



OCTOBER, AGAIN.

THE RAVINE READER'S RIDICULOUSLY OVERPREPARED GUIDE TO DODGERS OCTOBER BASEBALL

DODGERS vs. BRAVES - 2026 NATIONAL LEAGUE DIVISION SERIES		
ALL-TIME DODGERS POSTSEASON 153-156 309 games since 1916	FRANCHISE OCTOBER 40 postseason appearances	THE HARDWARE 9 World championships

Brooklyn + Los Angeles. Nine championships. Twenty-seven National League pennants. And entering 2026, the franchise sits just three wins below .500 across more than a century of postseason baseball.

The Dodgers arrive as 100-62 NL West champions, the No. 2 seed and two-time defending World Series champions. Atlanta survived Philadelphia in three Wild Card games. Now the franchises meet in October for the sixth time.

1996 • 2013 • 2018 • 2020 • 2021 • 2026

THE SERIES

Game 1: Sat., Oct. 3 - Atlanta at Los Angeles - 1:00 PM PT - FOX

Game 2: Sun., Oct. 4 - Atlanta at Los Angeles - 5:00 PM PT - FS1

Game 3: Tue., Oct. 6 - Los Angeles at Atlanta - 3:00 PM PT

Game 4*: Wed., Oct. 7 - Los Angeles at Atlanta - 3:00 PM PT

Game 5*: Fri., Oct. 9 - Atlanta at Los Angeles - 5:00 PM PT

*If necessary. Times/networks subject to MLB changes.

THE PREMISE

This is not a prediction sheet. It is a memory bank: every Dodgers postseason appearance, every previous Dodgers-Braves October fight, the triumphs, the disasters, the weird stuff, and enough historical baggage to make Game 1 feel properly heavy.



ROUND SIX

DODGERS-BRAVES: THE OCTOBER LEDGER

Before 2026, the Dodgers had won three of the five postseason series between the clubs; Atlanta had won two. This is not an ancient rivalry like Dodgers-Giants or Dodgers-Yankees. It became an October rivalry by repetition.

YEAR	ROUND	RESULT	REMARKS
1996	NLDS	ATL 3-0	Peak Braves pitching. Javy Lopez wins Game 1 in the 10th.
2013	NLDS	LAD 3-1	Kershaw's 12 K opener. Juan Uribe's eighth-inning Game 4 homer.
2018	NLDS	LAD 3-1	Acuña's grand slam gives Atlanta its lone win; L.A. closes in four.
2020	NLCS	LAD 4-3	Down 3-1. Eleven-run first inning. Game 7 comeback. Seager MVP.
2021	NLCS	ATL 4-2	Back-to-back walk-offs, Rosario, and Atlanta's revenge.
2026	NLDS	TBD	Round Six.

1996 - THEY INTRODUCED THEMSELVES

Atlanta swept Los Angeles 3-0. Game 1 was the warning: John Smoltz worked nine innings, Ramon Martinez matched him for eight, and Javy Lopez broke a 1-1 tie with a 10th-inning homer off Antonio Osuna. The Braves won the next two by 3-2 and 5-2.

For the Dodgers, it was the end of a strange era: Tommy Lasorda had stepped down during the season after a heart attack, and the club's first back-to-back postseason appearances since 1977-78 ended without a win.



DODGERS-BRAVES, CONTINUED

2013 - URIBE FLIPS THE SCRIPT

Clayton Kershaw opened the series in Atlanta with **12 strikeouts in seven innings** in a 6-1 win. After splitting in Georgia, the series moved to Los Angeles.

Game 4 became permanent Dodger lore. Juan Uribe failed twice to get a bunt down in the eighth inning. Then, with one more swing available, he launched David Carpenter's pitch into the left-field pavilion for a two-run homer and a 4-3 lead. Kenley Jansen finished it. Dodger Stadium detonated.

The Dodgers won the series 3-1 and reached their first NLCS since 2009.

