

2017 Chicago Cubs

manager: Joe Maddon

attendance: 3,199,562

Standings:

Eastern Division

Washington	97-64
Miami	77-85
Atlanta	72-90
NY Mets	70-92
Philadelphia	66-96

Central Division

Chicago	92-70
Milwaukee	86-76
St. Louis	83-79
Pittsburgh	74-87
Cincinnati	68-94

Western Division

Los Angeles	104-58
Arizona	93-69
Colorado	87-75
San Diego	71-91
San Francisco	64-98

Cubs

ERA: LA Dodgers	3.38	3.95 (4 th)
BA: Colorado	.273	.255 (6 th)
FA: Miami	.988	.984 (9 th)

Home: 48-33 **Best:** LA Dodgers 57-24 **Worst:** Atlanta, NY Mets 37-44
Away: 44-37 **Best:** Washington 50-31 **Worst:** San Francisco 26-55

FA: .984 (9th). OF Jason Heyward Gold Glove; 1B Anthony Rizzo .998; Kris Bryant led 3B in errors (19);

Cubs pitchers committed the fewest errors.

Best: 3-0 vs. Toronto & Baltimore; 6-1 vs. Atlanta; 3-1 vs. White Sox; 14-5 vs. St. Louis, 4-2 vs. NY Mets; 12-7 vs. Cincinnati

Worst: 0-3 vs. NY Yankees; 2-5 vs. Colorado, 2-4 vs. LA Dodgers; 1-2 vs. Boston

Top Pitchers

	IP	Record	Shutouts	Saves	ERA	
Jon Lester	180	13- 8			4.33	
John Lackey	170	12-12			4.59	36 HRs allowed (1 st)
Jake Arrieta	168	14-10			3.53	9 th in ERA
Kyle Hendricks	139	7- 5			3.03	
Mike Montgomery	130	7- 8		3	3.38	
Jose Quintana	84	7- 3	1		3.74	
Brian Duensing	62	1- 1			2.74	
Pedro Strop	60	5- 4			2.83	
Wade Davis	58	4- 2		32	2.30	
Hector Rendon	57	4- 1			4.24	
Justin Grimm	55	1- 2		1	5.53	
Eddie Butler	54	4- 3			3.95	

Staff:

Davis set new club record for consecutive saves. Previous: Ryan Dempster.

Top Hitters

	AB	Runs	Hits	HR	RBI	BA	EBH	SB
Jon Jay	379	65	112	2	34	.298	23	6
Kris Bryant	549	111	169	29	73	.295	71	7
Willson Contreras	377	50	104	21	74	.276	42	5
Anthony Rizzo	572	99	156	32	109	.273	67	10
Javier Baez	469	75	128	23	75	.273	49	10
Jason Heyward	432	59	112	11	59	.259	30	4
Ian Happ	364	62	92	24	68	.253	44	8
Addison Russell	352	52	84	12	43	.239	36	2
Ben Zobrist	435	67	101	12	50	.232	35	2
<u>Kyle Schwarber</u>	<u>422</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>.211</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>1</u>
Albert Almora	299	39	89	8	46	.299	27	1
Tommy La Stella	125	18	36	5	22	.288	13	0
Miguel Montero	98	12	28	4	8	.286	7	1

Cubs: 2nd in Runs (), 3rd in HRs, 4th in SA, 6th in BA, and 9th in Stolen Bases

Add/Lost: OF Jon Jay (SD), P Brian Duensing (Balt), RP Koji Uehara (Boston); OF Jorge Soler to Kansas City for RP Wade Davis.

P Jose Quintana from Chicago White Sox for 4 top-line minor leaguers.

C Alex Avila and RP Justin Wilson from Detroit for IF Jeimer Candelario (.152 in 33AB) and SS Isaac Paredes.

C Rene Rivera (.341, 2/12) from NY Mets; Avila (.239, 3/17) from Detroit

Pitchers Jason Hammel & Travis Wood (Kansas City), Trevor Cahill (San Diego), OF Dexter Fowler (St L),

Chris Coghlan (Toronto); Matt Szczur (.211 in 19 AB) to San Diego; Brett Anderson (2-2, 8.18) was released.

C David Ross retired (see Club below). C Miguel Montero released following loss on 6/27 (see Club below).

Rookies: OF Ian Happ, P Pierce Johnson, RPs Dylan Floro, Jack Leathersich, Felix Pena, and Dillon Maples; OF Mark Zagunis,

C Victor Caratini (.254, 1/2) Cubs had (2) #1 Draft Choices: P Brandon Little and P Alex Lange

Injuries: Heyward (hand), Hendricks, Bryant, Russell, Contreras, Lester, Grimm

Club:

3/22: Former Cubs GM **Dallas Green** passed away. Former manager **Don Baylor** passed away 4 ½ months later.

