

2016 Chicago Cubs

manager: Joe Maddon

Standings:

Eastern Division

Washington	95-67
NY Mets	87-75
Miami	79-82
Philadelphia	71-91
Atlanta	68-93

Central Division

Chicago	103-59
St. Louis	86-76
Pittsburgh	78-83
Milwaukee	73-89
Cincinnati	68-94

Western Division

Los Angeles	91-71
San Francisco	87-75
Colorado	75-87
Arizona	69-93
San Diego	68-94

ERA: Cubs	3.15	
BA: Colorado	.275	Cubs
FA: San Francisco	.988	Cubs .983 (3 rd)

Home: 57-24

Best: Chicago

57-24

Worst: Atlanta

31-50

Away: 46-35

Best: St. Louis

48-33

Worst: San Diego

29-52

FA: .983 (8th). **Gold Gloves** to OF Jason Heyward (his 4th & 1st with Cubs) and 1B Anthony Rizzo (his 1st).

Best: 4-0 vs. LA Angels, 3-0 vs. Oakland, 5-1 vs. Philadelphia, 15-4 vs. Cincinnati, 14-4 vs. Pittsburgh, 5-2 vs. Washington & Arizona, 4-2 vs. San Diego; 2-1 vs. Texas, Seattle, and Houston

Worst: 2-5 vs. NY Mets, 2-4 vs. Colorado

Top Pitchers

	IP	Record	Shutouts	Saves	ERA	
Jon Lester	202	19- 5			2.44	2 nd in Wins and ERA
Jake Arrieta	197	18- 8	1		3.10	3 rd in Wins
Kyle Hendricks	190	16- 8	1		2.13	1 st in ERA
John Lackey	188	11- 8			3.35	
Jason Hamel	166	15-10			3.83	
Trevor Cahill	65	4- 4			2.74	
Travis Wood	61	4- 0			2.95	
Justin Grimm	52	2- 1			4.10	
Hector Rondon	51	2- 3		18	3.53	
Pedro Strop	47	2- 2			2.85	
Mike Montgomery	38	1- 1			2.82	
Carl Edwards	36	0- 1		2	3.75	
Aroldis Chapman	26	1- 1		16	1.01	

Staff: 1st in ERA, fewest runs (556) and hits allowed, T1st in shutouts (15), and 3rd in strikeouts

Lester: chosen *Baseball Digest's* Pitcher of the Year

Cubs won 23 straight regular season games when Arrieta started.

Top Hitters

	AB	Runs	Hits	HR	RBI	BA	EBH	SB	
Anthony Rizzo	583	94	170	32	109	.292	79	3	2 nd in RBIs, 3 rd in EBH
Kris Bryant	603	121	176	39	102	.292	77	8	1 st in Runs, 3 rd in HRs
Dexter Fowler	456	84	126	13	48	.276	45	13	
Javier Baez	421	50	115	14	59	.273	34	12	
Ben Zobrist	523	94	142	18	76	.272	52	6	
Addison Russell	525	67	125	21	95	.238	49	5	
Jason Heyward	530	61	122	7	49	.230	35	11	
Willson Contreras	252	33	71	12	35	.282	27	2	
Albert Almora	112	14	31	3	14	.277	13		
Tommy La Stella	148	17	40	2	11	.270	15		
Matt Szczur	185	30	48	5	24	.259	15	2	
Chris Coghlan	103	21	26	1	16	.252	10	1	
David Ross	166	24	38	10	32	.239	16		
Jorge Soler	227	37	54	12	31	.238	21		
Miguel Montero	241	33	52	8	33	.216	17	1	

Cubs: 2nd in Runs (808; Colorado: 845); 4th in 2Bs, 5th in HRs (199) and 6th in BA

Both **Kris Bryant** and **Anthony Rizzo** were chosen *Baseball Digest's* NL Players of the Year

Pitchers who could hit: Jake Arrieta (.262, 2 HRs) and Jason Hammel (.246)

Add: P **John Lackey** (St L), IF **Ben Zobrist** (KC), OF **Justin Heyward** (St L): \$184M/8 years.

P Adam Warren & IF Brendan Ryan from NY Yankees for IF **Starlin Castro**; OF Chris Coghlan to Oakland for P Aaron Brooks.

RP Joel Peralta (0-1, ERA), P **Mike Montgomery** from Seattle for Dan Vogelbach; RP **Joe Smith** (LA Angels)

RP **Joe Nathan** (career 62-34, 377 Saves) last pitched for Detroit in 2015 then underwent Tommy John surgery.

Cubs released Nathan and Peralta and later traded Arismendy Alcantara to Oakland for Coghlan.

P Warren (3-2, 35 IP, 5.91)) and 3 minor leaguers to NY Yankees for RP **Aroldis Chapman**.

March: Chapman served a 30G suspension for domestic violence.

Gone: RPs Tommy Hunter, Jason Motte, and Fernando Rodney; OFs Chris Denorfia, and Austin Jackson
Baltimore showed interested in OF Dexter Fowler, who ended up re-signing with Cubs.

Rookies: OF Albert Almora, IF/OF Willson Contreras, RP Gerardo Concepcion, IF Jeimer Candelario, RP Felix Pena,
and RP Rob Zastryzny Draft: P Tom Hatch (OK State, 3rd round)

Injuries: Schwarber (knee), Montero, Soler, Fowler, Strop, Lackey, and Rondon. Schwarber later returned to play in the Series.
Fowler's injury proved to be significant. Club was 80-38 with him in the lineup.