2018 - THE NEW BRAVES ARRIVE

Los Angeles won the first two games at Dodger Stadium and took the series 3-1. Atlanta's one victory contained a preview of the next decade: 20-year-old **Ronald Acuña Jr.** hit a grand slam off Walker Buehler in Game 3, becoming the youngest player to hit a postseason grand slam.

The Dodgers answered in Game 4 and advanced, eventually winning the NL pennant for the second straight season.

THE FREDDIE FOOTNOTE

Freddie Freeman was the face of those Atlanta teams, won the 2020 NL MVP, helped the Braves win the 2021 World Series, then signed with Los Angeles before 2022. Every Dodgers-Braves series now carries a built-in reunion story: the former Atlanta cornerstone in Dodger blue.



THE MONSTER

2020 NLCS - DOWN 3-1

Played at Globe Life Field in Texas during the pandemic postseason, the 2020 NLCS remains the defining Dodgers-Braves series.

Atlanta won Games 1 and 2. Los Angeles answered Game 3 by scoring **11 runs in the first inning**, then lost Game 4 anyway to fall behind three games to one.

Then the Dodgers started climbing. They won Game 5. In Game 6, Walker Buehler and the bullpen forced a winner-take-all Game 7.

GAME 7

Atlanta led 2-0 and 3-2. Mookie Betts robbed Freddie Freeman of extra bases at the wall. Kiké Hernández tied the game with a pinch-hit homer in the sixth. Cody Bellinger put Los Angeles ahead with a seventh-inning homer off Chris Martin.

Julio Urías handled the final three innings. Dodgers 4, Braves 3.

Corey Seager won NLCS MVP after hitting five homers in the series. The Dodgers went on to beat Tampa Bay and win their first World Series since 1988.

DOWN 3-1. UP FOREVER.



REVENGE

2021 NLCS - ATLANTA ANSWERS

The Braves immediately turned the previous year's scar tissue into fuel. Austin Riley walked off Game 1. Eddie Rosario walked off Game 2. The Dodgers returned home down 0-2.

Cody Bellinger's three-run homer in the eighth rescued Game 3. Atlanta took Game 4. Then Chris Taylor hit **three home runs** in Game 5 to keep Los Angeles alive.

Rosario finished it in Game 6 with a three-run homer off Walker Buehler. Atlanta won 4-2, then beat Houston to win the World Series.

2026 - ROUND SIX

The Dodgers finished **100-62**, won the NL West and earned the No. 2 seed. Atlanta advanced through the Wild Card round by beating Philadelphia in three games. Game 1 is Saturday afternoon at Dodger Stadium.

The Dodgers are trying to become the first team since the 1998-2000 Yankees to win three consecutive World Series. Atlanta is trying to interrupt another Los Angeles title run - something it has already done once.

FIVE SERIES BEHIND US. ROUND SIX STARTS NOW.



THE COMPLETE DODGERS OCTOBER

BROOKLYN: BEFORE 'NEXT YEAR'

1916 - Lost World Series 1-4 to Boston

The franchise's first modern World Series. Brooklyn ran into a Red Sox club featuring a young Babe Ruth, who threw 14 innings in Game 2.

THE NUMBER: Brooklyn's first postseason win came in Game 1.

1920 - Lost World Series 2-5 to Cleveland

A seven-game Series under the best-of-nine format. Cleveland's Bill Wambsganss turned the only unassisted triple play in World Series history; Elmer Smith hit the first World Series grand slam.

THE NUMBER: Brooklyn scored eight runs in seven games.

1941 - Lost World Series 1-4 to Yankees

The beginning of the great Dodgers-Yankees October trauma. With Brooklyn one strike from tying the Series in Game 4, catcher Mickey Owen failed to hold a third strike on Tommy Henrich. New York rallied and never gave the Series back.

THE NUMBER: Yankees won four straight after Brooklyn took Game 2.

1947 - Lost World Series 3-4 to Yankees

Jackie Robinson's rookie season ended in a seven-game World Series. Cookie Lavagetto broke up Bill Bevens' no-hit bid with a two-out, two-run double in the ninth of Game 4. The Yankees still won Game 7.

