### History Maker Baseball 1979 Nippon Professional Baseball Season

Welcome to my interpretation of the 1979 NPB Season for History Maker Baseball. In this file, you should find all 6 Central League and all 6 Pacific League teams that made up the 1979 Season, with lineup cards and stadium/logo cards for each team. In 1979 (as today), the Pacific League used a DH, while the Central League did not.

The 1979 season was one of the first seasons past seasons I learned about, at first mostly because it was the first Nippon Series won by my favorite team the Hiroshima Toyo Carp. As I learned more, there is a lot of lore surrounding this season, both on and off the field.

The off-field interest started as early as January as heralded rookie pitcher Suguru Egawa's saga to join NPB finally came to an end. After being drafted by a few different teams, and various administrative issues, finally Egawa got what he wanted what he wanted most: to play for the Yomiuri Giants. Officially, he was signed by the Hanshin Tigers and immediately traded for Giants pitcher Shigeru Kobayashi who would immediately become the Tigers ace pitcher in '79. The events that led to this were so strange and confusing that it caused the NPB Commissioner, Akira Kaneko, to resign.

This was also the first season of the Seibu Lions. The Lions franchise were arguably the most affected by the game-fixing scandal in the late 1960's, and their original owner, Nishitetsu, sold the team in short order. After being a laughing stock with multiple owners, and some ridiculous uniforms, for most of the 70's, the team was sold to Seibu in late-1978. The new owners would go on to invest heavily in the team, and within 3 years would win the Nippon Series. This was the start of that journey.

On the field in the Central League, the pennant race was fought closely between Chunichi, Hanshin and Hiroshima until about late-August. The Carp went on a 20-4-3 run from late August to early October to take control of the race and finish 6 games over the surprising Taiyo Whales, who had their own late season streak to have one of the franchises best finishes in history.

The Pacific League used a split season format with the Kintetsu Buffaloes edging out the Hankyu Braves by 1 game late in the half. Hankyu dominated the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the season, but again a late charge from Kintetsu made the race tight. This time, however, Hankyu held on to win by 2 games. This led to a best-of-5 playoff between the teams. Kintetsu swept the series to win the Pacific League for the first time in history.

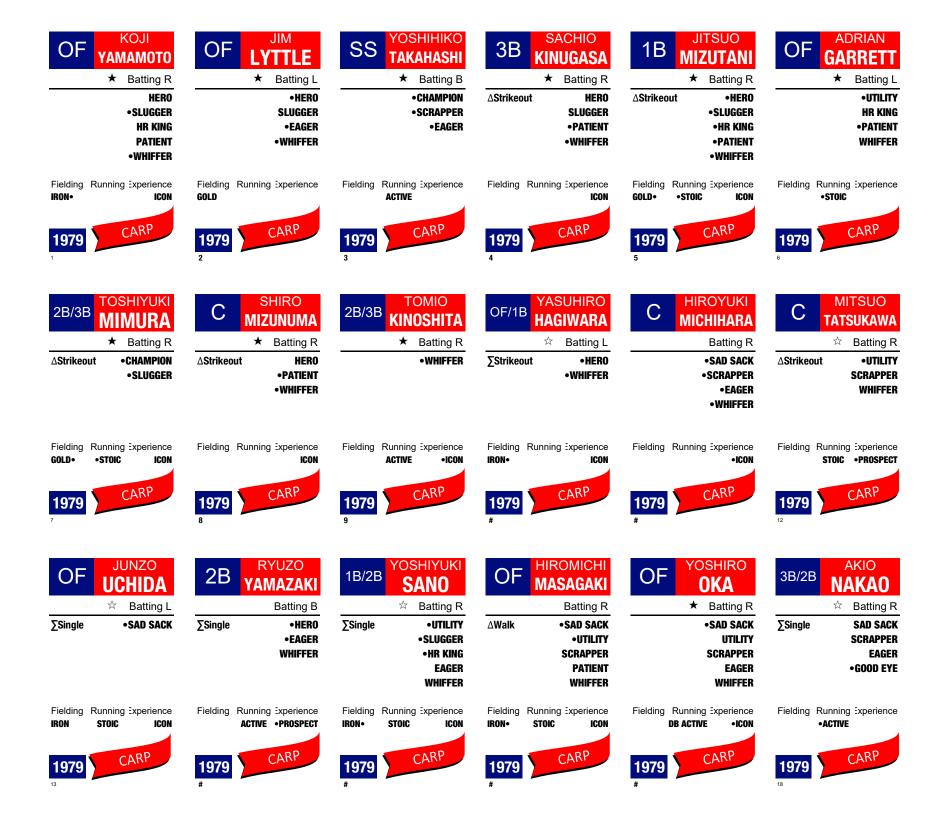
This led to a Nippon Series where both teams were looking for their maiden win, the first time that had happened since 1962. The Carp had previously gone to the series 4 seasons previous but ran into a dynasty in the making, losing 4-0-2 to Hankyu. This was Kintetsu's first visit to the Nippon Series. What followed was a classic Series that didn't end until the final inning of Game 7. Down a run in the bottom of the 9<sup>th</sup>, Kintetsu loaded the bases with no one out against Central League MVP Yutaka Enatsu. Pinch hitter Kyosuke Sasaki struck out, right after hitting a ground ball barely foul that probably would have won the series. This brought up Shigeru Ishiwata. With 1 strike on him, he attempted to squeeze bunt. In one of the most famous plays in NPB history, Enatsu pitched the ball high, the bunt was missed and the runner on 3<sup>rd</sup>, Shiro Fujise, was caught in a run down and tagged out. Enatsu then struck out Ishiwata to clinch Hiroshima's first Nippon Series win of what would become 3 in 6 seasons. Kintetsu would never win a Nippon Series.

