

Free MLB Picks: Phillies at Dodgers Game 2 NLCS 2009

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Friday, 16 October 2009
Last Updated Friday, 16 October 2009

Free MLB Picks: The Philadelphia Phillies got off to a great start in the National League Championship Series by going on the road and defeating the Los Angeles Dodgers in Game 1 Thursday night in Dodger Stadium. With the win, the Phillies steal home field advantage in the best of 7-games series. The Dodgers are facing almost a must-win scenario in today's (4 pm ET) scenario versus Philadelphia. Starting pitcher for the Dodgers this game will be recently acquired Vicente Padilla. The Dodgers righthander finished the regular season with a 12-9 record to go along with a 4.46 ERA. Countering for the Phillies will be the veteran and former Dodger Pedro Martinez. The Dodgers righthander has a 4.31 ERA to go along with a 13-6 record this season.

Free MLB Picks oddsmakers at Bodog.com currently have the Dodgers listed as 152-moneyline favorites versus the Phillies, while the game's total is sitting at 9.

Martinez will be making his first postseason appearance since beating the Cardinals in Game 3 of the 2004 World Series. The 37-year-old right-hander, who joined the Phillies in August, has pitched just seven innings since Sept. 13. Martinez has gone 3-5 with a 4.02 ERA in nine career starts against the Dodgers. This is his first appearance against them since 2006. In 13 career playoff appearances, the three-time Cy Young Award winner has gone 6-2 with a 3.40 ERA.

Padilla, a former Phillie, has resurrected his career in a big way after being released by the Rangers. He's unbeaten as a Dodger with four regular-season wins and the first-round clincher in St. Louis, when he threw seven scoreless innings and looked perfectly capable of finishing it up. Padilla had a dicey reputation with the Rangers as headhunter, but has been a model citizen with the Dodgers, impressive enough against the Cardinals to get moved up in the rotation.

The Phillies defeated the Dodgers 8-6 in Game 1 on Thursday. The Phillies won the game as a -110 pick'em, while the 14 runs sailed OVER the posted total (7.5). Cole Hamels allowed four runs over eight innings in collecting the win. Clayton Kershaw surrendered five runs over 4 2-3 innings in the loss.

Free MLB Picks: We are sticking our necks out here and going with the veteran Martinez and the Phillies as +137 dogs.

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