- Former C **David Ross** was named club's special assistant to baseball operations.
- **New at Wrigley:** High-end restaurants, Zachary Taylor Hotel, club offices and plaza stood west of the park. **Bullpens** were now hidden beneath the left and right grandstands. Their removal allowed for increased seating.
- *Sports Illustrated* and ESPN magazines plus local writers picked the Cubs to win the Central Division.
- **Highest payroll:** LA Dodgers (\$242.1 M). Cubs ranked 8th overall (\$172.2 M). Milwaukee ranked last (\$63.1 M).
- Cubs were invited to White House a 2nd time and visited President Trump.
- To put closure to 2003 NLCS incident, club gave Cubs fan **Steve Bartman** 2016 World Series ring. Club later gave former Cubs manager **Rick Renteria** a Series ring as well.

Troubles: Schwarber at leadoff? Starters unable to go past 5 innings...swept by NY Yankees and SD Padres

- April series vs. St. Louis at Busch Stadium led to single game attendance record (47,925) and record for 3G series (143,408).
- June: SS Addison Russell was investigated for domestic violence.
C Miguel Montero released for criticizing Cubs pitchers (primarily Jake Arrieta) for not holding opposing runners on base.
C Willson Contreras suspended 1B (reduced from 2) for arguing calls during 9/15 game vs. St. Louis.
- 7/9: Following a 14-3 loss to Pittsburgh, Cubs at 43-45 – their lowest point of the season.
- 7/25: Cubs beat the Sox but made it interesting – John Lackey hit 4 batters, and Kris Bryant was ejected for arguing strikes.
- 8/1: Lester hit his 1st ML HR and reached 2,000 career strikeouts.
- 9/10: Milwaukee Brewers swept 3G series at Wrigley, out-scoring the Cubs 20-5.
- 9/14: Cubs swept 3G series vs. NY Mets, outscoring them 39-14.
- 10/19: After beating the Washington Nationals in the NLDS in a best-of 5 series, Cubs lost the NLCS to the LA Dodgers in 5 games.

Season:

- 4/6: **Beat St. Louis** 6-4 (Lackey/Davis). Cards led 4-1 after 5. Schwarber hit 3-run HR; Russell drove in 2, Jay: 2-3/RBI.
- 4/9: **Beat Milwaukee** 7-4 (Arrieta 10Ks). Russell (2B) and Heyward (3B) each drove in 2; Zobrist & Schwarber homered.
- 4/13: **Beat LA Dodgers** 4-0 (Anderson). Rizzo and Russell homered; OF Almora made 2 great catches early in game.
- 4/15: **Lost to Pittsburgh** 8-7 (Duensing for Arrieta). Cubs led 6-2 in the 5th. Russell: 3B, HR/3 RBIs; Bryant: 2 HRs/3 RBIs.
- 4/19: **Beat Milwaukee** 7-4 (Davis for Hendricks) on Russell's walk-off 3-run HR. Brewers led 4-2 after 6.
- 4/21: **Beat Cincinnati** 6-5 in 11 (Edwards/Davis for Lester). Heyward & Baez hit solo HRs; Rizzo's 2-out, 3-run HR in 9th tied the game at 5. Bryant's sacrifice fly in 11th scoring Almora was the game-winner.
- 4/22: **Beat Cincinnati** 12-8 (Arrieta). Cubs led 7-5 after 2. Rizzo (3-run), Contreras (grand slam) & Heyward (3-run) homered.
- 4/24: **Beat Pittsburgh** 14-3 (Anderson). Heyward (HR) drove in 4; Zobrist (2B) and Russell (4-6) each drove in 3.
- 4/29: **Beat Boston** 7-4 (Lackey/Davis). Boston led 3-0 after 3. Rizzo, Montero & Zobrist homered. Cubs took 1 of 3 games.
- 5/4: **Beat Philadelphia** 5-4 in 13 (Uehara for Lackey). Almora scored winning run on an error. Montero and Bryant homered.
- 5/7: **Lost to NY Yankees** 5-4 in 18 (Rondon for Lester). Cubs scored 3 in 9th off Aroldis Chapman to tie. Baez: HR & 2 RBIs.
Cubs struck out 26 times, Yankees 22.
- 5/10: **Lost to Colorado** 3-0 (Hendricks). Rockies led 1-0 through 6. Bryant (2B) had one of the Cubs' 3 hits.
- 5/12: **Beat St. Louis** 3-2 (Butler/Davis). Contreras hit solo HRs in 2nd & 4th; La Stella (2-4/2B) hit solo HR in 7th.
- 5/16: **Beat Cincinnati** 9-5 (Lackey). Reds hit 3 HRs, Cubs hit 4 (Schwarber, Russell, Happ, and Rizzo). Contreras hit 2-run 2B.
- 5/21: **Beat Milwaukee** 13-6 (Arrieta). Bryant: 3-3/2 HRs & 4 Runs; Contreras: 3-3/3 RBIs; Zobrist & Rizzo also homered.
- 5/23: **Beat San Francisco** 4-1 (Lester CG 4-hitter, 10Ks). Schwarber & Heyward hit solo HRs; Rizzo hit 2-run HR in 4th.
- 5/27: **Lost to LA Dodgers** 5-0 (Lackey). Cubs totaled 3 hits – all singles. LA swept 3G series, out-scoring the Cubs 18-4.
- 5/31: **Lost to San Diego** 2-1 (Uehara for Arrieta). Cubs were out-hit 6-3. Padres swept 3G series.
- 6/4: **Beat St. Louis** 7-6 (Strop/Uehara for Hendricks) on Jon Jay's RBI 1B in 7th. Happ: 2 HRs & 4 RBIs. Cubs took all 3 games.
- 6/6: **Beat Miami** 10-2 (Arrieta). Rizzo hit 3-run HR; Heyward: 3-5/2 2B & 2 RBIs.
- 6/9: **Lost to Colorado** 5-3 (Montgomery). Heyward: 1-3/2 RBIs. Cubs totaled 3 hits. Rockies swept 3G series.
- 6/13: **Beat NY Mets** 14-3 (Lester). Rizzo, Heyward, Happ (grand slam), Bryant, and Baez homered. Cubs took 1 of 3 games.
- 6/17: **Lost to Pittsburgh** 4-3 (Arrieta). Arrieta's 2-run HR in the 5th tied game. Russell's solo HR came in the 7th,
- 6/20: **Beat San Diego** 4-0 (Montgomery). Cubs led 2-0 after 7. Rizzo and Happ homered; Russell & Almora each drove in a run.
- 6/22: **Beat Miami** 11-1 (Arrieta). Bryant: 3-4/3-run HR, Contreras hit 2-run HR; Russell: 4-5/solo HR. Happ: 4-5.
- 6/26: **Beat Washington** 5-4 (Butler). Cubs led 5-0 in the 9th. Contreras (2-4) HR in 1st; Rizzo and Happ each had RBI 1B.