Club:

- **WSCR** (670-AM) now carried Cubs games on radio.
Sports Illustrated picked Cubs to win their division and win NL pennant but lose to the Houston Astros in the World Series.
Cubs' new, spacious **clubhouse** is 2nd largest in ML (1st: NY Yankees).
Attendance: 3,232,420
- **Magical season:**
May 8th: Cubs (24-6) best start since 1907. Cubs and White Sox (22-9) held the best records in their respective leagues.
May 29th: First time since 1995 Cubs swept 3G series vs. Phillies at Wrigley.
Cubs won 11 straight in August.
Club's 57 wins at home was a new club record. Cubs won 56 home games in both 1933 and (pennant-winning) 1935 season.
- **Tommy La Stella** stalled reporting to the minor leagues after Chris Coghlan returned from the DL.
La Stella eventually reported and returned to the club during the September call-up.
- Late September: Cubs extended Theo Epstein's contract 5 more years.

4/7: OF **Kyle Schwarber** suffered season-ending injury after he collided with Dexter Fowler.

4/21: **Jake Arrieta's** stats after his 2nd no-hitter with Cubs: 31 IP, 3 ER.

6/5: Jake's 1st **loss** since July 25th, 2015. Arrieta: 12 strikeouts in 5 IP. Cub pitchers struck out 18 D'Backs in the loss.

6/27: Bryant became 1st **ML player** to hit 3 HRs and 2 doubles in 1 game. His 16 total bases are a **club record**.

7/3: NY Mets **swept 4G series**, out-scoring the Cubs 32-11.

9/4: San Francisco Giants totaled only 14 hits in 4G series (40 innings). Cubs won 3 of the 4 games.

Season:

4/4: **Beat LA Angels** 9-0 (Arrieta 7IP, 2H). Montero (HR) and Szczur (2B) each drove in 3. Fowler (3-4) scored 3 times.

4/7: **Beat Arizona** 14-6 (Lackey). Rizzo (3B/HR) drove in 6; Russell (2B) and Fowler (3B) each drove in 2. Bryant 3-6.

4/10: **Beat Arizona** 7-3 (Arrieta). Arrieta hit 2-run HR in the 2nd; Soler hit solo in the 6th. La Stella: 3-4/RBI; Montero 2-3/RBI.

4/11: **Beat Cincinnati** 5-3 (Warren/Rondon for Lester) on Russell's 3-run HR in the 8th. Heyward singled in 2 runs in the 7th.

4/17: **Lost to Colorado** 2-0 (Lester) on two Nolan Arenado HRs. Lester had 1 of the Cubs' 3 hits.

4/18: **Beat St. Louis** 5-0 (Lackey). Fowler homered; Lackey and Bryant each singled in a run.

4/21: **Beat Cincinnati** 16-0 (Arrieta no-hitter). Arrieta: 6Ks, 4 walks, 119 pitches. Hitting stars: Bryant (4-6/2 HR & 6 RBIs),
Zobrist (3-5/2B & HR), Ross (2-4/HR) and Rizzo (3-run HR).

4/24: **Beat Cincinnati** 9-0 (Hammel). Rizzo hit (2) 2-run HRs; La Stella (3-5) hit a solo HR; Heyward (4-5) drove in 3 runs.
P **Jake Arrieta** NL Pitcher of the Week (2-0, 0.00 ERA).

4/28: **Beat Milwaukee** 7-2 (Arrieta). Ross homered, Zobrist singled in 2. Arrieta allowed 1st run at Wrigley since July '15.
P **Jack Arrieta** NL Pitcher of the Month (5-0, 1.00 ERA)

5/4: **Beat Pittsburgh** 6-2 (Lester). Zobrist hit 3-run HR in the 3rd; Rizzo (3-5) hit solo shot in 7th. Baez: 3-5/2 RBIs.

5/8: **Beat Washington** 4-3 in 13 (Wood for Arrieta) on Javier Baez's HR. Kris Bryant (3-6) hit 2-run 1B in the 7th.
Cubs pitchers walked Washington OF **Bryce Harper** 13 times during the 4-game series.

IF Ben Zobrist and Mets P Bartolo Colon co-NL Players of the Week.

5/11: **Lost DH to San Diego. G1:** Lost 7-4 (Strop for Hendricks). Cubs led 4-2 after 6. **G2:** Lost 1-0 (Lackey).

5/15: **Lost to Pittsburgh and Gerrit Cole** 2-1 (Lester). Lester no-hit the Bucks through 6. Cubs were out-hit 5-4.

5/18: **Beat Milwaukee** 2-1 in 13 (Wood/Richard for Lackey) on bases-loaded walk to Wood. Zobrist: 3-5.

5/22: **Lost to San Francisco and Madison Bumgarner** 1-0 (Hendricks). No score after 4 innings. Cubs were out-hit 4-3.

5/24: **Beat St. Louis** 12-3 (Hammel). Ross and Hammel hit 2-run doubles in Cubs' 6 run 1st. Soler (2-3/3 RBIs) homered.

5/28: **Beat Philadelphia** 4-1 (Hendricks, CG 5-hitter). Fowler homered. Heyward (2 2Bs) and Zobrist each went 2-4/RBI.