THE NUMBER: First World Series featuring an integrated roster.



BROOKLYN: THE WAIT CONTINUES

SO CLOSE, SO OFTEN

1949 - Lost World Series 1-4 to Yankees

Another pennant, another meeting with New York. Brooklyn won only Game 2, 1-0, behind Preacher Roe.

THE NUMBER: Four of the five games were decided by three runs or fewer.

1952 - Lost World Series 3-4 to Yankees

Brooklyn led the Series 3-2 before losing Games 6 and 7 at Ebbets Field. Billy Martin's running catch of Jackie Robinson's bases-loaded pop-up helped preserve Game 7.

THE NUMBER: Dodgers were one win from the title twice.

1953 - Lost World Series 2-4 to Yankees

The Boys of Summer won 105 games, the most in Brooklyn Dodgers history, but the Yankees won their fifth straight championship.

THE NUMBER: Brooklyn's .682 regular-season winning percentage remains iconic.

1955 - WON WORLD SERIES 4-3 over Yankees

THIS IS NEXT YEAR. Johnny Podres threw a Game 7 shutout at Yankee Stadium. Sandy Amorós made the running catch in left. After decades of waiting, Brooklyn finally beat the Yankees.

THE NUMBER: Podres: 2-0, two complete games, World Series MVP.

1956 - Lost World Series 3-4 to Yankees

The rematch went seven again. Don Larsen threw the only perfect game in World Series history in Game 5. New York won Game 7 at Ebbets Field.

THE NUMBER: Brooklyn's final postseason before the move west.



LOS ANGELES ARRIVES

KOUFAX, DRYSDALE AND THREE TITLES

1959 - WON WORLD SERIES 4-2 over White Sox

Only the club's second season in Los Angeles. The Dodgers first survived a pennant playoff against Milwaukee, then beat the 'Go-Go' White Sox. Games at the Coliseum drew enormous crowds.

THE NUMBER: First major professional sports championship for Los Angeles.

1963 - WON WORLD SERIES 4-0 over Yankees

A complete demolition of the old tormentor. Koufax struck out 15 in Game 1 and won twice; Drysdale threw a shutout in Game 3. The Dodgers swept New York.

THE NUMBER: Yankees scored four runs in the entire Series.

1965 - WON WORLD SERIES 4-3 over Twins

Koufax did not pitch Game 1 because it fell on Yom Kippur. He lost Game 2, then threw shutouts in Games 5 and 7 - the clincher on two days' rest.

THE NUMBER: Koufax: 24 innings, 0.38 ERA, 29 strikeouts.

1966 - Lost World Series 0-4 to Orioles

Baltimore swept Los Angeles behind brilliant pitching from Moe Drabowsky, Jim Palmer, Wally Bunker and Dave McNally. It became Koufax's final series before his shocking retirement.

THE NUMBER: Dodgers scored two runs in four games.



THE INFIELD

GARVEY. LOPES. RUSSELL. CEY.

1974 - Lost World Series 1-4 to Oakland

The Dodgers beat Pittsburgh in the NLCS but ran into the defending champion A's. All five World Series games were decided by one run.

THE NUMBER: Oakland won Games 2-5 by identical 3-2 scores except Game 3, 3-2 - a brutally tight Series.

1977 - Lost World Series 2-4 to Yankees

Los Angeles beat Philadelphia in a dramatic NLCS, then met New York. Reggie Jackson hit three home runs on three pitches in Game 6.

THE NUMBER: First Dodgers-Yankees World Series since 1963.

1978 - Lost World Series 2-4 to Yankees

The Dodgers beat Philadelphia again and won the first two World Series games. Then New York won four straight. Ron Cey, Reggie Smith and Steve Garvey powered L.A., but the rematch belonged to the Yankees.

THE NUMBER: Dodgers led the Series 2-0 before losing four straight.



