

= Ramón Ramírez (Dominican pitcher) =

Ramón Santo Ramírez (born August 31 , 1981) is a Dominican relief pitcher for the Tigres de Quintana Roo of the Mexican Baseball League . He stands 5 feet 11 inches (1 @. @ 80 m) and weighs 200 pounds (91 kg) . He pitched for the Hiroshima Toyo Carp in Nippon Professional Baseball (NPB) , and the Colorado Rockies , Kansas City Royals , Boston Red Sox , San Francisco Giants , New York Mets and Baltimore Orioles in Major League Baseball (MLB) . He bats and throws right @- @ handed . He throws a fastball , a changeup , and a slider .

Ramírez was signed by the Texas Rangers in 1996 , as an infielder . After one season in their minor leagues , he was released . He spent the next three years learning how to pitch before joining the Hiroshima Toyo Carp 's Dominican academy in 2000 . He pitched in two games with the Carp in 2002 and was signed by the New York Yankees in 2003 . He spent 2 @. @ 5 years in their minor leagues before getting traded to the Colorado Rockies in the middle of the 2005 season . Shortly after the 2006 season started , Ramírez was called up by the Rockies , and he went on to have a successful rookie season for them . In 2007 , he had an 8 @. @ 31 ERA with the Rockies and spent time on the disabled list and in the minor leagues . Before the 2008 season , he was traded to the Kansas City Royals . After one season with the Royals , he was traded to the Boston Red Sox . In 2009 , his seven wins were tied for third among relief pitchers in the American League . After an inconsistent start to the 2010 season , Ramírez was traded to the San Francisco Giants . He posted a 0 @. @ 67 ERA with the Giants , helping them reach the playoffs . He gave up runs in 4 of the 5 playoff games he pitched in , but the Giants won their first World Series since 1954 . In 2011 , Ramírez posted a career @- @ best 2 @. @ 62 ERA and was traded to the New York Mets after the season .

= = Professional career = =

= = = Texas Rangers = = =

On December 27 , 1996 , the Texas Rangers signed Ramírez as an infielder , believing him to be 16 instead of 15 . After one season with their Dominican affiliate , he was released on June 4 , 1998 .

= = = Hiroshima Toyo Carp = = =

After being released by the Rangers , Ramírez got a job at a Coca @- @ Cola bottling plant while learning how to pitch . In 2000 , he attended the Hiroshima Toyo Carp 's academy in the Dominican Republic , and he appeared in two games for the Carp in 2002 . He gave up one run in three innings while striking out three batters and walking two , and he was posted in 2003 . The winning bid was placed by the New York Yankees , who signed him on March 5 , 2003 , and assigned him to their minor league system .

= = = New York Yankees = = =

Ramírez began his minor league career in 2003 with the Tampa Yankees of the single @- @ A advanced Florida State League . After he had a 2 ? 8 record , a 5 @. @ 21 earned run average (ERA) , 21 strikeouts , and 21 1 ? 3 innings pitched in 14 starts , he was promoted to the Trenton Thunder of the Double @- @ A Eastern League . With the Thunder , he had a 1 ? 1 record , a 1 @. @ 69 ERA , 21 strikeouts , and 21 1 ? 3 innings pitched in four games (three starts) , and this earned him a promotion to the Columbus Clippers of the triple @- @ A International League . In two games (one start) with Columbus , he had an 0 ? 1 record , a 4 @. @ 50 ERA , five strikeouts , and six innings pitched . He finished his first minor league season with a 3 ? 10 record , a 4 @. @ 43 ERA , 96 strikeouts , and 101 2 ? 3 innings pitched in 20 games (18 starts) .

In 2004 , Ramírez began the year with Columbus . After he had an 0 ? 3 record , an 8 @.@ 50 ERA , 17 strikeouts , and 18 innings pitched in four starts , he was demoted to Trenton on May 1 . On August 17 , he allowed just two hits in a 4 ? 1 complete game victory over the Norwich Navigators while setting a team record by retiring the last 24 hitters he faced . With Trenton , Ramírez had a 4 ? 6 record , a 4 @.@ 62 ERA , two complete games , 128 strikeouts , and 115 innings pitched in 18 starts . His combined minor league totals were a 4 ? 9 record , a 5 @.@ 14 ERA , two complete games , 145 strikeouts , and 133 innings pitched in 22 starts .

