

Mets vs Reds Free Baseball Prediction

Contributed by T.J. Kendrick
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The New York Mets have been trying to get into rhythm all season long and once they finally did, they were forced to stop for the All-Star break. On Thursday night, we'll find out if they can continue their winning streak, which is currently at nine games. This is the Mets longest winning streak since 2000. BetOnline.com has the New York Mets –150 odds baseball prediction favorites against the Cincinnati Reds +130 odds with the total set at 8.5 runs.

The Mets were at 40-42 when June ended but are now seven games over .500 as the second half of the season begins. The difference has been the offense, which has produced an average of six runs per game over their last nine contests.

Carlos Delgado, who has been sluggish all season, finally woke up in July. The \$16 million man is batting .367 with three home runs seven RBIs and 12 runs. Delgado hasn't hit better than .258 in any other month.

The pitching has also been improved as the Mets haven't allowed more than three hits or less in the previous five games. The Mets are now a half-game behind the Philadelphia Phillies for first place in the National League East and look poised to continue their run.

On the other hand, the Cincinnati Reds continue to wander in mediocrity with no clear identity. A couple of year ago, the Reds were one of the best hitting teams in the league and were search for some pitching. Now it seems they have some solid starting pitching with Edinson Volquez, Aaron Harang and Johnny Cueto, and a decent bullpen anchored by Francisco Cordero, but are now looking for more consistent hitting.

They are 46-50 on the year and considering they play in a division with the Milwaukee Brewers, St. Louis Cardinals and Chicago Cubs, their season is over for all intents and purposes.

Tonight the pitching matchup will be Johan Santana versus Johnny Cueto. The Mets are only 1-6 in Santana's last six starts while the Reds are 5-2 in Cueto's last five home starts.

T.J. Kendrick is the biggest MLB nut and a brilliant baseball prediction handicapper. His love of the game borders on obsession, and he takes every chance he gets to make excellent predictions, frequently contributing to Pointspreads.com and Sports-Odds.com as well as BetOnline.com.