THE EIGHTIES

FERNANDO, BLUE MONDAY, GIBSON

1981 - WON WORLD SERIES 4-2 over Yankees

The strike-season Dodgers survived Houston after falling behind 0-2 in the Division Series, then beat Montreal in the NLCS on Rick Monday's ninth-inning homer in Game 5 - 'Blue Monday.' In the World Series, L.A. lost the first two games in New York, then won four straight.

THE NUMBER: Cey, Guerrero and Yeager shared World Series MVP.

1983 - Lost NLCS 1-3 to Phillies

Philadelphia's 'Wheeze Kids' ended the season in four. The Dodgers' lone win came in Game 2 behind Fernando Valenzuela.

THE NUMBER: First postseason without Garvey after his departure.

1985 - Lost NLCS 2-4 to Cardinals

L.A. won the first two games. Ozzie Smith's first career left-handed homer walked off Game 5. Then Jack Clark's three-run homer off Tom Niedenfuer in the ninth of Game 6 ended it.

THE NUMBER: The Dodgers went from 2-0 up to four straight losses.

1988 - WON WORLD SERIES 4-1 over Oakland

The underdog masterpiece. Orel Hershiser carried the staff, L.A. survived the 100-win Mets in seven, and an injured Kirk Gibson hit the most famous homer in franchise history off Dennis Eckersley in World Series Game 1.

THE NUMBER: Hershiser: NLCS MVP and World Series MVP.



THE LONG GAP

1995-2006: OCTOBER WITHOUT A SERIES WIN

1995 - Lost NLDS 0-3 to Cincinnati

The Dodgers returned to October for the first time since 1988 and were swept by the Reds.

THE NUMBER: Three games, three losses.

1996 - Lost NLDS 0-3 to Atlanta

The first Dodgers-Braves postseason meeting. Smoltz and the Braves' rotation suffocated L.A.; Javy Lopez's 10th-inning Game 1 homer set the tone.

THE NUMBER: Atlanta outscored L.A. 10-5.

2004 - Lost NLDS 1-3 to St. Louis

The Dodgers finally won a postseason game for the first time since 1988 when José Lima threw a five-hit shutout in Game 3. Lima Time remains one of the great one-night cult memories.

THE NUMBER: First Dodgers postseason win in 16 years.

2006 - Lost NLDS 0-3 to Mets

Game 1 produced one of the strangest postseason baserunning disasters ever: Jeff Kent and J.D. Drew were both thrown out at home on the same play.

THE NUMBER: Two runners, one play, zero runs.



THE DOOR STARTS OPENING

2008-2015

2008 - Lost NLCS 1-4 to Phillies

Mannywood. The Dodgers swept the Cubs for their first postseason series victory since 1988. Then Philadelphia arrived. Game 4, eighth inning, Jonathan Broxton, and a pinch hitter whose name still causes involuntary eye twitching.

THE NUMBER: Matt... effin'.... Stairs.

2009 - Lost NLCS 1-4 to Phillies

The Dodgers swept St. Louis in the NLDS - helped by Matt Holliday's ninth-inning dropped fly in Game 2 - but Philadelphia ended the season in the NLCS for the second straight year.

THE NUMBER: Back-to-back NLCS appearances for the first time since 1977-78.

2013 - Lost NLCS 2-4 to Cardinals

Puig energy, Kershaw dominance, and Uribe's homer eliminated Atlanta in the NLDS. St. Louis then held L.A. to two runs across the first four NLCS games before the Dodgers briefly fought back.

THE NUMBER: First NLCS under the new ownership era.

2014 - Lost NLDS 1-3 to Cardinals

A 94-win team and MVP/Cy Young Kershaw ran into St. Louis again. Matt Carpenter repeatedly punished Kershaw, including a bases-clearing double in the Cardinals' eight-run seventh inning of Game 1.

THE NUMBER: Kershaw lost Games 1 and 4.

2015 - Lost NLDS 2-3 to Mets

Kershaw and Zack Greinke gave L.A. a terrifying top two, but New York won Game 5 at Dodger Stadium. The series also included Chase Utley's hard slide into Ruben Tejada in Game 2.