Rules about ties: one thing very different about Japanese baseball from MLB is that ties can happen. The rules in 1979 stated that a tie happens when the score is tied and the 9<sup>th</sup> inning or later is completed in 3 hours or more. This led to a higher amount of ties than a typical season. If you want to simulate this, my suggestion would be to roll a decider die after the 9<sup>th</sup> inning of a tied game. If a bullet, then move to the 10<sup>th</sup>. If not, then end the game for a tie. After the 10<sup>th</sup>, roll one of the regular d6 and a decider die. If result is anything other than a 1 and dot on decider die, consider it a tie. Redo after every inning where the game is still tied.

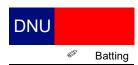
About the data used for the cards: most of the player data comes from the 2689web.com site, an (unofficial) overall site for Japanese Professional Baseball statistics, box scores and other information. Advanced statistics for fielding and lineups come from the RCAA blog at <a href="https://ranzankeikoku.blog.fc2.com/">https://ranzankeikoku.blog.fc2.com/</a>. The logos were taken from the Nippon Professional Baseball Uniform Chronical, a set of 3 books that (as the name would imply) go through the history of uniform designs for Japanese professional teams, but also has a section on historical logos.

#### **Season in Review**

	Centra	ıl League Star	ndings				Award Winners			
Team	W	L	T	PCT	GB	Award	Central Leag	ue	Pacific Leagu	e
Hiroshima Toyo Carp	67	50	13	0.573		MVP	Yutaka Enatsu	Hiroshima	Charlie Manuel	Kintetsu
Yokohama Taiyo Whales	59	47	17	0.522	6.0	Rookie of the Year	Kimiya Fujisawa	Chunichi	Hirohisa Matsunuma	Seibu
Chunichi Dragons	59	57	14	0.509	7.5	Batting Champ	Felix Millan	Taiyo	Hideji Kato	Hankyu
Hanshin Tigers	61	60	9	0.504	8.0	Home Run Champ	Masayuki Kakefu	Hanshin	Charlie Manuel	Kintetsu
Yomiuri Giants	58	62	10	0.483	10.5	RBI Champ	Koji Yamamoto	Hiroshima	Hideji Kato	Hankyu
Yakult Swallows	48	69	13	.410	19.0	Stolen Base Champ	Yoshihiko Takahashi	Hiroshima	Yutaka Fukumoto	Hankyu
						Times on Base Champ (CL only)	Koji Yamamoto	Hiroshima		
Pa	cific Lea	ague Standing	gs 1st Half			OBP Champ (PL Only)			Hideji Kato	Hankyu
Team	W	L	T	PCT	GB	Wins Champ	Shigeru Kobayashi	Hanshin	Hisashi Yamada	Hankyu
Kintetsu Buffaloes	39	19	7	0.672		ERA Champ	Masaji Hiramatsu	Taiyo	Tetsuji Yamaguchi	Kintetsu
Hankyu Braves	39	21	5	0.650	1.0	Winning Pct. Champ (PL Only)			Hisashi Yamada	Hankyu
Nippon-Ham Fighters	34	26	5	0.567	6.0	Best Reliever (Most Saves + Relief Wins)	Yutaka Enatsu	Hiroshima	Motoyasu Kaneshiro	Nankai
Lotte Orions	26	34	5	0.433	14.0	Pitcher of the Year (CL Only)	Shigeru Kobayashi	Hanshin		
