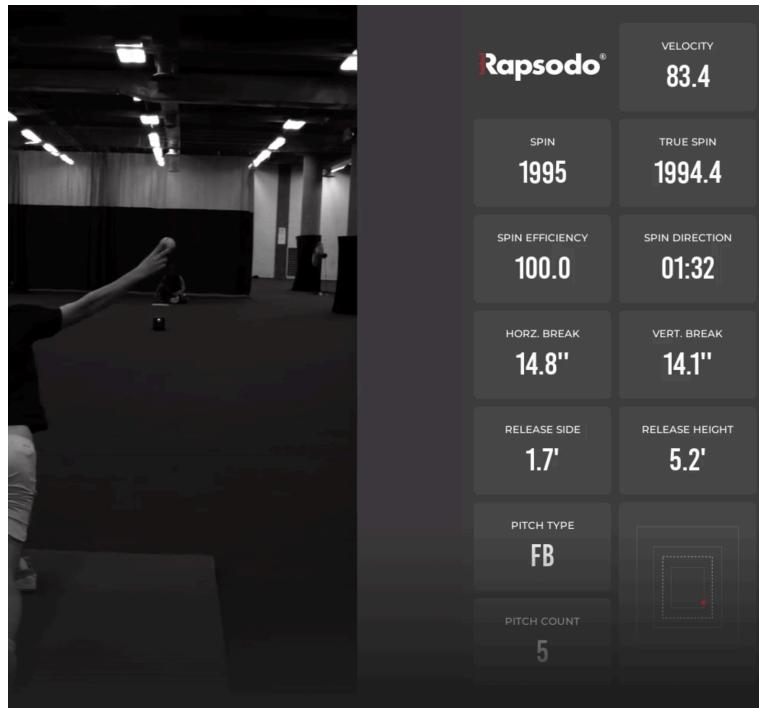
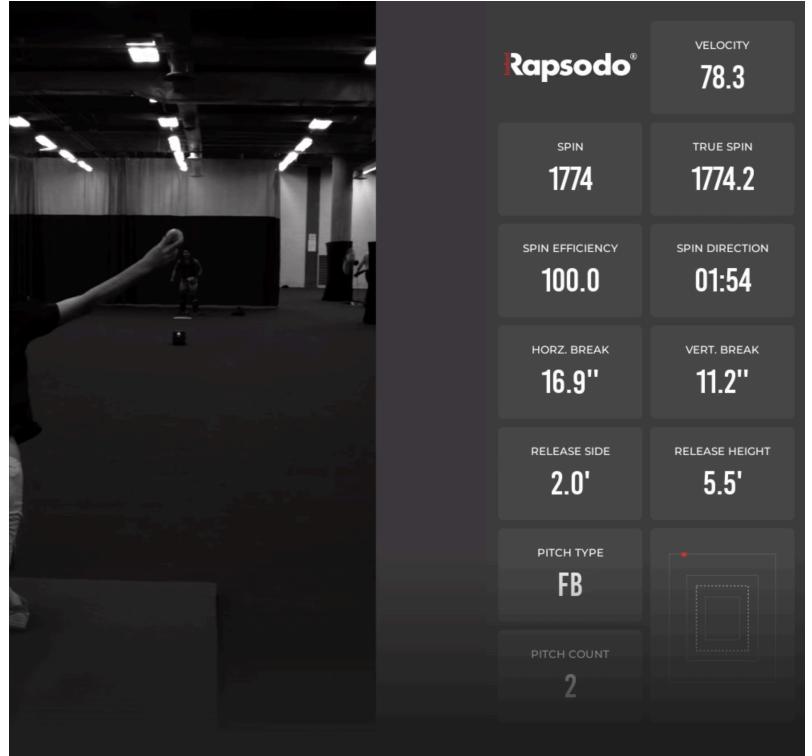


2-Seam Fastball

Something I noticed with the 2-seam during was the differential between the very first one thrown (on the right) and the rest. The first sat at 78.3 mph and the three after that and the rest throughout the pen were all +3-5 mph or so from that. I understand this was the first pitch and likely thrown with less intent. It also missed the zone high pretty badly. Keep an eye on the release height and side as well as break. Below is another 2-seam that represents what most of all the other ones thrown in this pen looked like.

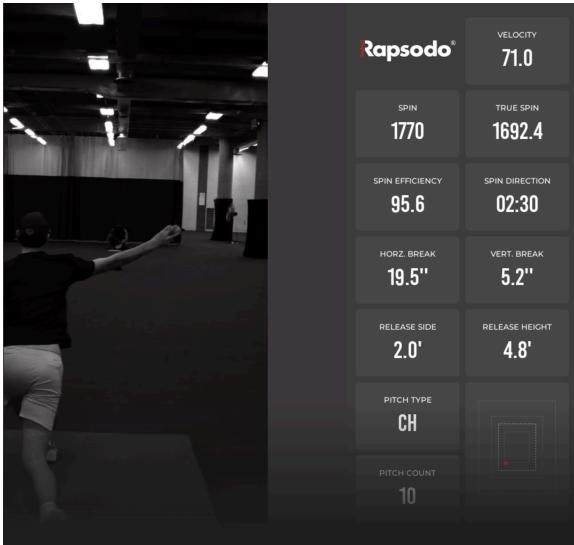
Higher velo, higher spin, better location. However, looking at the break profile, the release metrics, and spin direction, it's obvious that the initial "lower intent" pitch is favorable in these aspects considering the way we want a 2-seam to play.



