

## <u>Aaron Small</u>

Aaron Small will always be remembered for the fantastic season he put together for the New York Yankees in 2005. That year, he became just the 4<sup>th</sup> pitcher in MLB history to win at least 10 games in a season without a loss. Aaron finished the season at 10-0.

Aaron began his major league career in 1994 with the Toronto Blue Jays, the team which drafted him. In rapid succession, he went on to play for the Florida Marlins, Oakland A's, Arizona Diamondbacks, Atlanta Braves and back to the Marlins again, before landing with, and finishing his career with, the Yankees.

Aaron's story is one of perseverance. His accomplishments with the 1995 Yankees only came after many trails and setbacks, proving that good things can happen when you keep faithful. In his 18 seasons in professional baseball, Aaron played for 20 teams when counting his major and minor league stops. In spite of a circuitous route to fame, Aaron never gave up and now finds himself in the record books for one of the most amazing seasons in history.

Similar to his baseball career, Aaron's life outside of baseball has not always been smooth. In 2009, Aaron contracted encephalitis and was in a medicallyinduced coma for 8 days. He had to learn to walk and talk all over again but has been restored to full health. He now runs his own baseball facility.

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