- 6/27: **Lost to Washington and Matt Scherzer** 6-1 (Arrieta). C Montero critical of Arrieta after Nationals stole 7 bases.
- 7/2: **Beat Cincinnati** 6-2 (Arrieta). Happ (3-4/4 RBIs) homered twice; Rizzo added another. Baez: 3-4/2 2B.
- 7/5: **Beat Tampa** 7-3 (Strop for Lackey). Behind 3-0 in the 6th, Jay hit 3-run HR; Happ: 2-run 1B in 7th. Rizzo added 2-run 2B.
- 7/9: **Lost to Pittsburgh** 14-3 (Lester). Bucs scored 10 in the 1st (7 hits – including 2 HRs & 4 walks). C Victor Caratini: 3-3.
- 7/14: **Beat Baltimore** 9-8 (Uehara for Montgomery) in the 9th on Addison Russell's HR. Cubs led 8-1 after 3. Contreras (3-run), Schwarber (solo); Zobrist and Heyward each hit a HR with a man on
- 7/16: **Beat Baltimore** 8-0 (Quintana). Bryant (3-4/HR), Rizzo (HR), and Happ (2B) each drove in 2. Contreras: 4-5/2B.
- 7/19: **Beat Atlanta** 8-2 (Montgomery). Montgomery and La Stella each hit solo HRs; Baez hit 3-run HR in 8th. Russell: 4-4/2 RBIs.
- 7/21: **Lost to St. Louis** 11-4 (Edwards for Arrieta). Contreras (2-run HR) and Cubs led 3-2 after 7. Cardinals scored 9 runs in the 8th before making an out.
- 7/22: **Beat St. Louis** 3-2 (Lester/Davis). Behind 2-0 in the 8th, Bryant (1B), Zobrist (2B) and Rizzo (2B) each drove in a run.
- 7/25: **Beat White Sox** 7-2 (Lackey). Contreras (3-4/4 RBIs) hit 3-run HR in the 1st. Cubs took 3 of 4 in the Crosstown Series.
- 7/29: **Beat Milwaukee** 2-1 in 11 (Montgomery for Hendricks) on Heyward's HR. Bryant had 3 of the Cubs' 6 hits.
- 8/1: **Beat Arizona** 16-3 (Rondon for Lester). Happ, Lester, Rizzo (twice/3 RBIs), and Baez (3 RBIs) homered. Almora: 3 RBIs.
- 8/3: **Lost to Arizona** 10-8 (Quintana). D'Backs **Paul Goldschmidt** (3-4/6 RBIs) hit 3 of AZ's 5 HRs. Contreras: 2 HRs & 6 RBIs.
- 8/4: **Lost to Washington** 4-2 (Hendricks). Nats' **Daniel Murphy**: 3-4/2 HRs & 3 RBIs. Baez hit 2-run HR in Cubs' 7th.
- 8/5: **Beat Washington** 7-4 (Lackey/Davis). Avila hit 2-run HR in Cubs' 4-run 1st. Contreras (2-4/3 RBIs) hit 2-run HR in 6th.
- 8/6: **Lost to Washington** 8-4 (Edwards for Lester). Cubs led 4-1 after 6 on two HRs by Contreras and a solo HR by Schwarber. Nats took the lead on Matt Wieters' grand slam in the 8th. Each team had 10 hits.
- Willson Contreras NL Player of the Week (.455, 5/13)**
- 8/7: **Beat San Francisco** 5-3 (Arrieta/Davis). Baez hit 2-run inside park HR. Rizzo (3-5) and Almora each singled in a run.