- 6/1: **Beat LA Dodgers** 2-1 (Lester CG 4-hitter, 10Ks). Bryant hit 2-run HR in the 3rd. Cubs were out-hit 4-3.
- 6/5: **Lost to Arizona** 3-2 (Arrieta: 5 IP, 12 Ks). Arrieta's 1st loss since July 2016. Arrieta doubled in a run; Baez homered.
- 6/8: **Beat Philadelphia** 8-1 (Lackey: 7IP, 0 ER, 8Ks). Bryant (2-5) and Zobrist (2-4) homered; Baez 4-4/2B & 3 RBIs.
- 6/12: **Beat Atlanta** 13-2 (Lester). Cubs' last game at Turner Field. Rizzo (3-6) and Baez (2-5/HR) each drove in 3.
- 6/13: **Lost to Washington and Matt Scherzer** 4-1 (Hendricks). Scherzer struck out 9 of the 1st 10 Cubs he faced.
- 6/19: **Beat Pittsburgh** 10-5 (Hendricks 6 IP, 12Ks). Baez, Bryant, Rizzo, Russell, and Contreras (1st ML AB) all homered.
- 6/22: **Lost to St. Louis** 7-2 (Arrieta). No score after 4. Cards limited Cubs to 3 hits, including Contreras' 7th inning 2-run HR.
- 6/27: **Beat Cincinnati** 11-8 (Arrieta). Kris Bryant's big day: 5-5/3 HRs, 2 2Bs and 6 RBIs. Rizzo and Arrieta also homered.
- 6/28: **Beat Cincinnati** 7-2 in 15 (Patton for Lester). Cubs led 2-0 after 7. Zobrist homered. Baez hit grand slam in final frame. Maddon used 8 pitchers, and utilized relief pitchers Wood, Strop, and Spencer Patton in left field.
- P Jon Lester NL Pitcher of the Month (4-0, 1.41 ERA)**
- 7/1: **Lost to NY Mets** 10-2 (Hammel: 4IP, 9 Hits, 5 HRs allowed). Bryant homered in the 4th. Mets swept 4G series.
- 7/4: **Beat Cincinnati** 10-4 (Hendricks). Bryant & Russell each hit a 2-run HR; Contreras hit solo HR. Heyward hit 2-run 2B.
- 7/10: **Beat Pittsburgh** 6-5 (Strop/Rondon for Lackey) on Bryant's RBI 1B in the 8th. Almora (2-4) hit 2-run HR; Rizzo: 4-5.
- 7/15: **Beat Texas** 6-0 (Hendricks). Baez (2-4) singled in 1 run; Szczur and Russell (2-4) drove in 2 runs with singles.
- 7/18: **Beat NY Mets** 5-1 (Lester). Rizzo hit 3-run HR in 3rd. Ross added sac fly and Almora singled in a run. Szczur: 3-4/2 2Bs.
- 7/20: **Beat NY Mets** 6-2 (Hendricks). Rizzo (3 RBIs) homered twice, Russell (3-3) hit 2-run 2B. Cubs out-hit Mets 11-9.
- 7/22: **Beat Milwaukee** 5-2 (Hammel). Fowler (3-4) homered in the 1st and hit 2-run 2B in the 2nd.
- 7/27: **Beat White Sox** 8-1 (Hammel). Bryant's solo HR in 6th tied game; Baez hit 2-run HR and Russell grand slam in 7th inning.
- 7/31: **Beat Seattle 7-6** in 12 (Rondon for Matusz) on Lester's suicide squeeze scoring Heyward. Mariners led 6-2 after 6. Zobrist (3-5) and Russell each drove in 2. Matusz allowed (3) 2-run HRs – one each in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.
- 8/1: **Beat Miami** 5-0 (Hendricks CG 7-hitter). Russell singled in 2; Hendricks singled in another. Rizzo: 3-3/2B, 3B. 2 Runs.
- 8/3: **Beat Miami** 5-4 (Grimm for Lackey) on wild pitch with bases loaded. Cubs were behind 4-1 in 8th. Contreras RBI 1B.
- 8/6: **Beat Oakland** 4-0 (Arrieta: 8IP, 3 hits). Zobrist (2-5) singled in 2; Russell (2-4) and Soler each drove in a run.
- 8/10: **Beat LA Angels** 3-1 (Hammel/Chapman). Rizzo singled in 1 run, Fowler doubled in another. Russell homered in 8th.
- 8/13: **Beat St. Louis** 13-2 (Arrieta). Cubs clubbed 5 HRs: Szczur (2), Contreras, Soler, and Baez. Bryant: 3-5/2 2Bs.
- 8/16: **Swept DH vs Milwaukee. G1:** Won 4-0 (Cahill/Chapman). Russell and Coghlan hit sac flies; Cahill added suicide bunt.
G2: Won 4-1 (Hammel/Chapman). RBI singles by Bryant and Contreras. Baez (2-4) hit 2-run HR.
- 8/20: **Beat Colorado** 9-2 (Cahill for Montgomery). Zobrist (3-5/2 RBIs) and Bryant (4 RBIs) homered. Montero: 3-5/3 RBIs.
- 8/26: **Beat LA Dodgers** 6-4 in 10 (Wood/Chapman for Montgomery) on Bryant's 2nd HR. Russell & Rizzo each singled in a run. Cubs tied game in 9th when Heyward (2-5/2B) scored on wild pitch.
- 8/29: **Beat Pittsburgh** 8-7 in 13 (Zastryzny for Arrieta) on Montero's RBI 1B. Bucs led 6-3 after 7. Contreras hit 2-run HR in 8th. Soler's HR in 9th tied game at 6. Baez (4-6) was called out at home in 9th. Play required review.
- IF/OF Kris Bryant NL Player of Month (.383, 10/22) P Kyle Hendricks NL Pitcher of Month (4-0, 1.28 ERA)**
- 9/2: **Beat San Francisco** 2-1 (Lester CG 3H). Lester lost no-hit bid in 7th inning. Ross (2B) and Fowler each drove in a run.
- 9/5: **Beat Milwaukee** 7-2 (Hendricks). Brewers led 1-0 after 5. Soler & Baez each drove in a run; Coghlan (2-2) drove in 3.
- 9/11: **Beat Houston** 9-5 (Arrieta). Cubs led 9-1 after 5. Soler homered; Russell (3-4/HR) and Almora each drove in 2.
- 9/12: **Beat St. Louis** 4-1 (Hendricks/Chapman). Hendricks lost no-hit bid in 9th. Zobrist (solo) and Soler (2-run) homered.
- 9/15: **Lost to Milwaukee** 5-4 (Grimm for Montgomery). Soler hit 2nd inning 2-run HR. *Despite loss, Cubs clinched Division.*
- 9/19: **Beat Cincinnati** 5-2 (Hammel/Chapman). Reds led 2-0 after 6. Russell, Contreras, and Heyward (2 run) each hit a HR.
- 9/26: **Beat Pittsburgh** 12-2 (Hendricks: 6 IP, 7Ks). Cubs' 100th win. Baez (6 RBIs) hit grand slam; Bryant added a 2-run HR. Almora: 3-5/2B & 2 RBIs, Coghlan and Rizzo each had 2 hits.
- 9/29: **Tied Pittsburgh** 1-1 (Zastryzny). Game was called because rain. Cubs run came in on a Federowicz' sacrifice fly.
- 9/30: **Beat Cincinnati** 7-3 (Buchanon: 5IP, 2 hits 0 ER). Zobrist: 3-4/2 HRs & 2B. Rizzo added a 2 run 1B in the 8th.
- 10/2: **Beat Cincinnati** 7-4 (Grimm/Edwards for Hendricks). Reds led 3-0 after 1. Contreras: 2-4/HR & 2 RBIs. Cubs took lead in 9th on Szczur's 2-out, 2-run 2B; Montero followed with 2-run HR.

