

BASEBALL HISTORY

by
Terry Cullen



Member, Society For American Baseball Research

World Series Facts

In the history of the World Series, only 10 teams have taken the field with no players with World Series experience. Obviously this happened several times early on – six times in the first four years of World Series play. The most recent, of course, was the 2003 Anaheim Angels. You have to go all the way back to the 1912 Boston Red Sox to find the last victorious World Series team with no World Series experienced players. That year the Bostonians streaked to 105 wins, then an American League record, in their gleaming new ball park.

No Players With World Series Experience

1903	Boston Pilgrims (W)	1907	Detroit Tigers (L)
	Pittsburgh Pirates (L)	1912	Boston Red Sox (W)
1905	New York Giants (W)	1944	St. Louis Browns (L)
	Philadelphia A's (L)	1961	Cincinnati Reds (L)
1906	Chicago Cubs (L)	2002	Anaheim Angels (W)

In addition, the 2002 series featured the San Francisco Giants, who had only five players with previous Worlds Series experience. Having five players or fewer totals on both teams has only happened six times, including the first three years of championship play.

1903	Boston Pilgrims (0) vs. Pittsburgh Pirates (0) = (0)
1905	New York Giants (0) vs. Philadelphia A's (0) = (0)
1906	Chicago White Sox (1) vs. Chicago Cubs (0) = 1
1980	Philadelphia Phillies (3) vs. Kansas City Royals (1) = 4
1986	New York Mets (2) vs. Boston Red Sox (1) = 3
2002	Anaheim Angels (0) vs. San Francisco Giants (5) = 5

On the other side of the coin, the only franchise to ever field a team where all the actual participants had previous World Series experience was the 1908 champion Chicago Cubs. This was their third World Series appearance in a row; all thirteen players used had already seen World Series action. Two other squads fell short by just one player – the 1935 Detroit Tigers (14 of 15) and the Cincinnati Reds (15 of 16). Both of these teams won their respective series.

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New Orleanians in the World Series

1914	Larry Gilbert	Boston Braves	(W)
1924	Joe Martina	Washington Senators	(W)
1933 , 1936, 1937	Mel Ott	New York Giants	(W,L,L)
1939	Nino Bongiovanni	Cincinnati Reds	(L)
1942	Howie Pollet	St. Louis Cardinals	(W)
1943	Lou Klein	St. Louis Cardinals	(L)
1944	Al Jurisich	St. Louis Cardinals	(W)
	Jack Kramer	St. Louis Browns	(L)
1948	Connie Ryan	Boston Braves	(L)
1950	Putsy Caballero	Philadelphia Phillies	(L)
1954	George Strickland	Cleveland Indians	(L)
1973	Rusty Staub	New York Mets	(L)
1989	Will Clark	San Francisco Giants	(L)
	Greg Litton	San Francisco Giants	(L)
1999	Gerald Washington	New York Yankees	(W)

In the 7th inning of Game Three in 1944, native New Orleanians Jurisich and Kramer faced off against each other. Jurisich did not fare well in his 2/3 of an inning pitched, while Kramer produced a complete game victory for the Brownies. Jurisich, however, got the last laugh as his Cardinals triumphed in a 6-game series.

In the 1933 World Series, Mel Ott led both teams in homers (2), tied for the RBI lead (4), and had the highest BA (.389) among all regulars.

In 1973, in a losing effort, Rusty Staub had the most hits (11), tied for the RBI lead (6), and bettered all the regulars of both teams by at least 90 points in BA (.423).

Other World Series Info

Outfielder Patsy Dougherty became the first repeat performer, as well as victor, as a member of the 1903 Boston Pilgrims and the 1906 Chicago White Sox. He finished a solid 10-year career in 1911 with a lifetime .284 batting average.

The 1968 St. Louis Cardinals had the most players with World Series experience (22). They blew a 3 – 1 series lead, losing to the Detroit Tigers led by Mickey Lolich.

1978 was a series where the two opponents, the New York Yankees and the Los Angeles Dodgers, fielded the most players with World Series experience (38).

Babe Adams appeared in 1909 as a rookie pitcher for the Pirates, recording complete game victories in Games One, Five, and Seven. He next takes the

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mound in World Series play as a 43-year old veteran in 1925 appearing in one inning of relief. This is the longest stretch between World Series appearances.

Willie Marp holds the distinction of participating in the World Series over the longest period of time – 23 years: 1951 (rookie year), 1954, 1962, and 1973 (final season).

Clyde McCulloch did not play in the regular 1945 season for the Cubs because of World War II, but pinch-hit in the World Series for his only World Series appearance ever.

2,248 different men – approximately 15% of all major leaguers – have partaken in the Fall Classic.

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