- 8/13: **Beat Arizona** 7-2 (Arrieta). Baez hit 3-run HR in 8th; Happ followed with solo shot. Bryant (3-4) homered in the 9th.
- 8/17: **Lost to Cincinnati** 13-10 (Grimm for Lester). Reds led 9-1 after 3. Cubs tied game at 9 in the 5th. Happ hit 2 of Cubs' 6 HRs.
- 8/18: **Beat Toronto** 7-4 (Arrieta/Davis). Baez (3 RBIs) hit 2-run HR in 8th and made spectacular play at SS in 9th. Rizzo: 2-4/2 RBIs.
- 1B Anthony Rizzo NL Player of the Week (.429, 2/13)**
- 8/22: **Beat Cincinnati** 13-9 (Rondon for Lackey). Zobrist hit 2-run 2B; Baez and Heyward each drove in 2. Cubs took 2 of 3.
- 8/26: **Beat Philadelphia** 17-2 (Hendricks). Cubs led 6-2 after 5. Rizzo (5 RBIs) and La Stella (4 RBIs) each homered twice. Bryant (2-3/3 Runs) & Zobrist also homered. Hendricks (2-4/2B) and Avila (2B) each drove in 2 runs.
- 8/30: **Beat Pittsburgh** 17-3 (Quintana). Schwarber (4 RBIs) homered twice; Happ (3-5/4 RBIs) and Rizzo (2 RBIs) each hit one. Javy Baez (2-5/3 Runs) stole home in the 2nd; OF Jon Jay (2-6) made 2 spectacular catches in center.
- P Jake Arrieta NL Pitcher of the Month**
- 9/2: **Beat Atlanta** 14-12 (Lester). Cubs led 11-4 after 6. Rizzo: 3-run 3B; C Rivera: grand slam in 4th. Baez and Heyward also HR.
- 9/6: **Beat Pittsburgh** 1-0 (Strop/Davis for Quintana) on Avila's 9th inning RBI 3B. Cubs were out-hit 6-3.
- 9/8: **Lost to Milwaukee** 2-0 (Lackey: 7IP, 9Ks) on Ryan Braun's 2-run HR in 1st inning. Brewers swept 3G series.
- 9/13: **Beat NY Mets** 17-5 (Lester). Zobrist (2-3) and Bryant (3-5) each scored 4 runs. Almora: 2-2/3B & HR & 6 RBIs. Baez (4-5/3 Runs) also homered. Contreras (2-3) drove in 3, Happ & Rivera each drove in 2. Cubs swept 3G series.
- 9/17: **Beat St. Louis** 4-3 (Davis for Quintana). Schwarber homered; Heyward clutch 7th inning RBI 1B. Cubs swept 3G series.
- 9/21: **Beat Milwaukee** 5-3 in 10 (Davis for Arrieta) on Bryant's 2-run HR. Schwarber homered in 1st; Baez added RBI 1B.
- 9/23: **Lost to Milwaukee** 4-3 in 10 (Davis for Hendricks) on Travis Shaw's 2-run HR. Happ: 2-3/2B & 2 Runs.
- 9/24: **Beat Milwaukee** 5-0 (Quintana CG, 3 hits, 9 Ks). Cubs led 1-0 after 6. Zobrist hit 2-run HR in 7th; Rizzo hit 2-run 2B in 8th.
- 9/27: **Beat St. Louis** 5-1 (Lackey). **Cubs clinched division**. Russell hit 3-run HR; Heyward and La Stella each doubled in a run.
- 9/30: **Beat Cincinnati** 9-0 (Lester). Schwarber (2-4/4 RBIs) and Rivera (2-2/3 RBIs) homered.