All Star Game: NL lost to the AL 4-2. All 4 members of the Cubs' infield started. Zobrist (0-2), Bryant (1-2/HR), Rizzo (1-2) & Russell (0-2). Arrieta and Fowler (injured) DNP; Lester: 2/3 IP, 0 ER.

Playoffs:

Cubs won the season series vs. **San Francisco**, 4 games to 3. Manager Bruce Bochy's club included Ps Madison Bumgarner, Johnny Cueto, C Buster Posey, SS Brandon Crawford, 1B Brandon Belt, OFs Hunter Pence, and former Cub Angel Pagan (2006-07). Giants led the majors in fielding (.988).

10/7:	At home	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
	San Francisco	0	6	0	Johnny Cueto
	Chicago	1	3	0	Lester/Chapman

No score until Baez (2-3) homered in the 8th. Duel was between Lester (8 IP, 5 Ks) and Cueto (8 IP, 10Ks). Posey (2B) collected 2 of the Giants' 6 hits.

10/8:	At home	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
	San Francisco	2	6	1	Jeff Samardzija
	Chicago	5	9	3	Wood/Chapman for Hendricks

Cubs scored in the 1st on Zobrist's RBI 1B and 3 more in the 2nd on a 2-run 1B by Hendricks and an RBI 1B by Bryant. Hendricks suffered an arm injury in the 4th and was replaced by Travis Wood, the 1st of 5 Cub relief pitchers. Wood pitched perfect ball for 1.1 innings and added a HR in the 5th. Giants scored their runs in the 3rd on a pinch RBI 2B by Gregor Blanco and a sac fly by Brandon Belt. The 5 relievers pitched 5.1 innings, allowed 2 hits and no walks. Contreras had 2 of the Cubs' 9 hits, both singles.

10/10:	Away 13 innings	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
	Chicago	5	10	2	Montgomery for Arrieta
	San Francisco	6	13	1	Ty Blach for Bumgarner

Winning run scored on Joe Panik's long RBI 1B, scoring Brandon Belt. Cubs struck early on Arrieta's 3-run HR in the 2nd. Giants countered with single runs in the 3rd and 5th and took the lead with 3 more in the 8th off RPs Wood (single), Rondon (walk) and Chapman (2 hits, 3 runs allowed); the big blow was a 2-run 3B by Connor Gillaspie and RBI 2B by Brandon Crawford. Kris Bryant (3-5) 2-run HR in the 9th tied the game at 5. Montgomery (4 IP, 1 ER) was the Cubs' 7th pitcher. Cubs were led by Bryant and Baez (2-5); Buster Posey and Joe Panik each had 3 hits for San Francisco.

10/11:	Away	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
	Chicago	6	6	0	Chapman/Rondon for Lackey
	San Francisco	5	11	2	Will Smith for Matt Moore

Matt Moore kept Cubs at bay (8IP, 2 hits, 2 Runs, 10Ks, 120 pitches). Giants led 5-2 after 8; Ross accounted for both Cubs runs on a HR and sacrifice fly. Kris Bryant started the Cubs' 4-run, 9th inning rally with a 1B, Rizzo followed with a walk, Zobrist hit a RBI 2B, Contreras then hit a pinch 2-run 1B that tied the game at 5, and after Heyward reached 2nd on a fielder's choice and error, Baez singled him in with the lead run. San Francisco used 5 relief pitchers in the final frame. Connor Gillaspie went 4-4 for the Giants.

Cubs	AB	Runs	Hits	BA	San Francisco	AB	Runs	Hits	BA
Contreras	6	1	4	.667	Panik	10	2	6	.600
Baez	16	4	6	.375	Gillaspie	15	2	6	.400
Bryant	16	4	6	.375	Posey	15	1	5	.333
Zobrist	16	1	3	.188	Span	15	3	4	.267
Fowler	15	2	2	.133	Crawford	17	2	4	.235
Heyward	12	2	1	.083	Pence	18	1	4	.222
Rizzo	15	1	1	.067	Belt	15	1	2	.133
Russell	15	1	1	.067					
				.200					.252

