

## World Series 2009: Yankees at Phillies Game 5

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World Series 2009: Yankees at Phillies Game 5: The Philadelphia Phillies haven't had much to cheer about since their World Series 2009 opening win at Yankee Stadium on October 28. That day Phillies lefthander Cliff Lee dominated the Yankees and their starter C.C. Sabathia to a 6-1 Phillies victory. Lee could have started Game 4 on Sunday but Philadelphia manager Charlie Manuel opted to go with Joe Blanton instead, a decision Manuel probably regrets now that New York has taken a commanding 3-1 games lead in the best of seven series. If you do the math, you will see that one more win by New York will result in another Yankees World Championship. Starting pitcher, on short rest, for the Yankees will be Game 2 winner A.J. Burnett.

World Seris 2009 oddsmakers at online sportsbook Bodog.com list the Phillies as -152 moneyline favorite versus the Yankees with a 8 1/2 total. Yankees' backers are getting +137 moneyline odds as the underdog.

Lee has been incredible this postseason. He is 3-0 with a 0.54 ERA in four postseason starts. That is the best ERA of any pitcher in a single postseason who has pitched 30 or more innings. It is the seventh-best single postseason ERA of all time. Lee threw a complete game against the Yankees in Game 1. He allowed no earned runs and no walks and struck out 10 to pick up the 6-1 victory. They don't need perfection, but they need something close from him if the Phillies are going to extend the Series and send it back to New York for Game 6 on Wednesday.

After a rocky first three innings in Game 2 in which he threw 61 pitches, Burnett settled down in his first World Series start and was near unhittable, outdueling Phillies starter Pedro Martinez as the Yankees won, 3-1, to even the Classic at a game apiece. Burnett struck out nine and walked two while turning in his third quality start in four postseason outings. He is 1-0 with a 3.55 ERA in those contests, but take out one bad first inning against the Angels and his ERA is a sterling 2.13.

The Yankees defeated Philadelphia 7-4 as a -170 favorite in Game 4 on Sunday, and the 11 runs scored went OVER the posted total (8.5). Jorge Posada drove in three runs for the Yankees and Johnny Damon was 3-5 with an RBI and two runs scored in that win.

Pedro Feliz was 3-4 with a home run and two RBI for the Phillies, while Chase Utley was 2-4 with a homer and two RBI.

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