Playoffs

NLDS: Washington Senators. Led by former Cubs' manager Dusty Baker, Senators included pitchers Max Scherzer, Gio Gonzalez, and Stephen Strasburg; Cub-killer 2B Danny Murphy, 3B Anthony Rendon, OF Bryce Harper, and 1B Ryan Zimmerman. Washington won the season-series 4 games to 3. Scherzer was coming off hamstring tightness; Harper returned to the club days earlier from leg injury. Despite winning 2 consecutive division titles, Nationals fired manager Dusty Baker 10 days after losing Game 5.

Away	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
10/6: Cubs	3	5	1	Kyle Hendricks/Wade Davis
Washington	0	2	1	Steven Strasburg

Strasburg hadn't allowed a hit until Bryant doubled in Baez in the Cubs 2-run 6th. Rizzo (2-4/2 RBIs) doubled in Jon Jay in the Cubs' 8th. Both Nats' hits were singles. Hendricks: 7 IP, 2 hits 6 Ks. Strasburg: 7 IP, 3 hits, 2 unearned runs, 10 Ks.

Away

	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
10/7: Cubs	3	6	0	Carl Edwards Jr. for Jon Lester
Washington	6	6	0	Oliver Perez/Sean Doolittle for Gio Gonzalez

Cubs led 3-1 after 7 on HRs by Contreras and Rizzo (2-run). Nats scored 5 runs in the 8th on HRs by Harper (2-run) off Carl Edwards, Jr., and Ryan Zimmerman (3-run) off Mike Montgomery. Lester: 6 IP, 2 Hits, 1 ER. Gonzalez: 5 IP, 3 Hits, 3 ER.

10/9: Home

	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
Washington	1	3	1	Brandon Kintzler for Max Scherzer
Cubs	2	4	4	Carl Edwards Jr./Wade Davis for Jose Quintana

Washington scored in the 6th on a Ryan Zimmerman 2B scoring Danny Murphy. Murphy made it to 3rd with the help of (2) Kyle Schwarber errors. Nats' Max Scherzer lost his no-hit bid in the 7th when Ben Zobrist doubled and later scored on a pinch hit 1B by Albert Almora. Anthony Rizzo's bloop 1B in the 8th scored pinch runner Leonys Martin.
Cubs' Jose Quintana: 5 2/3 IP, 2 hits and 1 unearned run. Scherzer: 6 1/3 IP, 1 hit, 1 earned run.

10/11: Home

	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
Washington	5	5	1	Steven Strasburg
Cubs	0	3	2	Jake Arrieta

Game was rescheduled 1 day due to rain. Nats led 1-0 after 7, but put game away in the 8th on a grand slam by Michael Taylor off Wade Davis. Washington's 1st run scored on an error, but Cubs pitchers walked 9 overall. Of the Cubs 3 hits, only 1 went for extra bases (Zobrist 2B). Cubs used 6 pitchers (4 in the 8th). Nats' Strasburg: 7 IP, 3 hits, 12 Ks.

10/12: Away

	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
Cubs	9	9	0	Brian Duensing/Wade Davis for Kyle Hendricks
	8	12	2	Max Scherzer for Gio Gonzalez

Cubs scored first when Jon Jay scored on a ground out. Nats answered back in the 2nd on a solo HR by Danny and a 3-run HR by Michael Taylor. Cubs scored 2 in the 3rd on a ground out and a wild pitch and 4 more in the 4th off Max Scherzer on a 2-run 2B by Addison Russell, another on a Matt Wieters passed ball and the 4th when Jay was hit by a pitch with bases loaded. Russell's RBI 2B in the 5th made the score 8-4. Cubs final run came in the 7th when Kyle Schwarber scored on a ground out. Washington chipped away at deficit – scoring 2 in the 6th, one in the 7th and another in the 8th. Wade Davis pitched the final 2.1 innings for the save. Final out came with a man on 2nd.
Game took 4:37; each team used 7 pitchers. Cubs walked 9 batters, Nats walked 6.

Top Hitters:	Cubs	AB	Hits	Ave	Washington	AB	Hits	Ave
	Almora	6	2	.333	Michael Taylor	15	5	.333
	Jay	11	3	.273	Bryce Harper	19	4	.211
	Zobrist	17	4	.235	Anthony Rendon	19	4	.211
	Russell	18	4	.222	Jason Werth	18	3	.167
	Contreras	14	3	.214	Ryan Zimmerman	20	3	.150
	Bryant	20	4	.200	T. Turner	21	3	.143
	Rizzo	20	4	.200	Matt Wieters	14	2	.143
	Club			.180				.186

Jason Heyward .167; Javier Baez 0-14 Jason Werth: 0-7

Top Pitchers:	Cubs	IP	W/L	ERA	Washington	IP	W/L	ERA
	Hendricks	11.0	1-0	3.27	Strasburg	14.0	1-1	0.00
	Lester	9.2	0-0	1.86	Gonzalez	8.0	0-0	6.75
	Quintana	6.1	0-0	0.00	Scherzer	7.1	0-1	3.68
	W. Davis	4.1	0-0	4.15	Madson	4.0	0-0	2.25
	Arrieta	4.0	0-1	0.00	Kintzler	3.1	0-1	5.40
	Edwards	2.1	1-1	23.14	Doolittle	3.0	0-0	0.00
	Duensing	1.1	1-0	<u>0.00</u>	Perez	1.1	1-0	<u>0.00</u>
				3.68				2.66