Pitchers Wood (1-1) and Arrieta (1-3/3 RBI) homered

Cubs	IP	Record	ERA	San Francisco	IP	Record	ERA
Lester	8.0	1-0	0.00	Cueto	8.0	0-1	1.13
Arrieta	6.0	0-0	3.00	Moore	8.0	0-0	1.13
Montgomery	5.1	0-1	1.69	Bumgarner	5.1	0-0	5.40
Lackey	4.0	0-0	6.75	Blach	3.1	1-0	0.00
Hendricks	3.2	0-0	4.91	Strickland	2.2	0-0	0.00
Chapman	3.1	0-0	2.70	Samardzija	2.0	0-1	18.00
Wood	3.1	1-0	2.70	Smith	1.1	0-1	0.00
Rondon	1.2	1-0	5.40				
Club			3.00				3.55

NLCS: Cubs faced an **LA Dodgers** team that included MVP and 3X Cy Young winner P Clayton Kershaw, Rookie of the Year SS Corey Seager, 2B Chase Utley, 3B Justin Turner, 1B Adrien Gonzalez, C Yasmani Grandal, former Cubs P Rich Hill, OFs Yasiel Puig & Joc Peterson, RP Kenley Jansen, and rookie P Julio Urias. Cubs won the season series, 4-3.

10/15:	At home	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
	Los Angeles	4	9	0	Joe Blanton for Kenta Maeda
	Chicago	8	9	0	Chapman for Lester

Cubs led 3-1 into 8th on an RBI 2B by Bryant (2-4), scoring Fowler (2-5), RBI 2B by Baez (2-4), scoring Heyward (3B), and Baez's steal of home on an attempted squeeze bunt. LA's Andre Ethier hit pinch HR in the 5th and Gonzalez tied game in 8th on a 2-run 1B off Contreras. Cubs put game away in 8th on Montero's 2-out, 2-strike, pinch grand slam off Blanton; Fowler followed with a solo HR. Great fielding aided Lester & Cubs. Dodgers were led by Gonzalez (2-4) and Toles (2-2/2B). Note: Baez's steal of home was Cubs 1st since Jimmy Slagle, G4 of 1907 World Series vs. Detroit.

10/16: At home	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
LA Dodgers	1	3	0	Clayton Kershaw/Kenley Jansen
Chicago	0	2	0	Hendricks

LA's Adrian Gonzalez homered in the 2nd. Kershaw (7 IP, 6 Ks) allowed 2 hits – singles by Baez and Contreras.

10/18: Away	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
Chicago	0	4	0	Arrieta
LA Dodgers	6	10	0	Rich Hill

Dodgers scored 4 runs off Arrieta (2 HRs, 6 hits) in 5+ innings and scored 2 more off Montgomery in the 8th. Bryant had 2 of the Cubs' 4 hits; Fowler (2B) and Rizzo had the others. Dodgers were led by P Rich Hill (6 IP, 2H), Grandal (HR, 3 RBIs), Turner (HR), and Corey Seager (3-4).

10/19: Away	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
Chicago	10	12	2	Montgomery for Lackey
Los Angeles	2	6	4	Julio Urias

Cubs tied Series at 2/each and provided redemption for 2 starters: Anthony Rizzo was 2-26 going into the game; Addison Russell 1-24. Cubs broke a scoreless tie in the 4th scoring runs on a Contreras RBI 1B, Heyward fielder's choice, and a 2-run HR by Russell (3-5). One inning later, Rizzo (3-5/3 RBIs) ended his slump with a 5th inning HR. Dodgers scored 2 in their half of the 5th on Gonzalez' 1B. Cubs and Rizzo (2-run 1B) put the game away with 5 runs in the 6th, aided by 2 LA errors. Maddon relieved Lackey after the latter walked the first 2 batters in the 5th. Montgomery pitched 2 innings for the win. Cubs bullpen totaled 5 innings pitched, 3 hits, 2 walks, and 5 Ks. Fowler (2B) and Zobrist each went 2-5. All 6 Dodgers hits were singles.

10/20: Away	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
Chicago	8	13	0	Lester (7 IP, 5H, 6Ks)
Los Angeles	4	9	1	Joe Blanton for Kenta Maeda

Rizzo's RBI 2B in 1st gave Cubs the early lead. After LA tied the game in the 4th, Russell's 2-run HR in the 6th put the Cubs ahead for good. Cubs' 5-run 8th featured RBI 1Bs by Fowler and Bryant and a 3-run 2B by Baez. Fowler, Bryant, Rizzo, and Russell each had 2 hits; Baez went 3-5 with 3 RBIs. Corey Seager had 2 hits for the Dodgers.

10/20: Home	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
Los Angeles	0	2	1	Clayton Kershaw
Chicago	5	7	1	Hendricks (7IP, 2Hits, 6Ks)

Cubs got to Kershaw early, scoring 2 runs in the 1st on a Bryant RBI 1B and Zobrist sacrifice fly, and another run in the 2nd on Fowler's RBI 1B that scored Russell. Cubs next 2 runs came on solo HRs by Contreras in the 4th and Rizzo in the 5th. Aroldis Chapman (1 .2 IP 0H) relieved Hendricks in the 7th. Both Dodgers hits were singles.

NLCS MVPs: 2B Javier Baez and P Jon Lester

Cubs	AB	Runs	Hits	BA	Los Angeles	AB	Runs	Hits	BA
Fowler	27	6	9	.333	Toles	13	4	6	.462
Rizzo	25	3	8	.320	Reddick	11	1	4	.364
Baez	22	3	7	.318	Puig	14	1	4	.286
Bryant	23	3	7	.304	Seager	21	0	6	.286
Contreras	14	3	4	.286	Turner	20	1	4	.200
Russell	22	5	6	.273	Gonzalez	21	2	4	.190
Zobrist	20	3	3	.150	Pederson	21	3	4	.190
Heyward	16	2	1	.063	Kendrick	13	1	2	.154
				.238					.210