Ramírez began the 2005 season with Columbus again . After he had a 1 ? 3 record , a 5 @.@ 33 ERA , 23 strikeouts , and 25 1 ? 3 innings pitched in six starts for the Clippers , he was demoted to Trenton for the second year in a row . At Trenton , he had a 6 ? 5 record , a 3 @.@ 84 ERA , 82 strikeouts , and 89 innings pitched in 15 starts . On July 28 , the Yankees traded Ramírez and Eduardo Sierra to the Colorado Rockies for Shawn Chacón .

= = = Colorado Rockies = = =

After being acquired by the Rockies , Ramírez was assigned to the Tulsa Drillers of the double @-@ A Texas League . He made three starts with the Drillers before getting moved to the bullpen . In 9 games (3 starts) with Tulsa , Ramírez had a 2 ? 1 record , a 5 @.@ 33 ERA , 23 strikeouts , and 25 1 ? 3 innings pitched . His combined minor league totals were a 9 ? 9 record , a 4 @.@ 39 ERA , 131 strikeouts , and 141 1 ? 3 innings pitched .

Ramírez began 2006 with the Colorado Springs Sky Sox of the triple @-@ A Pacific Coast League . After throwing a scoreless inning for Colorado Springs , he was called up by the Rockies on April 12 when Mike DeJean was placed on the disabled list . He made his debut on April 14 , pitching two scoreless innings in a 10 ? 8 loss to the Philadelphia Phillies . Five days later , he singled against Chan Ho Park in his first major league at bat in a 13 ? 4 loss to the San Diego Padres . On April 25 , he pitched 2 1 ? 3 scoreless innings and got his first major league win in a 7 ? 6 victory over the Phillies . Ramírez began his career with 15 1 ? 3 scoreless innings in 11 games , which set a Rockies record for longest streak by a reliever to begin a career . It was the longest streak by a reliever to start a career since Jeremy Fikac threw 16 scoreless innings to start his career in 2001 . Ramírez 's streak ended on May 15 , when he allowed three runs in 1 ? 3 of an inning and got his first career loss against the Los Angeles Dodgers , who won 5 ? 4 . On August 15 , he set a career high with four innings pitched in the longest game in Rockies history , an 18 @-@ inning game against the Arizona Diamondbacks . He gave up a run in the 18th and suffered a loss in the 2 ? 1 defeat . He had a 2 @.@ 88 ERA in his first 47 games , but he posted a 5 @.@ 09 ERA over his final 14 games , raising his season ERA to 3 @.@ 46 . On September 30 , in his final game of the season , he pitched 1 2 ? 3 scoreless innings and got the win in a 14 @-@ inning , 11 ? 9 victory over the Chicago Cubs . Ramírez finished the season with a 4 ? 3 record , a 3 @.@ 46 ERA , 61 strikeouts , and 67 2 ? 3 innings pitched in 61 games . His 61 games were the third @-@ most by a Rockies ' rookie pitcher , behind Steve Reed (64 in 1993) and Javier López (75 in 2003) .

Ramírez began the 2007 season with seven straight scoreless appearances for the Rockies . On April 21 , he was placed on the disabled list (DL) (retroactive to May 18) with a sprained right elbow . He returned from the DL on May 15 . After stretching his scoreless start to eight games , he posted a 22 @.@ 24 ERA over his next seven games . On May 20 , he gave up a career @-@ high five runs in 2 ? 3 innings and got the loss in a 10 ? 5 defeat to the Kansas City Royals . On June 7 , he was optioned to Colorado Springs as Josh Fogg came off the disabled list . Ramírez was recalled on July 20 to replace Tom Martin , who was designated for assignment . After six games , he was returned to Colorado Springs as Ryan Speier was called up . A week later , he was recalled when Willy Taveras was placed on the disabled list , but he was returned to the minors two days later after appearing in one game . On September 8 , he was called up and placed on the 60 @-@ day disabled list with elbow inflammation so the Rockies could put Josh Newman on their roster . Ramírez finished the season with a 2 ? 2 record , an 8 @.@ 31 ERA , 15 strikeouts , and 17 1 ? 3 innings pitched in 22 games . He did not allow an earned run in 11 road games , but he had a 17 @.@ 28 ERA in 11 games at Coors Field . Although he did not pitch in the playoffs for the Rockies

at all (since he was injured) , he was still presented with an NL Championship ring . At Colorado Springs , Ramírez had a 4 ? 0 record , a 2 @.@ 28 ERA , 35 strikeouts , and 27 2 ? 3 innings pitched in 25 games .

