Gator Baseball's Head Groundskeeper, Jarrett Cooper, addresses club members)

Future GDC Meetings

The Gator Dugout Club has resumed its monthly meeting schedule. The next meeting will be on Monday, October 7, at the Fairfield Inn and Suites. Social hour at 6 pm and the meeting at 7 pm.

Watch your e-mail for updates on the November meeting!

Gator Dugout Club & Kevin O'Sullivan Golf Tournament

The 2024 edition of the GDC's flagship event will be held on Monday, November 11 at Turkey Creek Golf Course.

Following a continental breakfast during registration (starting at 7:00 am), a shotgun start best ball tournament will begin at 8:30 am. The event will conclude with lunch and an awards ceremony at 1:30 pm.

Early registration (before October 1): \$125
Reg. registration after 1 October: \$150.
Deadline to register 6 November. You can register on the GDC web page: <https://gator dugout club.org>

Thanks to Tammy Prince for her leadership on this year's tournament. For additional information, please contact her at: golftournament@gator dugout club.com

< 2 Weeks Until Fall Ball

While we're still months away from the games that really count, Fall Ball isn't far off. The first day of practice is Monday, October 7. All baseball practices and scrimmages during the fall will be open to the public.

See: <https://floridagators.com/sports/baseball> for the latest official practice schedule.

The highlights of Fall Ball are the inter-squad scrimmages – they're almost like real games! The Gators will play Jacksonville University on Friday, November 1 in Jacksonville (6:30 pm; tickets available) and USF at Condron Family Ballpark on Sunday, November 10.

Transfer Portal

The following D1 players have transferred to UF:

[Billy Barlow](#) (SP/RP, Clemson)

[Bobby Boser](#) (IF, USF)

[Blake Cyr](#) (OF/2B, U Miami)

[Kyle Jones](#) (OF, Stetson U)

[Justin Nadeau](#) (2B/INF, Jacksonville U)

[Landon Stripling](#) (INF, Texas Tech)

In addition, Gulf Coast State LHP Mason Laurito and Sante Fe RHP Matthew Jenkins join the squad from the JuCo level.

Meanwhile, Cade Fisher, Hunter Jones, John Martinez, Sammy Mummau, Michael Robertson, Landon Russell, Robert Satin, Grayson Smith, and Reilly Whitmer have transferred to other schools.

Retaining a good player for another season is at least as good as getting such a player via the portal and the Gators will bring several back in 2025. LHP Pierce Coppola, C/1B Luke Heyman, OF Ty Evans, and INF Colby Shelton all return to Gainesville for (at least) one more year.

In addition, the Gators bring in the #10 Freshman Recruiting class, according to Perfect Game.

Save the Date!

2024 GDC Holiday Party

The Gator Dugout Club Holiday Party has been scheduled for the evening of Monday, December 16th at Oak Hammock. We again plan to collect toys for kids and new or gently used baseball equipment for looking youth teams, while enjoying an evening of holiday fellowship with fellow GDC memberships.

Please save the date – December 16 – more details to follow in future newsletters.

2025 Gator Baseball Schedule

The coming schedule for our boys has been announced and is available at [link](#). Game times will be added once they're determined.

The season kicks off on February 14 – after all, how can you not be romantic about baseball? – with the regular season ending at home against Alabama May 15-17. Gator fans will need to wait at least one more year for Texas to come to town, as the Gators play them (as well as the other UT – 2024 National Champions Tennessee) on the road.

The schedule features 36 home games and 9 home weekend series. Highlight weekends at Condron Family Ballpark include February 28 through March 2 vs. Miami, March 21-23 vs. Georgia, and April 25-27 vs. Arkansas. (Reminder: SEC series may be one day earlier, as there's always at least one Thursday-Sunday series.)

The Florida Gators faced 2024's toughest schedule in Division 1 college baseball. While there's no such thing as an easy schedule for an SEC team, 2025 looks a bit less brutal. Excluding the 37/56 games that are common between 2024 and 2025, the matchup swaps are (Massey Composite).

Weekend Series

Air Force (129) replaces St. Johns (71)

Dayton (162) replaces St. Mary's (CA) (96)

Harvard (253) replaces Columbia (138)

Alabama (30) replaces Texas A&M (2)

Texas (34) replaces Kentucky (3)

Mississippi (59) replaces LSU (14)

The only midweek opponent change is also the only upgrade in difficulty, as Georgia Southern (61) replaces Bethune-Cookman (229). (Though home vs. Florida State isn't during spring break this coming year – let's hope for a big and rowdy student contingent.)

Gators in The Show

Pete Alonso has notched his 5th 30-HR season for the New York Mets

Wyatt Langford continues to punctuate his rookie season with highlights. Following his cycle on the June 30, he won the June AL Rookie of the Month Award. On September 3, he walked off the Yankees with a grand slam. The next day, he showed off his skills in the field with a game-saving catch on a probable home run ball. With one game remaining in the season, Wyatt has a 1.026 OPS and 8 HR in September – both lead the AL (all players, not just rookies).

Some unfortunate news for former Gator Christian Scott, who started nine games for the New York Mets before going on the Injured List with elbow soreness – he'll need “hybrid” Tommy John surgery. Here's an explainer video from the New York Post: <https://nypost.com/video/doctor-explains-christian-scotts-hybrid-tommy-john-surgery-the-injury-report/>

Best wishes to him for 2025 or 2026.

Brady Singer has put together a nice season as a starter for the playoff-bound Royals.

Jacob Young has solidified himself as the CF for the Washington Nationals, showing some good range while stealing 30 bases.

Gators on the Farm

Former Gators Franco Aleman, Jud Fabian, Brandon Sproat, and Hurston Waldrep – who has had a “cup of coffee” in the show – have spent significant time at AAA.

Aleman and Waldrep finished the season strong after some early injuries. Meanwhile, Brandon Sproat was named the Mets' minor league pitcher of the year for 2024.

Snack Fund

Help feed the team! During baseball season the Gator Dugout Club and friends provide nutritionist-approved snacks for the team. Donations are accepted through PayPal (link on the GDC website) or by check, payable to Amy Brown, Snack Coordinator. Or mail to:

Amy Brown
P.O. Box 5204
Gainesville, FL 32627
Contact: AGBrown4852@gmail.com

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