Cubs	IP	Record	ERA	Los Angeles	IP	Record	ERA
Lester	13.0	1-0	1.38	Kershaw	12.0	1-1	3.00
Hendricks	12.2	1-1	0.71	Maeda	7.2	0-0	4.70
Arrieta	5.0	0-0	7.20	Jansen	6.1	0-0	0.00
Chapman	4.2	1-0	3.86	Hill	6.0	1-0	0.00
Montgomery	4.1	1-0	6.23	Urias	3.2	0-1	9.82
Lackey	4.0	0-0	4.50	Baez	3.1	0-0	5.40
				Blanton	3.0	0-2	21.00
Club			2.89				4.33

League:

- **Hall of Fame** changed number of committees from 3 to 4: **Today's Game** (1988-2016), **Modern Baseball** (1970-1987), **Golden Days** (1950-1969), and **Early Baseball** (1871-1949). The first two vote twice every 5 years; Golden Days vote once every 5 years, and Early Baseball once every 10 years. Previous change took place in 2010.
- Rumors: The NL was considering using the **Designated Hitter**.
- Last season at Atlanta Braves' **Turner Field**.

Fines and Suspensions:

Mets RP **Jenrry Mejia** banned for life for testing positive the 3rd time.

2015 BA champion 2B **Dee Gordon** (Miami) and P **Josh Ravin** (LA Dodgers) 80G.

Hector Olivera (Atl) 82G and SS **Jose Reyes** (Colorado) 52G for domestic abuse; **Bryce Harper** 1G for swearing at umps.

Chris Correa, Cardinals' scouting director, sentenced 46 months for hacking into Houston's computer and gaining access to Astros' data and scouting notes. San Diego GM, **A.J. Preller**, suspended 30G for sharing incomplete player's health information during a July 14th trade with the Boston Red Sox.

Al-Jazeera report: Two current NL players and 7 other athletes (including QB Peyton Manning) allegedly took human growth hormone. Phillies' **Ryan Howard** and Nationals' **Ryan Zimmerman** sued, claiming defamation of character.

Retired MLB P Roy Oswalt, P Jake Peavy (San Francisco), and NFL QB Mark Sanchez each lost millions of dollars in what was later described a Ponzi scheme by Ash Narayan, their business manager.

- October auction: Legendary baseball player (1908-1920) **Shoeless Joe Jackson's** bat sold for over \$583K.
- Arizona D'Backs signed P **Zack Greinke** to \$206.5M/6-year contract, making him the highest paid ML player. Washington extended **Stephen Strasburg's** contract to \$175M/7-years.
- Former NFL QB **Tim Tebow** signed minor league deal to play OF for the NY Mets.

9/24: Miami pitcher **Jose Fernandez**, NL Rookie of the Year in 2013, and 2 others died in a boating accident. Fernandez' career: 38-17, 2.58. Marlins' 9/25 game vs. Atlanta was cancelled.

4/4: **LA Dodgers** and Clay Kershaw beat San Diego 15-0, **ML record** for most lop-sided score on Opening Day.

4/6: **LA Dodgers** beat San Diego 7-0 (Kenta Maeda). Padres' 3rd straight loss by shutout. Yasiel Puig 3-4/HR.

4/8: **LA Dodgers** lost to San Francisco 3-2 in 10 (Santiago Casilla).
Dodgers' starter Ross Stripling was removed in the 8th despite not having given up a hit.

4/29: **NY Mets** beat San Francisco 13-1 (Steven Matz), scoring a club-record 12 runs in the 3rd inning.

5/11: **Washington** beat Detroit 3-2 (Max Scherzer). Scherzer tied ML record by striking out 20 batters.

5/29: **San Francisco** beat Colorado 8-3 (Johnny Cueto). OF Hunter Pence hit 3 of the Giant's record-tying 8 doubles.

5/31: **Colorado** beat Cincinnati 17-4 (Jon Gray). Rockies' Nolan Arenado: 2 HRs & 4 RBIs; DJ LeMahieu: 4-4/2 2B, HR & 4 RBIs.
Colorado clubbed 7 HRs, 7 doubles and 5 singles.

6/2: **San Diego** lost to Seattle 16-13 (Cody Martin). Padres led 12-2 after 5 innings.

6/13: **Washington** beat Chicago 4-1 (Max Scherzer). Scherzer struck out 9 of the 1st 10 Cubs he faced.

6/15: **Miami** lost to San Diego 6-3 (Luis Perdomo). Marlins OF Ichiro Suzuki (2-5) surpassed Pete Rose for career hits (4,256).

7/3: **Florida** beat Miami 5-2 (Adam Conley). Marlins' TJ Realmuto: 3-5/HR, 3 Runs & 2 RBIs.
Game was played at **Ft. Bragg, NC**. Temporary ballpark seated 12,500; 12,582 attended.

7/8: **LA Dodgers** beat San Diego 10-6 (Pedro Baez). Dodgers C Yasmani Grandal: 5-5/3 HRs and 6 RBIs.

7/17: **Pittsburgh** beat Washington 2-1 in 18 (Jon Niese). Nationals' 3-8 hitters were a collective 4-39.

8/6: **Milwaukee** beat Arizona 15-4 (Matt Garza). Brewers OF Keon Broxton: 5-5; OF Ryan Braun: 3-4/2 HRs and 7 RBIs.
8/7: **Miami** beat Colorado 10-7 (Adam Conley). Marlins' Ichiro Suzuki's triple in the 7th was his 3,000th career ML hit.
8/8: **San Francisco** beat Miami 8-7 in 14 innings (George Kontos). Giants SS Brandon Crawford: 7-8/2B, 3B, RBI and SB.
8/22: **LA Dodgers** beat Cincinnati 18-9 (Jesse Chavez). Dodgers' Adrian Gonzalez (3-6/8 RBIs) hit 3 of the team's 7 HRs.
10/2: Both **NY Mets** and **San Francisco Giants** clinched playoff berths on the last day of the season.