NLCS: Rematch with 2016 opponent, LA Dodgers LA won the season-series 4 games to 2. In addition to Clayton Kershaw, Yu Darvish, former Cub Rich Hill, RP Kenley Janson. Batters: SS Chris Taylor, OF Yasiel Puig, rookie 1B Cody Bellinger. along with 3B Justin Turner, OF Charlie Culbertson, 2B Chase Utley, OF Andre Ethier, and 5th game hero OF Enrique Hernandez. Overmatched Cubs were out-hit (42-24), out-homered (10-7), out-scored (28-8), and out-pitched (1.64-5.36).

10/14: Away

	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
Cubs	2	4	0	Hector Rondon for Jose Quintana
LA Dodgers	5	8	0	Kenta Maeda/Kenley Janson for Clayton Kershaw

Albert Almora's 2-run HR in the 4th gave the Cubs the early lead. LA tied game in 5th on a RBI 2B by Puig and sac fly by Charlie Culbertson. Dodgers took the lead for good on HRs by Chris Taylor in the 6th, and Puig in the 7th. LA's final run required replay review after Culbertson scored on a Justin Turner 1B. Replays showed C Contreras blocking the plate, disallowing the runner an opportunity to touch the plate. Dodgers 5 relief pitchers: 4 IP, 0 hits, 1 walk, and 5 Ks. All 3 Cubs relievers struggled: 3 IP, 6 hits, 3 ER, and 2 walks. Chris Taylor and Yasiel Puig each went 2-4 for LA. No Cubs batter had more than 1 hit.

10/15: Away	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
Cubs	1	3	1	Brian Duensing for Jon Lester
LA Dodgers	4	5	0	Kenley Jansen for Rich Hill

Addison Russell's 4th inning HR gave Cubs a very brief lead. LA answered in the bottom when Justin Turner singled in Charlie Culbertson. Game remained 1-1 into the bottom of the 9th on a walk-off 3-run HR by Turner off John Lackey. Lester lasted 4.2 innings, walked 5, allowed 3 hits and 1 run. Four LA relievers: 4 IP, 0 hits, 0 walks and 1 hit batter (Rizzo). No Cub batter had more than 1 hit. Justin Turner and Cody Bellinger each had 2 hits for LA.

10/17: Home	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
LA Dodgers	6	9	0	Yu Darvish
Cubs	1	8	2	Kyle Hendricks

Cubs' lone run came in the 1st on Kyle Schwarber's HR off Darvish. LA scored single runs in the 2nd (Andre Ethier HR), 3rd (Chris Taylor HR), 5th (Chris Taylor RBI 3B), and 6th (bases loaded walk), and added 2 more in the 8th on a bases-loaded passed ball and sacrifice fly. Hendricks: 5 IP, 6 hits, 3 ER. Four Cub relievers: 4 IP, 3H, 4 BB, and 2 wild pitches. Darvish: 6.1 IP, 7Ks; 4 Dodger relievers: 2.2 IP, 2 hits. 4 Ks. Cubs' Kris Bryant: 2-4. Chris Taylor, Yasiel Puig, and Ethier each had 2 hits for LA.

10/18: Home	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
LA Dodgers	2	4	0	Alex Wood
Cubs	3	5	0	Jake Arrieta/Davis

Fourth time Cubs began the scoring on HRs: Contreras and Baez each hit a solo HR in the 2nd. LA's Cody Bellinger's HR put LA on the board in the 3rd. Baez added a 2nd solo shot in the 5th. Davis (1 ER) pitched 2 innings for the save. Cubs unable to solve LA RP: 4.1 IP, 1 Hit, 0 BB. Cubs' Baez and LA's Justin Turner had 2 hits/ea.

10/19: Home	Runs	Hits	Errors	Pitcher of Record
LA Dodgers	11	16	0	Clayton Kershaw
Cubs	1	4	0	Jose Quintana

LA took Cubs out of the game early by scoring single runs in the 1st and 2nd, 5 in the 3rd, 2 more in the 4th and finished it off with 2 in the top of the 9th. Cubs lone run came on a solo HR by Kris Bryant in the 4th. Dodger hitting stars were many: Enrique Hernandez homered 3 times and drove in 7; Culbertson (3B) and Bellinger (2B) each went 3-5; Chris Taylor (2B) and Yasiel Puig each had 2 hits. No Cub batter had more than 1 hit. Quintana: 2 IP, 6 Hits, 6 ER; 4 relievers: 7 IP, 10 hits, 5 ER. Kershaw: 6 IP, 3 hits, 5 Ks and 1 walk; 3 LA relief pitchers: 3 IP, 1 hit, 5 Ks.

