

Free MLB Picks - Dodgers vs. Phillies Game 3 NLCS 2009

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Free MLB Picks - Dodgers vs. Phillies Game 3 NLCS 2009: The Phillies and Dodgers travel to Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia to play Games 3-5 of the National League Championship Series after splitting the first two games in Los Angeles. The weather could play a factor in Philadelphia as the temperature is expected to be in the 40's while out on the coast the teams were playing in ideal 90's baseball weather. Looking to get off to a good start, the Phillies will be sending lefthander Cliff Lee to the mound to start game 3. Lee who won the 2008 American League Cy Young Award while in Cleveland, finished the regular season with a 14-13 record to go along with a 3.22 ERA. The Dodgers will give Sunday's Game 3 start to righthander Hiroki Kuroda - 8-7, 3.76 ERA - who will be making his first post-season start.

Free MLB Picks oddsmakers list the Phillies as -170 favorites on the Bodog.com moneyline with a 8-run total. Dodgers' backers are getting +155 moneyline odds.

Kuroda, due to a herniated disc in his neck, is healthy enough after three weeks rest to take the ball for the Dodgers. While it will be almost three weeks since Kuroda pitched in a Major League game, management believes he's enough of a gamer to give him the first start in a hostile Citizens Bank Park.

Lee has shown he is more than ready to pitch in the postseason. He looked dominant in Games 1 and 4 of the National League Division Series against the Colorado Rockies. He allowed one run and six hits in a complete-game 5-1 victory over the Rockies in Game 1 at Citizens Bank Park. He allowed just one earned run in 7 1/3 innings in a dramatic 5-4 comeback victory in Game 4 at Coors Field.

Andre Ethier drove in the winning run to lift the Dodgers over the Phillies 2-1 on Friday and even the best-of-seven series. The Dodgers won that game as -155 favorites, while the teams played UNDER the posted over/under (3). Hong-Chih Kuo earned the win in relief, and Jonathan Broxton closed out the game with a scoreless ninth for Los Angeles.

Ryan Howard hit a solo home run for the Phillies, who were +135 underdogs. Chan Ho Park surrendered two runs in a losing effort.

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