Nankai Hawks	23	39	3	0.371	18.0	Sawamura Award	Shigeru Kobayashi	Hanshin		
Seibu Lions	18	40	7	0.310	21.0					
							Best 9 Awards			
Pa	cific Lea	gue Standing	s 2nd Half			Position	Central League Pacific Le		Pacific Leagu	e
Team	W	L	Т	PCT	GB	Pitcher	Shigeru Kobayashi	Hanshin	Hisashi Yamada	Hankyu
Hankyu Braves	36	23	6	0.610		Catcher	Tatsuhiko Kimata	Chunichi	Masataka Nashida	Kintetsu
Kintetsu Buffaloes	35	26	4	0.574	2.0	1st Base	Sadaharu Oh	Yomiuri	Hideji Kato	Hankyu
Lotte Orions	29	29	7	0.500	6.5	2nd Base	Felix Millan	Taiyo	Bobby Marcano	Hankyu
Nippon-Ham Fighters	29	34	2	0.460	9.0	3rd Base	Masayuki Kakefu	Hanshin	Kinji Shimatani	Hankyu
Seibu Lions	27	33	5	0.450	9.5	Shortstop	Yoshihiko Takahashi	Hiroshima	Shigeru Ishiwata	Kintetsu
Nankai Hawks	23	34	8	0.404	12.0	Outfield	Koji Yamamoto	Hiroshima	Yutaka Fukumoto	Hankyu
						Outfield	Tsutomu Wakamatsu	Chunichi	Shigeru Kurihashi	Kintetsu
Pacific League Playoff	Kintets	su defeats Ha	ınkyu 3-0			Outfield	Mike Reinbach	Hanshin	Hiromasa Arai	Nankai
Nippon Series	Hiroshi	ima defeats I	Kintetsu 4-3	3		DH			Charlie Manuel	Kintetsu









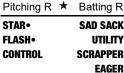
Pitching R ★	Batting R
STAR•	SAD SACK
FLASH•	EAGER
DB CONTROL	WHIFFER





WORKMAN	•HERO
FLASH•	EAGER
CONTROL•	WHIFFER

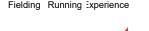






Pitching R ★ Batting R **STAR** SAD SACK FLASH• UTILITY DB CONTROL **SCRAPPER** STRONG. **EAGER** WHIFFER





CARP



SATOSHI

Fielding Running Experience





HIDETAKE

WATANABE

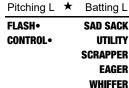
Fielding Running Experience Fielding Running Experience STOIC

WHIFFER



**RP** 









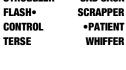
CI	YUTAKA		
CL	<b>ENATSU</b>		

1979

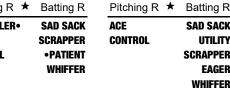
Pitching L	*	Batting L
ACE•		•SAD SACK
FLASH		SCRAPPER
CONTROL•		EAGER
		WHIEEE







Fielding Running Experience



RP





1979

Pitching R ☆	Batting R
STAR	•HERO
CONTROL•	HR KING
	EAGER



Pitching R ★ Batting R

SATORU





Fielding Running Experience

















Pitching R	Batting F
ACE	SAD SACI
STAR	UTILITY
CONTROL	SCRAPPEI
	EAGEI
	WHIFFEI





#### **MASASHI** RP DOI

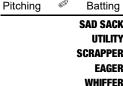
1979

Pitching R	Batting R
STRUGGLER	SAD SACK
WORKMAN	UTILITY
WILD	SCRAPPER
	EAGER
	WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC







Fielding Running Experience STOIC













Pitching R ★ Batting R

**SHIGEYUKI** 

**TAKAHASHI** 

SAD SACK

**SCRAPPER** 

WHIFFER

UTILITY





**STOIC** 

WHALES

**EAGER** 

WHIFFER

SP/RP

1979

**AKIO** 



STOIC

WHALES

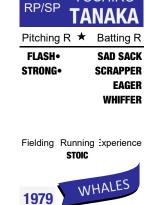
SHIRO

SP/RP

1979

**MASATSUGU** 

HIRAMATSU



YOSHIRO

WHALES	1979 WHALES

WILD.