Top hitters:	Cubs	AB	Hits	Ave	LA Dodgers	AB	Hits	Ave
	Contreras	18	4	.222	Culbertson	11	5	.455
	Bryant	20	4	.200	Hernandez	9	4	.444
	Almora	16	3	.188	Puig	18	7	.389
	Baez	12	2	.167	C. Taylor	18	6	.333
	Schwarber	12	2	.167	Bellinger	22	7	.318
	Russell	16	2	.125	Turner	19	6	.316
	Jay	12	1	.083	Ethier	8	2	.250
	Rizzo	17	1	.059	Forsyth	10	2	.200
	Club			.156				.258
	Zobrist 0-9; Heyward 0-5				Utley & Granderson 0-7/ea			

Top Pitchers:	Cubs	IP	W/L	ERA	LA Dodgers	IP	W/L	ERA
	Quintana	7.0	0-1	10.29	Kershaw	11.0	1-0	2.45
	Arrieta	6.2	1-0	1.35	Darvish	6.1	1-0	1.42
	Hendricks	5.0	0-1	5.40	Hill	5.0	0-0	1.80
	Lester	4.2	0-0	1.93	Wood	4.2	0-1	5.79
	Duensing	4.0	0-1	2.25	Morrow	4.2	0-0	0.00
	Montgomery	3.1	0-0	13.50	Jansen	4.0	1-0	0.00
	Rondon	3.0	0-1	6.00	Maeda	3.0	1-0	0.00
				5.36				1.64

NLCS MVPs: Justin Turner and Chris Taylor

League:

- New **Collective Bargaining Agreement** was made in early December. Pact included higher penalties for high-spending teams, a cap on signing bonuses for international amateurs, and home-field advantage for the World Series now goes to the league of the team that possesses the best season record.

The league that won the **All-Star Game** no longer determined World Series home field advantage.

After several foul-ball injuries – league discussed **extending the safety netting** beyond the 1st & 3rd base lines.

- White Sox' **Jose Abreu** and NY Mets' **Yoenis Cespedes** each testified about elite Cuban players smuggled illegally into US (through Mexico). Focus was on agents Burt Hernandez, trainer Julius Estrada, and Amin Latouff. Payoffs to each were great. Mid-March: Hernandez and Estrada were found guilty.
- **Highest payroll:** LA Dodgers (\$242.1 M); NY Yankees ranked #2 (\$201.5 M); San Francisco ranked 2nd in NL (\$172.4 M) followed by the Cubs (\$172.2 M). **Lowest payroll:** Milwaukee (\$63.1 M).
Washington signed arbitration-eligible OF Bryce Harper to \$21.65M/1-year.
- NL umpire **John Tumpane** and 2 others saved woman attempting to jump off Pittsburgh's Roberto Clemente bridge.
- Colorado P **Chad Bettis** returned from cancer treatments.
- **Hurricane Irma** fallout: Miami's 3G series with Brewers was shifted to Milwaukee. Marlins were the home team.
- **President Trump** created a stir by stating that any athlete who kneels during the national anthem should be fired.

Fines and Suspensions: Mets RP **Jeury Familia** 15G for domestic violence; Pitt OF **Starling Marte** 80G for violating ML's drug policy; Giants RP **Hunter Strickland** 6G and Washington OF **Bryce Harper** 4G for on-field brawl on 5/29. LA OF **Yasiel Puig** 1G and fine for obscene gesture; LA 1B **Yuli Gurriel** 5G for racial gesture during G3 of World Series.

Arizona D'Backs and coach **Ariel Prieto** were fined after Prieto was seen wearing an Apple watch during a game. Although no evidence was found in Prieto's watch, the act violated an on-field regulation.

11/7/17: Former Philadelphia P **Roy Halladay** died in a plane accident. Halladay (203-105) was a 2X Cy Young Award winner.

Trading Places: RP Brett Cecil and OF Dexter Fowler (St L), OF Adam Eaton, C Matt Wieters (WA); P Edinson Volquez (Miami); RP Mark Melancon (SF); 3B Travis Shaw (Mil); P Sergio Romo, OF Franklin Gutierrez, Yu Darvish, and Curtis Granderson (LA Dodgers) and OF JD Martinez (AZ).

Streaks: **LA Dodgers** (+10 twice) went 43-7 during a mid-summer stretch (best in ML since 1912), including 21-7 in June. LA then spiraled in August/September, losing 11 straight games, going 5-20 during that span.
Arizona (+13)

Noteworthy games:

4/2: **San Francisco** lost to Arizona 6-5. Giants P Madison Bumgarner homered twice in a losing cause.

4/3: **Washington** beat Miami 4-2. Game marked the 5th time Nats' Bryce Harper homered on Opening Day.

4/8: **Philadelphia** beat Washington 17-3. Phillies scored club-record 12 runs (without a HR) in the 1st.