We want those fingers at a higher spin direction creating more armside run and separation between horizontal and vertical movement. When he throws this pitch with higher intent the release point delays and his arm travels further towards the plate before releasing (both release side and height decrease) causing the fingertips to roll off the ball in a more vertical manner than when he threw that first pitch shown above. Obviously, this pitch needs to be thrown with high intent so I think the focus on adjusting this pitch should be to find a way to get as close to the position shown in the top picture while moving full speed. A number of things could help compensate for the delayed release, one being tilting the wrist so that regardless of the decreased release height and side, the fingers still reach that 1:50-ish spin direction. That's definitely tough to do

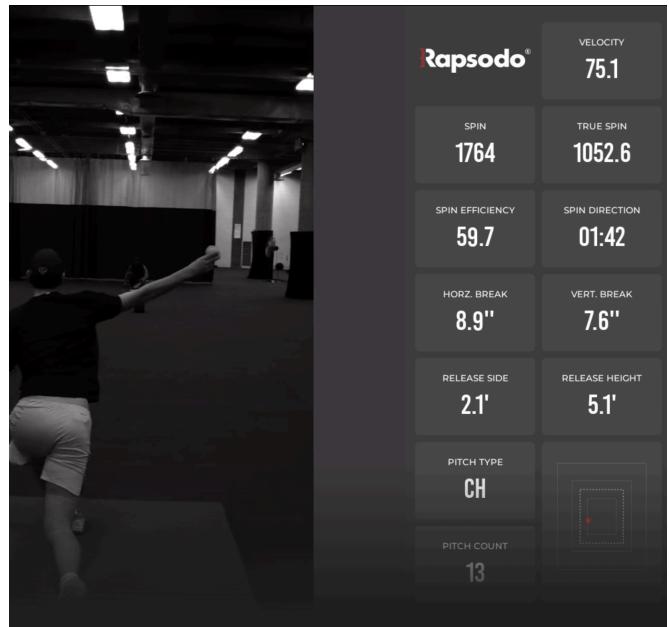
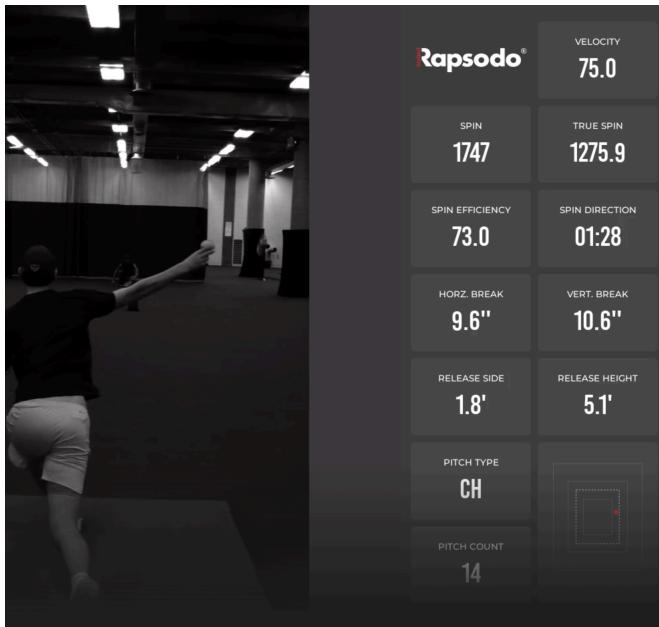
so in my opinion the better option is adjusting the delivery to ensure that at foot plant the torso counter-rotation is more prominent which would offset the aforementioned delayed release and allow the hand to be further back in that horizontal position upon releasing the pitch.

Change-up:



Changeup looks amazing, movement and spin are both great. The only thing I would propose is with a slider, cutter and 2-seam, none of which are super gyro pitches, a pitch intended to drop as opposed to run horizontally could be beneficial. He looks great throwing the change and no reason to deviate from it because of that. This changeup could be morphed into that dropping pitch by killing true spin and tinkering with the release, if desired. But it looks great. Not much to say about the cutter either, good pitch. Tunneling implications again, the only thing I can mention.

Cutter:



With considerations of tunneling, I have one observation for the cutter. Above are two cutters, the one on the left is the one I like a lot more. Higher spin efficiency, lower spin directions and it keeps the vertical break up. This pitch will differentiate itself from the slider by keeping spin efficiency and therefore vertical break up. Look closely on the right the fingers "scoop" the release ever so slightly and make it worse. In addition to that I also think the slider could potentially be more effective in this arsenal with a higher gyro degree. It's good now but it would differentiate itself from the cutter even more and strengthen the distinction of all four pitches.