TERSE



RP

Pitching R ★

**WORKMAN•** 

FLASH•

DNU

Pitching

Fielding Running Experience

STOIC • PROSPECT

**MICHIO** 

**SATO** 

Batting R

**SAD SACK** 

**SCRAPPER** 

UTILITY

**EAGER** 

WHIFFER

Batting

**SAD SACK** 

**SCRAPPER** 

UTILITY

**EAGER** 

WHIFFER





Fielding Running Experience



HIROSHI



**HIDEMI** 

WHIFFER

Pitching R ★

STRUGGLER•

FLASH•

**TERSE** 

CONTROL

RP

Batting R

SAD SACK

**SCRAPPER** 

**EAGER** 

WHIFFER











	I	AIU
Pitching L	☆	Batting L
STRUGGLER		SAD SACK
WORKMAN		UTILITY
WILD•		<b>SCRAPPER</b>
TERSE		EAGER





#### **MICHIO RP MIURA**

Pitching L	Batting L
STRUGGLER	SAD SACK
WILD•	UTILITY
	SCRAPPER
	EAGER
	WHIFFER

WHALES

1979







Pitching	Ø	Batting
		SAD SAC
		UTILIT
		EAGE
		WHIFFE

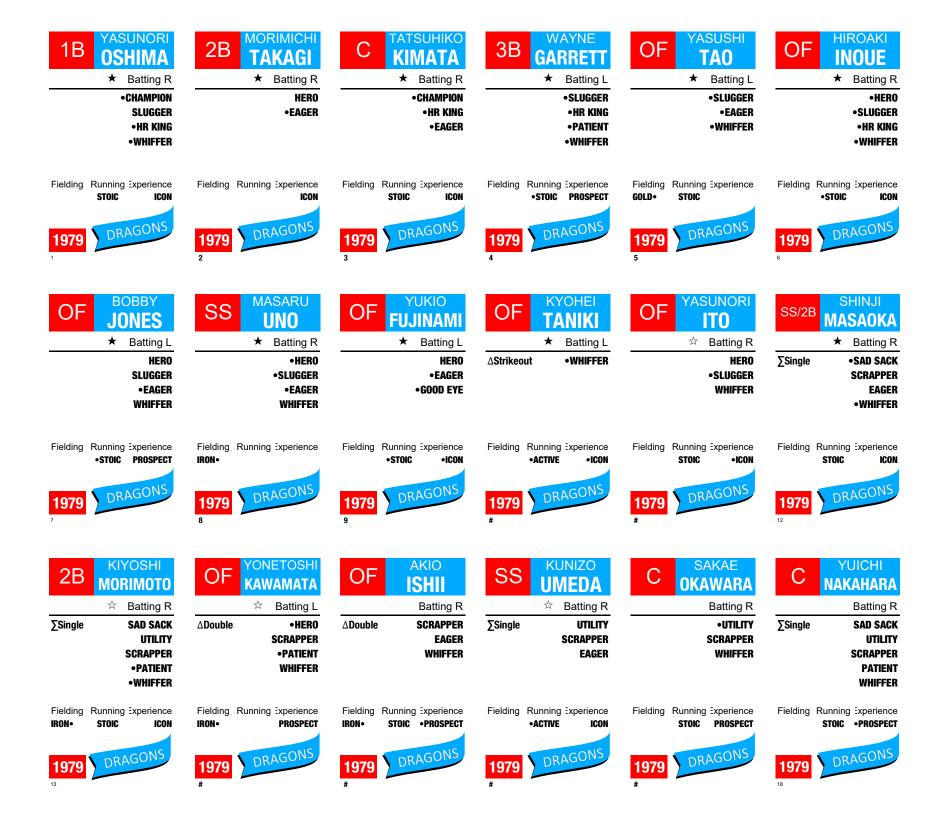
Fielding Running Experience **STOIC** 



Lineup: Keiichi Nagasaki, CF Felix Millan, 2B Mitsuo Motoi, 3B Gene Martin, RF Makoto Matsubara, 1B Masayuki Nakatsuka, LF Daisuke Yamashita, SS Hisaaki Fukushima, C Starting Pitcher, P









UTILITY FLASH• CONTROL. **SCRAPPER EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC



**WORKMAN CONTROL**• **SCRAPPER TERSE EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC



FLASH• CONTROL. **SCRAPPER** TERSE **EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC



UTILITY WORKMAN WILD **SCRAPPER TERSE EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience **STOIC** 