4/11: **NY Mets** beat Philadelphia 14-4. Mets' Yoenis Cespedes hit 3 of the team's 7 HRs. Club also hit 7 doubles.

4/30: **Washington** beat NY Mets 23-5. Nats' Anthony Rendon: 6-6/2B, 3 HRs & 10 RBIs; C Matt Wieters: 3-4/2 HRs & 4 RBIs. Nationals scored in every inning but the 2nd and totaled 23 hits, including 4 2Bs & 7 HRs.

5/31: **Miami** beat Philadelphia 10-2 (Dan Straily). Only 1,590 attended game – fewest on record since 9/5/89 (Atlanta).

6/6: **Cincinnati** beat St. Louis 13-1 (Tim Adleman). Reds' Scooter Gennett: 5-5/4 HRs (including a grand slam) & 10 RBIs.

6/11: **Washington** lost to Texas 5-1. Nats' Max Scherzer reached 2,000 strikeouts in the 5th inning.

6/24: **Washington** beat Cincinnati 18-3 (Joe Ross) SS Trea Turner: 5-5/4 Runs; OF Michael Turner: 4-5/2 HRs & 3 RBIs.

7/15: **LA Dodgers** beat Miami 7-1 (Alex Wood). LA's Cody Bellinger: 5th Dodger (1st Dodger rookie) to hit for the cycle.

7/19: **Colorado** beat San Diego 18-4 (Jon Gray). Rockies' Nolan Arenado: 5-5/3 HRs & 7 RBIs. Colorado collected 21 hits.

7/26: **Miami** beat Texas 22-10 (Jose Urena). Christian Yellich (4-5) and Giancarlo Stanton (3-5) homered. Derik Dietrich and Marcel Ozuna each drove in 5 runs. Eight Marlins collected 2+ hits.

7/27: **Washington** beat Milwaukee 15-2 (Max Scherzer). Five of Washington's 8 HRs came in Nats' 7-run 3rd. Nats hit 6 HRs off Brewers' Michael Blazek. Bryce Harper and Ryan Zimmerman each homered twice.

8/16: **Denver** beat Atlanta 17-2 (Jon Gray). Rockies' Trevor Story: 2 HRs/6 RBIs; Mark Reynolds & Gerardo Parra: 4 RBIs/ea.

8/23: **LA Dodgers** lost to Pittsburgh 1-0 in 10. LA P Rich Hill lost no-hitter in the 10th on Josh Harrison's 0-out HR.

9/4: **Arizona** beat LA Dodgers 13-0 (Robbie Ray). D'Backs JD Martinez (4-5/6 RBIs) hit 4 of the team's 6 HRs.

9/16: **Colorado beat San Diego** 16-0 (Tyler Anderson). Carlos Gomez (HR) & Jonathan Lucroy (3 Runs) each went 3-4.

9/26: **Pittsburgh beat Baltimore** 10-1 (Trevor Williams). Bucs' Andrew McCutcheon: 4-4/2 HRs & 8 RBIs.

All Star Game: NL lost 2-1 in 10 innings.

- MLB set a record for HRs in a single season (6,105).
First time since 2007 an NL player hit 50 or more HRs (Miami OF **Giancarlo Stanton**; 59).
LA Dodgers **Cody Bellinger**'s 39 HRs is new NL rookie record.
Philadelphia rookie OF **Rhys Hoskins** set ML record by hitting 10 HRs in 1st 17 games (previous record: 21 games).
Arizona OF **JD Martinez**' 16 HRs in September tied NL record set by Pittsburgh's Ralph Kiner (1949). ML record is 17.

Playoffs:

10/29: World Series G5: **Houston** beat LA Dodgers 13-12 in 10 (Joe Musgrove for Dallas Keuchel). Astros hit 5 HRs.

Last Year: Pitchers Bronson Arroyo, Matt Cain; OF Carlos Beltran,

First Year: SS Paul DeJong, OF Rhys Hoskins, IF/OF Ian Happ, P Kyle Freeland, C Manny Pina, and 1B Josh Bell

#1 Draft Pick: SS Royce Lewis (Minnesota)

Clemente Award: 1B Anthony Rizzo, Chicago Cubs

Rookie/Year: 1B Cody Bellinger, LA Dodgers

Exec of Year: Chris Antonetti, Cleveland

Mgr./Year: Torey Lovullo, Arizona

Comeback: 3B Ryan Zimmerman, Washington

MVP: OF Giancarlo Stanton, Miami

Cy Young: Max Scherzer, Washington

Hall of Fame: C Ivan "Pudge" Rodriguez, IF Jeff Bagwell, OF Tim Lincecum, executives John Schuerholz and Bud Selig.
Also included: Cartoon character Homer Simpson (*Homer at the Bat*).

World Series: Houston Astros beat the LA Dodgers in 7 games.