Playoffs:

10/13: G5: **LA Dodgers** beat Washington 4-3 in 4:32 (Clayton Kershaw) – **longest post-season 9-inning game** in ML history.

All Star Game: AL beat the 4-2. MVP: Kansas City's Eric Hosmer

- Washington P **Steven Strasburg** began 13-0.
- Miami OF **Ichiro Suzuki** began the season 65 hits short of 3,000 for his ML career (see 8/7 game above).
- Colorado SS **Trevor Story's** 7 HRs in his 1st 6 games were a ML record; his 10 HRs in April tied the ML rookie record.
- Atlanta C **AJ Pierzynski** became the 10th ML catcher to reach 2,000 career hits.
- Atlanta 1B **Freddie Freeman** hit safely in 30 straight games.
- The 2G Miami-Pittsburgh series in Puerto Rico was called off due to concerns over the **Zika virus**.
- **San Diego Padres** tied NL record by hitting at least 1 HR in 25 consecutive games.
- **Cincinnati Reds** pitching staff allowed ML record 258 HRs (103 off relief pitchers).
First time since 1933-34 the Reds lost 90+ games in consecutive seasons.

Changes: P Zack Greinke (AZ), Ps Jeff Samardzija and Johnny Cueto (SF), P Mike Leake (St L), Shawn Kemp (Atl), IF David Freese (Pitt), SS Asdrubal Cabrera and Jay Bruce (NYM), IF Daniel Murphy and RP Mark Melancon (WA), OF Josh Reddick (LA Dodgers)

Streaks: **San Francisco** started out 57-33, then went 30-42 the rest of the season.
San Diego set ML record by opening the season with 3 shut-out losses.
Atlanta began season 0-9 (April record: 5-18). Club played 15 straight games in April without hitting a HR.
Through the 1st 31 games: Braves were 6-8 on the road and 1-16 at home.
Cincinnati lost 11 straight; **Philadelphia** suffered their 1st winless home stand (0-6; June 15-20) since 1964.

Last Year: Hall of Fame broadcaster Vin Scully, C David Ross, David Ortiz, Mark Teixeira, and Nick Swisher

First Year: IFs Aledmys Diaz, Trea Turner, and Tommy Joseph; pitchers Kenta Maeda, Luke Weaver, John Gray, and Junior Guerra, OFs Keon Broxton and Travis Jankowski; C Willson Contreras.

#1 Draft Pick: OF Mickey Moniak (Philadelphia Phillies)

Clemente Award: OF Curtis Granderson, NY Mets

Rookie/Year: SS Corey Seager, Los Angeles

Mgr./Year: Dave Roberts, Los Angeles

Exec/Year: Theo Epstein, Chicago Cubs

Comeback: P Jose Hernandez, Miami

MVP: Kris Bryant, Chicago

Cy Young: Max Scherzer, Washington

Hall of Fame: C Mike Piazza and OF Ken Griffey, Jr.; Graham McNamee (Frick) and Dan Shaughnessy (Spink)
Griffey's name was on 99.3% of the ballots – new record surpassing Tom Seaver (1992; 98.8%)

World Series: The Cleveland Indians had not won a World Series since 1948. Manager Terry Francona's club included P Corey Kluber, Trevor Bauer, Josh Timlin, Danny Salazar, and RPs Bryan Shaw and Cody Allen; infielders included Gold Glove SS Francisco Lindor, 2B Jason Kipnis, 3B Jose Ramirez, 1B Mike Napoli and DH/1B Carlos Santana.

Side notes: Cubs' Kyle Schwarber returned from rehab and served as DH.

Tickets for games at Wrigley were scalped for \$12K or more.

Cubs fans traveling to Cleveland for G7 paid \$10K or more for seats behind the 1st base dugout.

10/25:	Away	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
	Chicago	0	7	0	Lester
	Cleveland	6	10	0	Corey Kluber

Indians scored 2 of Lester in the 1st on an infield single and a hit batter with the bases loaded. Star of the game, Roberto Perez, hit the 1st of his 2 HRs, a solo in the 3rd. Perez put the game away with a 3-run HR in the 8th off Rondon. Zobrist had 3 of the Cubs' 6 hits, including a 2B; Kyle Schwarber, back from a season-long rehab, also hit a 2B. Kluber's pitching kept Cubs batters guessing, striking out 8 of the 1st 9 he saw. For the game, Cubs struck out 15 times.

10/26:	Away	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
	Chicago	5	9	0	Arrieta (5.2 IP, 2H, 1R, 6Ks)
	Cleveland	1	4	2	Trevor Bauer

Cubs scored in the 1st on a 2B by Rizzo scoring Bryant, then added another in the 3rd on an RBI 1B by Kyle Schwarber (2-4/2 RBIs). Club's final 3 runs came in the 5th on a RBI triple by Zobrist (2-4), Schwarber's second RBI 1B and a walk to Russell with the bases loaded. Arrieta lost his no-hit bid in the 6th when Jason Kipnis doubled and later scored on a wild pitch. Arrieta was relieved by Montgomery (2 IP, 4Ks) and Chapman (1.1 IP, 2 Ks).

10/28:	Home	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
	Cleveland	1	8	1	Andrew Miller/Cody Allen for Josh Tomlin
	Chicago	0	5	0	Carl Edwards for Hendricks

Cubs were unable to solve Tomlin and 3 Cleveland relievers. Indians' run came on a pinch hit by Coco Crisp in the 7th. Hendricks threw shutout ball for 4.1 innings but left the bases loaded for Justin Grimm. Six pitches later, Grimm induced Francisco Lindor to hit into a DP. Jorge Soler had 2 of the Cubs 5 hits, including a wind-blown 3B.