THE NUMBER: Daniel Murphy homered in Games 4 and 5.



THE MODERN MACHINE

2016-2019: SO CLOSE, OVER AND OVER

2016 - Lost NLCS 2-4 to Cubs

The Dodgers survived Washington in a frantic NLDS Game 5, with Clayton Kershaw recording the final two outs for the save. Chicago then beat L.A. in six and went on to end its 108-year championship drought.

THE NUMBER: Kershaw's first career save clinched the NLDS.

2017 - Lost World Series 3-4 to Houston

A 104-win juggernaut swept Arizona and beat the defending champion Cubs. The World Series went seven, including the wild 13-12 Game 5 in Houston. The Astros won Game 7 at Dodger Stadium. Subsequent investigations established Houston's illegal sign-stealing scheme during the 2017 season.

THE NUMBER: Dodgers won 104 regular-season games; World Series went seven.

2018 - Lost World Series 1-4 to Boston

L.A. beat Atlanta, then survived Milwaukee in seven. Boston's 108-win club proved too much in the World Series, though Max Muncy's 18th-inning walk-off homer won the longest World Series game ever by innings.

THE NUMBER: Game 3 lasted 18 innings and 7:20.

2019 - Lost NLDS 2-3 to Washington

The Dodgers won a franchise-record 106 games. In Game 5, Washington tied Clayton Kershaw on back-to-back homers, then Howie Kendrick hit a 10th-inning grand slam. The Nationals went on to win the World Series.

THE NUMBER: 106 wins; eliminated in five.



THE BREAKTHROUGH - AND THE WHIPLASH

2020-2023

2020 - WON WORLD SERIES 4-2 over Tampa Bay

Neutral sites, empty seats, a 60-game season - and finally another title. The Dodgers swept Milwaukee and San Diego, came back from 3-1 against Atlanta, then beat Tampa Bay in six.

THE NUMBER: Corey Seager won both NLCS and World Series MVP.

2021 - Lost NLCS 2-4 to Atlanta

The 106-win Dodgers had to play the Wild Card Game because San Francisco won 107. Chris Taylor walked off St. Louis, L.A. beat the Giants in five, then Atlanta took revenge.

THE NUMBER: Taylor: walk-off HR in Wild Card Game; three HR in NLCS Game 5.

2022 - Lost NLDS 1-3 to San Diego

The greatest regular season in franchise history ended almost immediately. The 111-win Dodgers won Game 1, then lost three straight to the Padres.

THE NUMBER: 111 wins - franchise record.

2023 - Lost NLDS 0-3 to Arizona

Another 100-win season, another abrupt NLDS. Arizona jumped on the Dodgers immediately and never let the series breathe.

THE NUMBER: Dodgers starters recorded only 14 outs in the entire three-game series.



BACK-TO-BACK

2024-2026: THE NEW TITLE ERA

2024 - WON WORLD SERIES 4-1 over Yankees

The Dodgers survived a five-game NLDS against San Diego, beat the Mets in six, then renewed the old Brooklyn/Los Angeles rivalry with the Yankees. Freddie Freeman's walk-off grand slam ended World Series Game 1; L.A. finished the Series in five.

THE NUMBER: Freeman homered in the first four games and won World Series MVP.

2025 - WON WORLD SERIES 4-3 over Toronto

The repeat was even harder. L.A. swept Cincinnati, beat Philadelphia in four, swept Milwaukee, then survived Toronto in a seven-game World Series that included Freeman's 18th-inning Game 3 walk-off and a Game 7 that went 11 innings.

THE NUMBER: Yoshinobu Yamamoto won World Series MVP; Dodgers went 13-4 in October.

2026 - NLDS vs. Atlanta begins Oct. 3

The Dodgers finished 100-62, won another NL West title and earned a first-round bye. They enter October seeking a third consecutive championship.

THE NUMBER: A three-peat would be MLB's first since the 1998-2000 Yankees.



