

World Series 2009: Yankees at Phillies Game 4

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World Series 2009 - Yankees at Phillies The New York Yankees now have the National League Champions where they want them. Down two games to one while on the road in the World Series. New York has now won two straight and have the Phillies in a must win situation for Sunday's Game 4 at Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia. If the Yankees win today, they could feasibly win the championship without returning to Yankee Stadium. Returning to the mound for the Yankees is Game 1 starter C.C.Sabathia, who pitched well in that game but ran into a buzz saw named Chase Utley who tagged the lefthander for two home runs. Countering for the Phillies will be righthander Joe Blanton, making his first World Series start.

World Series 2009 oddsmakers at Bodog.com list New York as -175 moneyline favorites with a 9-run total. Phillies backers are getting +160 odds as a home underdog. For these odds to apply, Sabathia and Blanton must be the games starting pitchers.

Phillies manager Charlie Manuel has opted to go with Blanton in Game 4 instead of ace Cliff Lee, who would be operating on short rest, to make this start. Blanton made one start in the NL Championship Series, allowing three earned runs in six innings against the Dodgers.

Sabathia threw 113 pitches in Game 1's loss, holding every Phillies hitter not named Chase Utley, who homered twice, to just two hits over seven innings. He suffered the loss in the Phillies' eventual 6-1 win.

Alex Rodriguez and Johnny Damon drove in a pair of runs each to help the Yankees defeat the Phillies 8-5 in Game 3 as -125 favorites. The 13 runs sailed OVER the posted over/under (9). Nick Swisher and Hideki Matsui belted home runs in the win for the Yankees, who now lead 2-1 in the series. Andy Pettitte scattered five hits and four runs over six innings to earn the victory.

Jayson Werth launched two home runs in a losing cause for the Phillies, who were +105 underdogs. Cole Hamels surrendered five runs over 4 1-3 innings.

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