10/29:	Home	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
	Cleveland	7	10	0	Kluber (6 IP, 5H, 1 ER)
	Chicago	2	7	2	Lackey

Rizzo's RBI 1B in the 1st gave the Cubs a brief 1-0 lead. Then it was all Cleveland and Corey Kluber. Indians tied the game in the 2nd on a HR by Carlos Santana and added 2 more in the 3rd with the aid of 2 Kris Bryant errors. The score remained 3-1 until the 6th when Francisco Lindor scored on a sac fly. One inning later, Jason Kipnis (3-4) put the game away with a 2-run HR. Fowler (8th inning HR), Rizzo (2B) and Heyward each had 2 hits for the Cubs.

10/30:	Home	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
	Cleveland	2	6	1	Bauer
	Chicago	3	7	0	Lester (6IP, 4H, 2ER, 5Ks)/Chapman

Indians led 1-0 on 3B Jose Ramirez' solo HR in the 2nd. Cubs answered with 3 in the 4th on a Kris Bryant HR, 1B by RBI Addison Russell, and a sac fly by David Ross that plated Zobrist. Cleveland made it a 1-run game in the 6th when Lindor singled in Rajai Davis (2-4). Chapman (2.2 IP, 4Ks) relieved Carl Edwards Jr. in the 7th and got the final 8 outs for the save.

11/1:	Away	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
	Chicago	9	13	0	Arrieta (5.2 IP, 2 ER, 9Ks)
	Cleveland	3	6	1	Josh Tomlin

Cubs scored 3 in the 1st on a solo HR by Bryant and 2-run 2B by Russell when his fly ball the fell between two Cleveland outfielders. Two innings later, Russell's grand slam made the score 7-0. For his part, Arrieta allowed single runs in the 4th and 5th before being relieved in the 6th by Montgomery. Aroldis Chapman was called on to pitch in the 6th before he was relieved in the 9th by Strop (1/3 IP) and Wood (2/3 IP). Cubs' final runs came in the 9th Rizzo's 2-run HR. Bryant: 4-5/HR, Rizzo 3-5/HR, 2 RBIs, Zobrist 2-4, and Russell 2-5. Cleveland's 2B Jason Kipnis: 3-5/HR, 2B & 2 runs.

11/1:	Away in 10	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
	Chicago	8	13	3	Chapman/Montgomery for Hendricks
	Cleveland	7	11	1	Bryan Shaw for Corey Kluber

Fowler led off the game with a HR. After Cleveland tied the game in the 2nd, Cubs answered back with 2 in the 4th on a Russell sacrifice fly and Contreras' RBI 2B and chased Kluber in the 5th on a solo HR by Baez and a RBI 1B by Rizzo. Hendricks pitched into the 5th, allowing 4 hits and 2 runs (1 earned) before Lester relieved him. Two batters later, Lester's wild pitch allowed 2 runs to score. Ross's 6th inning solo HR not only quieted the crowd but gave the Cubs a 3-run cushion. With 2 outs and a man on in the 8th, Maddon brought Chapman in to relieve Lester. The Cubs' 3-run lead quickly vanished when Brandon Guyer's RBI 2B made the score 6-4. Next batter, Rajai Davis, whom the Cubs had handled to that point (3-32), hit a 2-run HR to tie the game at 6. Heyward made it to 3rd in the top of the 9th but did not score. Chapman returned and had the Indians get down 1-2-3 in the bottom of the frame.

After a 17-minute rain delay, Cubs scored 2 in the 10th on a Zobrist 2B and Montero RBI 1B. Carl Edwards, Jr. began the 10th by getting the 1st 2 outs but allowed a double and an RBI 1B by Davis before Montgomery replaced him. Cleveland's Michael Martinez then slapped Montgomery's 2nd pitch toward Kris Bryant. A quick toss to Rizzo and history was made. Fowler and Schwarber each had 3 hits; no other Cub had more than one. Four Indians had 2 hits/each: Brandon Guyer (2B), Jose Ramirez, Rajai Davis (HR), and Coco Crisp (2B). Game took 4:28 to complete.

Cubs	AB	Runs	Hits	BA	Cleveland	AB	Runs	Hits	BA
Schwarber	17	2	7	.412	Crisp	12	2	4	.333
Rizzo	25	7	9	.360	Ramirez	29	2	9	.310
Zobrist	28	5	10	.357	Guyer	10	4	3	.300
Bryant	26	6	7	.269	Lindor	27	2	8	.296
Fowler	30	3	7	.233	Kipnis	31	6	9	.290
Russell	27	1	6	.222	Davis	22	3	5	.227
Baez	30	1	5	.167	Santana	23	2	5	.217
Heyward	20	0	3	.150	Perez	20	2	4	.200
Contreras	19	0	2	.105	Napoli	24	1	4	.167
				.249	<u>Chisenhall</u>	16	2	2	.125
									.237

Ross (HR) and Soler (3B) each went 2-5. Russell drove in 9 runs.

Baez struck out 13 times

Cubs	IP	Record	ERA	Cleveland	IP	Record	ERA
Lester	14.2	1-1	3.68	Kluber	16.0	2-0	2.81
Arrieta	11.1	2-0	2.38	Bauer	8.1	0-2	5.40
Hendricks	9.0	0-0	1.00	Miller	7.2	1-0	3.52
Chapman	7.2	1-0	3.52	Tomlin	7.0	0-1	7.71
Lackey	5.0	0-1	3.60	Allen	6.0	0-0	0.00
Montgomery	4.2	0-0	1.93	Shaw	4.2	0-1	3.86
Edwards	2.2	0-1	6.75	Clevenger	4.0	0-0	4.50
Club			3.43				3.71

World Series MVP: Ben Zobrist