= = = Kansas City Royals = = =

Ramírez was traded to the Kansas City Royals on March 26 , 2008 , for a player to be named later (Jorge de la Rosa) . He posted a 0 @.@ 66 ERA through his first 13 games with the Royals , but his ERA rose to 3 @.@ 49 after he posted a 6 @.@ 14 ERA in his next 13 games . Over his final 45 games , he had a 2 @.@ 08 ERA . On June 25 , in a 7 ? 3 victory over Colorado (his former team) , Ramírez threw two pitches behind Yorvit Torrealba of the Rockies . Ramírez said he was not trying to hit Torrealba , and he was not ejected from the game or disciplined , but some of the Rockies players claimed that Ramírez had thrown at Torrealba intentionally . On July 20 , he got his first win since May 21 of the previous year in an 8 ? 7 victory over the Chicago White Sox , despite blowing the lead by giving up two runs in 1 1 ? 3 innings . Ten days later , he pitched 1 1 ? 3 scoreless innings and was charged with the win in a 4 ? 3 victory over the Oakland Athletics , helping the Royals sweep the Athletics in Oakland for the first time since 1988 . By September , he had replaced Ron Mahay as Joakim Soria 's setup man . He pitched in 71 games for the Royals with a 2 @.@ 64 ERA . On September 4 , in the second game of a doubleheader , Ramírez notched his first career save against the Athletics in a 9 ? 6 victory . Ramírez finished the year with a 3 ? 2 record , a 2 @.@ 64 ERA , one save , 70 strikeouts , and 71 2 ? 3 innings pitched in 71 games . He was one of three major league pitchers to give up two or fewer home runs in over 70 innings (along with Roy Corcoran and Jason Grilli) , and he was one of the American League (AL) pitchers to have an ERA under 3 @.@ 00 with at least 70 innings pitched and 70 strikeouts (along with Francisco Rodríguez and Matt Thornton) .

= = = Boston Red Sox = = =

On November 19 , Ramírez was traded to the Boston Red Sox for outfielder Coco Crisp . On April 24 , 2009 , he pitched a scoreless inning for the Red Sox and earned the win in an 11 @-@ inning 5 ? 4 victory over the New York Yankees . He began his Red Sox tenure with 15 straight scoreless innings spanning 13 games from April 8 to May 3 . On May 14 , he pitched a season @-@ high 2 2 ? 3 innings , giving up no runs in a 12 @-@ inning , 5 ? 4 loss to the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim . He struck out a season @-@ high four batters and allowed a run in 1 2 ? 3 innings on July 9 in an 8 ? 6 loss to the Royals . Ramírez finished the season with a 7 ? 4 record , a 2 @.@ 84 ERA , 52 strikeouts , and 69 2 ? 3 innings pitched . His seven wins were tied for third among AL relief pitchers and trailed only Alfredo Aceves (10) and Craig Breslow (8) . Ramírez reached the playoffs for the first time in his career , as the Red Sox won the Wild Card . In Game 1 of the American League Division Series (ALDS) , he gave up two runs without recording an out in his only playoff appearance , a 5 ? 0 loss to the Angels . The Angels went on to sweep the Red Sox in three games .

On April 27 , 2010 , Ramírez got his first save since 2008 in a 2 ? 1 win over the Baltimore Orioles , since Red Sox manager Terry Francona wanted to rest closer Jonathan Papelbon . He was charged with a loss on July 20 after pitching 1 1 ? 3 innings when Michael Bowden allowed an inherited runner to score in the 10th inning of a 5 ? 4 loss to the Athletics . Two days later , he got a save in a 13 @-@ inning , 8 ? 6 win over the Seattle Mariners . Ramírez had an 0 ? 3 record , a 4 @.@ 46 ERA , 2 saves , 31 strikeouts , and 41 2 ? 3 innings pitched with the Red Sox through July 31 , the trade deadline . That day , he was traded to the San Francisco Giants for Dan Turpen .

= = = San Francisco Giants = = =

Ramírez got his only win of the year by pitching a scoreless inning on September 21 in a 1 ? 0 victory over the Cubs . He got a save against the Diamondbacks on September 30 , since Giants '