Bobby Jones, CF Tatsuhiko Kimata, C Yasushi Tao, RF Masaru Uno, SS Starting Pitcher, P

1979 CHUNICHI DRAGONS







UTILITY

EAGER

WHIFFER

**SCRAPPER** 



Fielding Running Experience

Batting

DNU







SHIGERU

**KOBAYASHI** 

SAD SACK

**SCRAPPER** 

UTILITY

**EAGER** 

•ICON

WHIFFER

Pitching R ★ Batting R

Fielding Running Experience

**TIGERS** 

**STOIC** 

SP

**STAR** 

FLASH•

CONTROL

STRONG



TAKENORI

**EMOTO** 

SAD SACK

WHIFFER

**EAGER** 

Pitching R ★ Batting R

Fielding Running Experience

TIGERS

STOIC

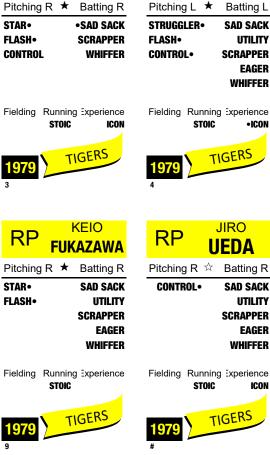
SP/RP

**WORKMAN•** 

CONTROL.

FLASH•





YUTAKA

CL/SP



Fielding Running Experience STOIC • PROSPECT

**TIGERS** 

**CONTROL**•







## **NORIKAZU MIYATA**

**TIGERS** 

Pitching R	Batting R
STRUGGLER• FLASH CONTROL•	SAD SACK UTILITY SCRAPPER
CONTROL	EAGER WHIFFER
	WHIFFER





# **TOMOHIRO**

Pitching R	Batting R
STRUGGLER	SAD SACK
WORKMAN DB CONTROL	UTILITY SCRAPPER
	EAGER
	WHIFFER





Pitching L	Batting L
STRUGGLER	SAD SACK
WORKMAN	UTILITY
DB WILD	SCRAPPER
TERSE	EAGER
	WHIFFER









KAZUYUKI

**YAMAMOTO** 

RP/SP







#### **HISAO** SP/RP **NIURA**

STRONG.

Pitching L	*	Batting L
STAR•		•SAD SACK
FLASH		•UTILITY
CONTROL		FAGER

WHIFFER



SAD SACK

**SCRAPPER** 

UTILITY

**EAGER** 

WHIFFER

PROSPECT

YOSHITAKA

STAR

FLASH

**CONTROL**•

STRONG.





Pitching R ★ Batting R FLASH•

**CONTROL**•

RP/SP

 SAD SACK **SCRAPPER** • EAGER

WHIFFER

**CONTROL STRONG** 

GOLD•

RP/SP

STAR SAD SACK UTILITY **SCRAPPER EAGER** WHIFFER

> Fielding Running Experience **STOIC** •ICON



**KEIJI** 

Fielding Running Experience

STOIC





**TSUNEO** 

SAD SACK

**SCRAPPER** 

UTILITY

**EAGER** 

WHIFFER

Pitching R ★ Batting R

SP/RP

STRUGGLER

WORKMAN

CONTROL.

FLASH•

**TERSE** 



Fielding Running Experience



Fielding Running Experience

**STOIC** 



Fielding Running Experience

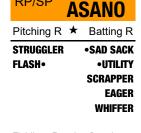
STOIC



Pitching R	*	Batting R
FLASH•		SAD SACK
		•UTILITY
		SCRAPPER
		EAGER
		WHIFFER









**SHIGEO** 



Fielding Running Experience



Fielding Running Experience





Fielding Running Experience

STOIC

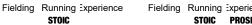
PROSPECT













# **RICK**

Pitching L	*	Batting R
WORKMAN•		SAD SACK
CONTROL•		UTILITY
		SCRAPPER
		EAGER
		WHIFFER





## SHOJI **SADAOKA**

Pitching R	Batting R
STRUGGLER	SAD SACK
FLASH•	UTILITY
	SCRAPPER EAGER
	WHIFFER





## DNU



UTILITY **SCRAPPER EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC











Batting R

SAD SACK **SCRAPPER** • EAGER WHIFFER



Batting R

•UTILITY •HR KING **EAGER** WHIFFER



CONTROL

Batting R Pitching R ★ **WORKMAN•** 

SAD SACK **SCRAPPER** PATIENT WHIFFER



Pitching R ★ Batting R

FLASH• SAD SACK **CONTROL** UTILITY **STRONG EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience

STOIC



Batting L  $\star$ Pitching L

WORKMAN SAD SACK FLASH• UTILITY **SCRAPPER EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience

STOIC

1979 SWALLOWS



Pitching R ★ Batting R

WORKMAN SAD SACK **CONTROL**• UTILITY **TERSE SCRAPPER EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC • PROSPECT



Fielding Running Experience IRON• STOIC



Fielding Running Experience STOIC



Fielding Running Experience STOIC









Pitching L  $\star$ Batting L

SP

 SAD SACK **WORKMAN** CONTROL. UTILITY HR KING PATIENT WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC





Pitching R ★ Batting R **WORKMAN**• •HERO FLASH• **SCRAPPER** CONTROL. **EAGER** STRONG. WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC **ICON** 



#### TETSUO RP **NISHII**

Pitching R ★ Batting R **SAD SACK** STAR• CONTROL UTILITY **SCRAPPER EAGER** 

Fielding Running Experience STOIC **ICON** 

WHIFFER



## **MAKOTO** RP

Pitching R ★ Batting R FLASH

SAD SACK UTILITY **SCRAPPER EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC **ICON** 



#### **TAKERU** SP/RP YASUDA

Pitching L  $\star$ Batting L **SAD SACK STRUGGLER** 

**TERSE SCRAPPER PATIENT** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC •ICON



#### KEIICHI RP/SP **SAKAI**

Pitching R ★ Batting R **SAD SACK STRUGGLER** WORKMAN UTILITY FLASH• **SCRAPPER** 

EAGER WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC • PROSPECT



#### YUKIO RP KUROSAKA

Pitching L ★ Batting L **WORKMAN**• SAD SACK FLASH• UTILITY CONTROL. **SCRAPPER EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC • PROSPECT



#### **TERUO** RP/SP **AIDA**

Pitching R Batting R **STRUGGLER** SAD SACK **WORKMAN** UTILITY TERSE **SCRAPPER EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC



#### KUNIO RP **KOBAYASHI**

Pitching L 🌣 Batting L **WORKMAN• SAD SACK** UTILITY FLASH• TERSE **SCRAPPER EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience **STOIC** ICON



#### KOJI RP **TORIHARA**

Pitching R Batting R SAD SACK **WORKMAN**• UTILITY **SCRAPPER EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience **STOIC** 



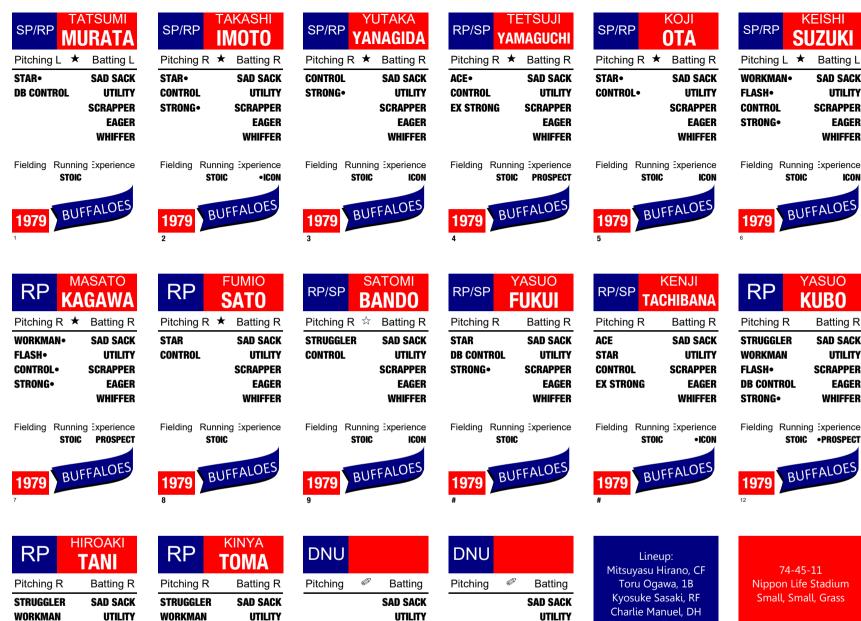
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1979 YAKULT SWALLOWS



1979 YAKULT SWALLOWS





WORKMAN **SCRAPPER** CONTROL **EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC



**SCRAPPER** FLASH **DB CONTROL EAGER WHIFFER** 

Fielding Running Experience STOIC **PROSPECT** 



**SCRAPPER EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC



**SCRAPPER EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC



Shigeru Kurihashi, LF Chris Arnold, 2B Koichi Hada, 3B Masataka Nashida, C Shigeru Ishiwata, SS



KEISHI

SAD SACK

**SCRAPPER** 

UTILITY

**EAGER** 

WHIFFER

YASUO

**KUBO** 

Batting R

SAD SACK

**SCRAPPER** 

UTILITY

**EAGER** 

**WHIFFER** 

STOIC

1979 KINTETSU BUFFALOES



**HERO** 

•HERO

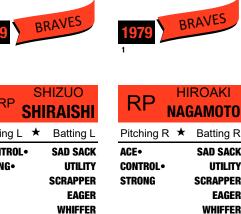
EAGER

**EAGER** 

•ICON







**ICON** 



HISASHI

**YAMADA** 

SAD SACK

**SCRAPPER** 

UTILITY

**EAGER** 

ICON

WHIFFER

Pitching R ★ Batting R

Fielding Running Experience

STOIC

SP/RP

ACE•

**CONTROL** 

**STRONG** 

GOLD•

Batting B

• EAGER

WHIFFER



YUTARO

IMAI

SAD SACK

**SCRAPPER** 

UTILITY

**EAGER** 

ICON

WHIFFER

Pitching R ★ Batting R

Fielding Running Experience

**BRAVES** 

NORIYOSHI

**SAEGUSA** 

Batting R

**SAD SACK** 

STOIC

SP/RP

**WORKMAN**•

STRONG.

RP/SP

WORKMAN

Pitching R ☆











Pitching Batting SAD SACK

UTILITY **SCRAPPER EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC





Batting Pitching

SAD SACK UTILITY **SCRAPPER EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC



# DNU

Pitching **Batting** 

> SAD SACK UTILITY **SCRAPPER EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC



## DNU

Pitching Batting

> **SAD SACK** UTILITY **SCRAPPER EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC





STOIC



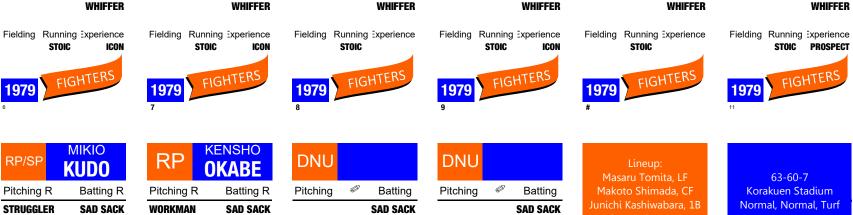
UTILITY

**EAGER** 

WHIFFER







UTILITY

**EAGER** 

**SCRAPPER** 



WORKMAN

**DB CONTROL** 

FLASH•

UTILITY

**EAGER** 

**SCRAPPER** 





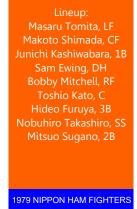






**FIGHTERS** 





TOUE

UDA

SAD SACK

**SCRAPPER** 

UTILITY

**EAGER** 

•ICON

WHIFFER

STOIC

FIGHTERS.

