



WELCOME BACK TO THE BEER LEAGUE.

NLCS GAME 1 | SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026 | 5:00 PM PT | AMERICAN FAMILY FIELD | FOX

THE REMATCH: 100 WINS VS. 103 WINS

A year after Los Angeles swept Milwaukee in the NLCS, the Brewers get another shot. They won 103 regular-season games; the Dodgers won 100. The Dodgers are chasing a third straight World Series title. Milwaukee is chasing its first World Series championship.

The names on the marquee sound made up: **Tarik Skubal vs. Jacob Misorowski**. Two strikeout machines. One pennant on the line.

THE GAME 1 ARMS

SKUBAL (LAD): The former Detroit ace allowed one run over six innings with seven strikeouts against Atlanta in NLDS Game 1. Career postseason ERA entering tonight: 1.97.

MISIOROWSKI (MIL): Led MLB in ERA (1.80), strikeouts (252), WHIP (0.80) and opponents batting average (.157) in the regular season. His first NLDS pitch clocked 104.8 mph. Against the Dodgers: 27 strikeouts, three walks, 17 innings and a 1.59 ERA across three appearances.

A 104.8-MPH FASTBALL IS NOT A FRIENDLY WELCOME.



OFFICIAL GAME 1 LINEUPS

DAVE SHUFFLES THE DECK

LOS ANGELES DODGERS

ORDER	PLAYER	POS
1	Mookie Betts	SS
2	Freddie Freeman	1B
3	Will Smith	C
4	Shohei Ohtani	DH
5	Teoscar Hernandez	LF
6	Max Muncy	3B
7	Andy Pages	CF
8	Kyle Tucker	RF
9	Kike Hernandez	2B

MILWAUKEE BREWERS

ORDER	PLAYER	POS
1	Jackson Chourio	LF
2	Brice Turang	2B
3	William Contreras	C
4	Jake Bauers	1B
5	Andrew Vaughn	DH
6	Garrett Mitchell	CF
7	Cooper Pratt	SS
8	Luis Lara	RF
9	Joey Ortiz	3B

WHAT JUMPS OUT

Ohtani hits fourth. Dave Roberts sticks with Mookie-Freddie-Smith at the top while trying to unlock Shohei, who has hit .154 this postseason. Kike gets the start at second; Tommy Edman sits.

Milwaukee is built differently. Chourio and Turang set the table, Contreras is the engine, and the bottom third can still put pressure on a defense. The Brewers will gladly win a game without hitting a ball 400 feet.



SCOUTING REPORT

THE 104-MPH PROBLEM

Misiorowski does not just throw hard; he has already shown he can dominate Los Angeles. His 1.59 ERA and 27-to-3 strikeout-to-walk ratio in 17 career innings against the Dodgers make this a very real assignment.

But there is a counterpunch. Against San Diego in NLDS Game 1, the Padres fouled off 30 pitches over the first four innings and pushed him to 88 pitches by the fifth. The Dodgers do not need to hit 104 mph early in the count just to prove they can.

READER KEYS: LOS ANGELES

1. **Be annoying.** Take pitches, foul off heaters, and make Misiorowski show his secondary stuff.
2. **Score a normal run.** The Dodgers leaned heavily on homers against Atlanta. A walk, a grounder, and a single still count.
3. **Keep Milwaukee off the bases.** The Brewers ranked first in MLB in average (.258) and OBP (.341), with 152 steals. Free runners become free runs.

READER KEYS: MILWAUKEE

1. **Make Skubal work.** Milwaukee chases fewer pitches than anyone. Force deep counts.
2. **Get Chourio and Turang moving.** Turn singles into doubles with legs.
3. **Let the bullpen shorten the game.** Brewers relievers allowed one earned run in 19 NLDS innings.

PLEASE DO NOT TRY TO HIT 104 MPH WITH YOUR EGO.



HOT, NOT, AND HEATING UP

WHO BROUGHT THE BATS?

DODGERS HOT: Freddie Freeman (.267, two homers), Max Muncy (.250, three homers), Kyle Tucker (.333) have been steady October contributors.

DODGERS WAITING FOR THE SPARK: Shohei Ohtani (.154) and Will Smith (.063). Nobody doubts their ceiling. October is simply asking them to locate it.

BREWERS HOT: William Contreras slashed .375/.444/.750 with two homers against San Diego. He also drove in 24 runs in September.

BREWERS WAITING FOR THE SPARK: Brice Turang was 2-for-16 in the NLDS after a spectacular September (.361 AVG, .475 OBP).

THE BULLPEN MAP

Milwaukee: Aaron Ashby, Abner Uribe and Trevor Megill headline a relief corps that posted a 0.47 ERA over 19 NLDS innings.

Los Angeles: Edwin Diaz closed the final two NLDS wins; Tanner Scott remains a late-inning option. Justin Wroblewski joins the NLCS roster, while Hyeseong Kim is off it.

THE QUIRK

This is the **third Dodgers-Brewers NLCS**, following meetings in 2018 and 2025. The Dodgers won the first two: a seven-game fight in 2018 and a four-game sweep last year.



THIS DAY IN DODGER HISTORY

OCTOBER 11, 1981

In the strike-split 1981 season, Los Angeles and Houston played a best-of-five Division Series. The Dodgers lost the first two games on the road, then won all three at Dodger Stadium to advance. On **October 11**, they completed the comeback with a 4-0 Game 5 victory behind Jerry Reuss.

It was a strange postseason format and a useful October lesson: a series is not over because the first couple of games go sideways. Of course, winning Game 1 is a whole lot less stressful.

A BREWERS HISTORY DETOUR

The Brewers began in 1969 as the **Seattle Pilots**, moved to Milwaukee for 1970, and spent their first decades in the American League. They switched to the National League in 1998.

Milwaukee reached its only World Series in **1982**, the Harvey Wallbangers era, and lost to St. Louis in seven games. The team still has never won a World Series title.

Their old home, **Milwaukee County Stadium** (1953-2000), also hosted the Milwaukee Braves and the 1957 and 1958 World Series. Bernie Brewer once had a chalet beyond the outfield, where a home-run celebration meant a slide into a beer mug.

ONE TEAM WAS ONCE THE SEATTLE PILOTS. THAT IS A REAL SENTENCE.



RANDOM DODGER / BREWER CROSSOVER

JIM COLBORN

A right-hander who made his name in Milwaukee, Jim Colborn pitched for the Brewers from 1972 through 1976, won 20 games in 1973, and threw a no-hitter against Kansas City in 1977 after joining the Royals. He later pitched for the Dodgers in 1978.

Colborn is the sort of guy who makes baseball history fun: a 20-game winner for the Brewers who also appears in the Dodgers uniform ledger, but probably will not be the first name anybody shouts in a crossover trivia contest.

READER TRIVIA

1. Which city hosted the franchise before it became the Milwaukee Brewers?
2. Who is Milwaukee's only World Series opponent to date?
3. What was the nickname of Milwaukee's powerful 1982 lineup?
4. Which Brewers Game 1 starter threw a 104.8-mph pitch in the NLDS?

Answers: Seattle; St. Louis Cardinals; Harvey Wallbangers; Jacob Misorowski.

READER MISSION

Count the number of pitches Misorowski throws in the first two innings. If the Dodgers are forcing 20-plus pitch frames, they are playing the long game. If they are chasing the first 104-mph pitch they see, we may need another beverage.



NLCS GAME 1: DODGERS AT BREWERS

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SCORING PLAYS / GAME NOTES

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