manager Bruce Bochy wanted to rest closer Brian Wilson , in a 4 ? 1 victory . Ramírez posted a 1 ? 0 record , an 0 @.@ 67 ERA , 15 strikeouts , and 27 innings pitched in 25 games for the Giants as they won the National League (NL) West and reached the playoffs for the first time since 2003 . For the entire season , Ramírez had a 1 ? 3 record , a 2 @.@ 99 ERA , 46 strikeouts , and 69 1 ? 3 innings pitched in 69 games . Ramírez 's only appearance in the NLDS against the Atlanta Braves came in Game 2 on October 8 , when he gave up a home run to Rick Ankiel in the 11th inning and was charged with a loss (the Giants ' only loss of the series) in the 5 ? 4 defeat . In Game 2 of the NL Championship Series , Ramírez gave up two runs in 1 ? 3 of an inning as the Giants lost 6 ? 1 to the Phillies . In Game 5 , the Giants ' other loss in the series , he gave up a run in 2 ? 3 innings as the Giants lost 4 ? 2 . On October 27 , in Game 1 of the World Series , he gave up two runs in 1 ? 3 inning , but the Giants defeated the Rangers 11 ? 7 . He pitched 2 ? 3 scoreless innings in Game 3 on October 30 , but the Giants lost 4 ? 2 . However , that was the Giants ' only loss of the series , as they defeated Texas in five games and won their first World Series since 1954 .

Ramírez earned a save on April 6 , 2011 , by pitching 1 ? 3 of an inning to escape a bases @-@ loaded situation in the Giants ' 8 ? 4 win over the Padres . On June 18 , he pitched a season @-@ high 2 1 ? 3 innings , allowing no runs in a 4 ? 2 loss to Oakland . He allowed a season @-@ high four runs in 2 ? 3 innings and took the loss on June 30 in an 11 @-@ inning , 5 ? 2 defeat to the Cubs . On August 5 , in an eventual 9 ? 2 loss to Philadelphia , Ramírez hit Shane Victorino with a pitch , and a brawl started . Ramírez was subsequently ejected from the game . Afterwards , Philadelphia talk @-@ show host Tony Bruno sparked controversy by posting on his Twitter account that Ramírez was an illegal alien , although he later removed the post . On September 4 , Ramírez struck out four batters but gave up a run in 1 2 ? 3 innings in a 4 ? 1 loss to the Diamondbacks . Two days later , he got his final save of the year when he threw a scoreless 1 ? 3 of an inning in a 6 ? 4 victory over San Diego . In 66 games that season , Ramírez had a 3 ? 3 record , a 2 @.@ 62 ERA , four saves , 66 strikeouts , and 68 2 ? 3 innings pitched .

== = New York Mets == =

On December 7 , the Giants traded Ramírez and Andrés Torres to the New York Mets for Ángel Pagán . Ramírez avoided arbitration with the Mets by signing a one @-@ year , \$ 2 @.@ 65 million contract with them on January 17 , 2012 .

== = San Francisco Giants (second stint) == =

Ramírez signed a minor league contract with the Giants in 2013 , but he was released on March 22 after posting an 11 @.@ 25 ERA in spring training . He was re @-@ signed and appeared in 6 games for the Giants before being designated for assignment .

== = Tampa Bay Rays == =

On July 1 , 2013 Ramirez signed a minor league deal with the Tampa Bay Rays organization .

== = Seattle Mariners == =

On January 2 , 2014 , Ramirez signed a minor league deal with the Seattle Mariners . On April 29 , he was released after allowing 5 runs in less than 5 innings in AAA .

== = Baltimore Orioles == =

On May 30 , 2014 , Ramirez signed a minor league deal with the Baltimore Orioles .

On June 30 , 2014 , Ramirez made his Orioles debut in the ninth inning against the Texas Rangers , relieving Ubaldo Jiménez after pitching 8 innings only allowing 1 run pass . This was not a save opportunity since the Orioles were winning 7 @-@ 1 in Baltimore . He allowed one walk and had two

strikeouts . He helped Jimenez get his first win at Camden Yards of the 2014 Major League Baseball season . Ramírez had never met the Orioles manager Buck Showalter before his debut with the Orioles which has never happened to Buck in his Career . He was designated for assignment on July 6 , 2014 .

= = = Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim = = =

On December 13 , 2015 , Ramirez signed a minor league deal with the Angels .

= = Pitching style = =

Ramírez throws three pitches : a fastball , a changeup , and a slider . His fastball ranges from 92 to 94 mph , and Ramírez considers it his best pitch . His changeup and slider have been described as " above @-@ average " on scouting reports .

= = Personal = =

Ramírez is friends with José Mesa . Mesa helped teach Ramírez English , helped teach him how to pitch , and translated for him in 2006 while both were with the Rockies . After Mesa signed with the Detroit Tigers in 2007 , Ramírez still remained in contact with him . Ramírez enjoys Christian music , and he sings it at his house . He often donates baseball equipment to children who need it , and in 2006 the Rockies recognized him for this by making him their Roberto Clemente Award nominee .