KOICHI

**EDA** 

Batting R

**SAD SACK** 

**SCRAPPER** 

UTILITY

**EAGER** 



**SHIGEYASU** 

**MASHIBA** 

Batting L

SAD SACK

**SCRAPPER** 

UTILITY

**EAGER** 

ICON

WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience

FIGHTERS

SHOJI

KAWAHARA

Batting R

**SAD SACK** 

**SCRAPPER** 

UTILITY

EAGER

**STOIC** 

SP/RF

Pitching L

WORKMAN •

**CONTROL** 

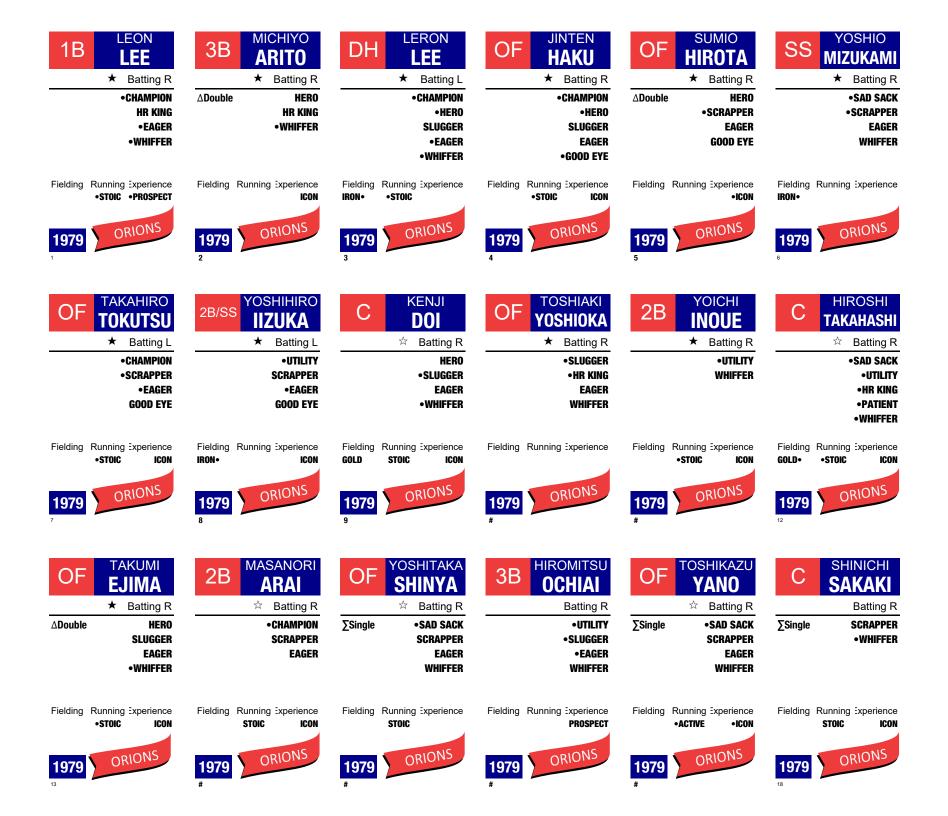
RP/SP

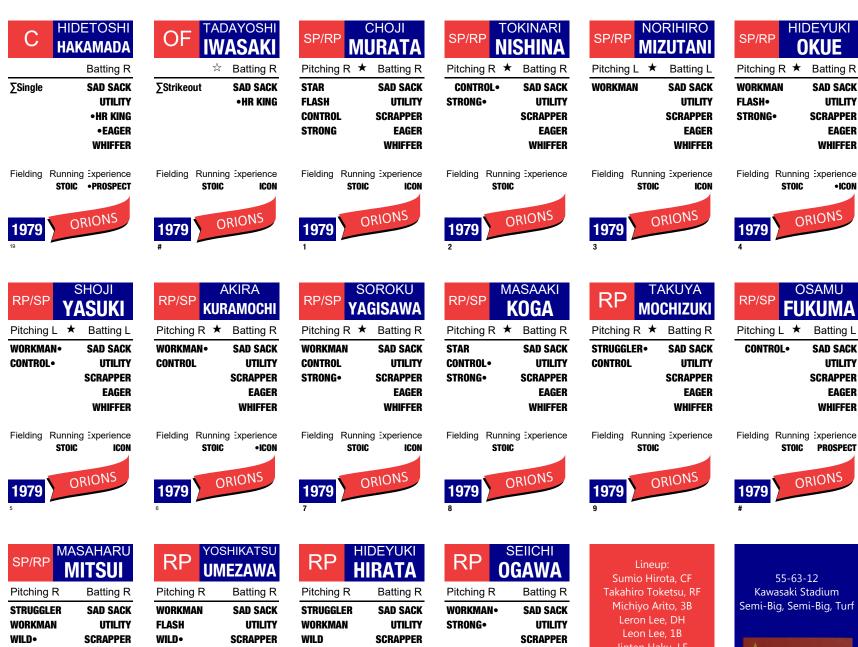
FLASH

CONTROL

Pitching R 🌣

TERSE





**TERSE EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC



**EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC **PROSPECT** 



**EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience STOIC • PROSPECT



**EAGER** WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience **STOIC** ICON



Jinten Haku, LF Kenji Doi, C Yoshihiro Iizuka, 2B Yoshio Mizukami, SS 1979 LOTTE ORIONS









Pitching R

STRUGGLER
WORKMAN
CONTROL•
SCRAPPER
TERSE
EAGER
WHIFFER

Fielding Running Experience **STOIC** 



# RP HOSHING

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WORKMAN
DB WILD
TERSE
Batting L
SAD SACK
UTILITY
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## DNU

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#### Lineup:

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Hisataka Yukisawa, SS

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