THE NINE

DODGERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

YEAR	OPPONENT	THE MOMENT
1955 Brooklyn	Yankees, 4-3	Podres. Amorós. Finally.
1959 Los Angeles	White Sox, 4-2	Title in Year Two in California.
1963 Los Angeles	Yankees, 4-0	Koufax and Drysdale sweep New York.
1965 Los Angeles	Twins, 4-3	Koufax, Game 7, two days' rest.
1981 Los Angeles	Yankees, 4-2	Lose first two, win next four.
1988 Los Angeles	Athletics, 4-1	Gibson. Hershiser. Impossible.
2020 Los Angeles	Rays, 4-2	The 32-year wait ends.
2024 Los Angeles	Yankees, 4-1	Freeman's grand slam starts it.
2025 Los Angeles	Blue Jays, 4-3	Back-to-back; Yamamoto finishes Game 7.

THE BIG PICTURE

153-156 all-time postseason record through the 2025 World Series. **40** postseason appearances including 2026. **27** National League pennants. **9** World championships.

The record looks almost impossibly ordinary for a franchise with this much October history. That's because the Dodgers spent decades collecting World Series heartbreak before the modern multi-round postseason existed. The story is not dominance from beginning to end. It is persistence.



THE RAVINE READER MEMORY BANK

TWELVE THINGS EVERY DODGER OCTOBER SHOULD REMEMBER

1. Mickey Owen's dropped third strike, 1941.
2. Cookie Lavagetto breaking up Bill Bevens' no-hitter, 1947.
3. Johnny Podres and Sandy Amorós, 1955.
4. Koufax on two days' rest, 1965.
5. Rick Monday in Montreal: Blue Monday, 1981.
6. Jack Clark off Niedenfuer, 1985.
7. Gibson pumping his fist around second, 1988.
8. Matt... effin'.... Stairs, 2008.
9. Juan Uribe failing to bunt and then becoming immortal, 2013.
10. The 3-1 comeback against Atlanta, 2020.
11. Freddie Freeman's walk-off grand slam, 2024.
12. Yamamoto finishing an 11-inning Game 7 on zero days' rest, 2025.

READER TRIVIA

- Q1: Which Dodgers pitcher won World Series MVP in 1955?
Q2: Who hit the pennant-winning homer on 'Blue Monday' in 1981?
Q3: Which Dodger won both NLCS and World Series MVP in 2020?
Q4: Which opponent has faced the Dodgers most often in the World Series?
Q5: Who hit the 2013 NLDS-clinching homer against Atlanta?

Answers: Johnny Podres; Rick Monday; Corey Seager; New York Yankees; Juan Uribe.



ROUND SIX

NOW WE PLAY.

The history is enormous because the Dodgers have been doing this for a very long time. Brooklyn heartbreak. Koufax. Garvey and Cey. Fernando. Gibson. Thirty-two years of waiting. Kershaw. The Houston scar. The bubble title. Freeman. Ohtani. Back-to-back championships.

Atlanta has its own place in that story. The Braves swept the Dodgers in 1996. Uribe sent them home in 2013. L.A. beat them again in 2018. The Dodgers climbed out of a 3-1 hole in 2020. Atlanta answered in 2021.

And now the ledger gets another line.

GAME 1

ATLANTA BRAVES at LOS ANGELES DODGERS

Saturday, October 3, 2026

1:00 PM PT | Dodger Stadium | FOX

READER MISSION

Clear the schedule. Iron the jersey. Find the scorecard. Remember all the things that went wrong before, because that is half the fun of caring when something finally goes right.

October does not care about 100 wins. It does not care about the bye. It does not care about the last two trophies.

It starts at 0-0.

SOURCE NOTES

Historical series outcomes: MLB Dodgers Postseason Results and MLB Postseason History. Franchise totals and all-time postseason record: Baseball-Reference / Stathead. 2026 schedule: MLB postseason schedule. Dodgers-Braves historical moments: MLB's Dodgers-Braves postseason history. 2025 championship details: MLB 2025 Postseason History.

All records in this primer are through the end of the 2025 postseason unless otherwise noted. 2026 postseason results begin with the NLDS.