

= 1962 National League tie @-@ breaker series =

The 1962 National League tie @-@ breaker series was a three @-@ game playoff series at the conclusion of Major League Baseball 's (MLB) 1962 regular season to determine the winner of the National League (NL) pennant . The games were played from October 1 to 3 , 1962 , between the Los Angeles Dodgers and the San Francisco Giants . The Giants won the series , two games to one . The first game took place at Candlestick Park and the second and third were played at Dodger Stadium . The playoff series was necessary after both teams finished the season with identical win ? loss records of 101 ? 61 . The Dodgers won a coin flip late in the season , which gave them home field advantage for the series .

The Giants won the first game in an 8 ? 0 shutout by starting pitcher Billy Pierce over Sandy Koufax . The Dodgers evened the series with an 8 ? 7 victory in Game 2 , breaking their 35 @-@ inning scoreless streak in what was then the longest nine @-@ inning game in MLB history . However , the Giants closed out the series in Game 3 with a 6 ? 4 victory to clinch the NL pennant . This victory advanced the Giants to the 1962 World Series in which the defending champion New York Yankees defeated them in seven games . In baseball statistics , the tie @-@ breaker series counted as the 163rd , 164th , and 165th regular @-@ season games for both teams , with all events in the series added to regular @-@ season statistics . The 1962 series was the last MLB tie @-@ breaker to use a three @-@ game format , as the NL subsequently adopted the single @-@ game style used in the American League (AL) .

= = Background = =

The Dodgers and the Giants finished the 1961 season second and third respectively in the NL , with records of 89 ? 65 and 85 ? 69 . In an offseason trade with the Chicago White Sox the Giants acquired Billy Pierce and Don Larsen for Bob Farley , Eddie Fisher , Dom Zanni , and Verle Tiefenthaler . The Dodgers moved to a new home field , Dodger Stadium , for the 1962 season .

The Giants opened the 1962 season by establishing an early lead and , though they fell back by mid @-@ April , held at least a share of that lead continuously from April 28 to June 7 . At that point the Dodgers overtook the Giants , and for the next month the lead was traded between the two sides five times . The Giants held the lead for the last time on July 7 . The Dodgers went 20 ? 6 in July while the Giants went 16 ? 11 , allowing the Dodgers to take the league lead on July 8 and hold it until season 's last regular game . The Los Angeles Times described the Dodgers ' season as a " gamut of sublime " and " ridiculous " , noting their successes ? such as Maury Wills ' 100 stolen bases breaking Ty Cobb 's single @-@ season record , Don Drysdale 's 25 wins , and Sandy Koufax 's no @-@ hitter on June 30 ? together with problems such as the 18 unearned runs the defense had allowed for the season behind Drysdale , and other fielding issues .

The Dodgers lost 10 of their final 13 games from September 16 to 30 , while the Giants lost just 6 over the same span . However , with seven games remaining the Dodgers were still ahead in the league by four games , and held a two @-@ game lead with three left to play . They entered their final game with a one @-@ game lead over the Giants , but fell 1 ? 0 to the St. Louis Cardinals . Meanwhile , the Giants won 2 ? 1 over the Houston Colt .45 's , after an eighth @-@ inning home run by Willie Mays . These results left the Dodgers and Giants tied in the league at 101 ? 61 , necessitating a tie @-@ breaker to decide the NL pennant . The two teams had also played closely against one another during the regular season to this point , with each winning 9 of their 18 match @-@ ups prior to the tie @-@ breaker . Dodgers ' manager Walt Alston and Giants ' manager Alvin Dark could not agree on dates and sites for the tie @-@ breaker , so they flipped a coin to decide home field advantage . Alston won the flip , opting to play the first game in San Francisco and the remaining two games in Los Angeles . The Dodgers had been more successful at home in the season , holding a 53 ? 28 (.654 winning percentage) record there while going 47 ? 34 (.580) on the road . Alston had also won the flip for the 1959 tie @-@ breaker , which the Dodgers had gone on to win , and had chosen the same format .

= = Game 1 summary = =

Box score for Monday October 1 , 1962 at Candlestick Park in San Francisco

Sandy Koufax had missed two months of the season , not starting from July 17 until September 21 . He started three games in his return prior to the tie @-@ breaker , losing all three and pitching just seven @-@ and @-@ two @-@ thirds innings across the three starts . The night before the first game of the tiebreaker , Walt Alston asked Koufax to start the game , as Don Drysdale and Johnny Podres , the Dodgers ' two front line starting pitchers , had pitched the prior two days ; Koufax agreed . In the game the Giants were the first to score , on a double by Felipe Alou in the bottom of the first inning , followed by a home run by Willie Mays to make the score 2 ? 0 . Billy Pierce quickly retired three Dodgers in order for the second consecutive inning and the Giants continued to hit in the bottom of the second inning . Jim Davenport led off the inning with a home run to make the score 3 ? 0 and Ed Bailey followed with a single . Koufax was then relieved by Ed Roebuck , having allowed three runs in the game without recording an out in the second inning .

Roebuck recorded three straight outs to end the inning without further scoring . The Dodgers and the Giants each managed a single in their halves of the third inning . Neither Pierce nor Roebuck allowed a baserunner in the fourth or fifth innings , though the Giants further added to their lead in the sixth . The Dodgers pinch hit for Roebuck to lead off the top of the inning with Ken McMullen and although he singled he did not score . Larry Sherry entered to pitch for the Dodgers in the bottom of the inning and after recording the first out he allowed back @-@ to @-@ back home runs to Mays and Orlando Cepeda to give the Giants a 5 ? 0 lead . Davenport then singled and Sherry was relieved by Jack Smith who finished the inning without further damage .

The game continued without scoring until the eighth inning . The Dodgers managed to get their second runner in scoring position as Doug Camilli pinch hit for Smith , but they did not score . Phil Ortega entered to pitch for the Dodgers in the bottom of the eighth and the Giants continued their offensive performance . Willie Mays walked to open the inning and then stole second base with one out . Davenport and Bailey both walked to load the bases and José Pagán doubled to empty the bases and make the game 8 ? 0 . Pierce remained in the game to pitch the ninth , finishing his complete game shutout . Koufax later said of his Game 1 performance , " I had nothing at all . "

= = Game 2 summary = =

Box score for Tuesday October 2 , 1962 ? 1 : 06 PM (PST) at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles , California

The Giants scored first for the second consecutive game , as Orlando Cepeda singled with one out in the second inning and scored on a double by Felipe Alou against Dodgers ' starter Don Drysdale . The Giants then extended their lead in the top of the sixth inning . Alou struck out to open the inning but Tom Haller then walked and advanced to third base on a double by José Pagán . Giants ' starter Jack Sanford then reached based on a throwing error by Drysdale , which also allowed Haller to score and advanced Pagán to third base . Chuck Hiller and Jim Davenport followed this with successive singles which scored Pagán and Sanford respectively . This made the score 4 ? 0 in favor of the Giants with Hiller on second and Sanford on first , still with only one out in the inning . Ed Roebuck entered in relief of Drysdale , inducing an out at second base on a groundball by Willie Mays , to leave runners at the corners with two outs . Willie McCovey singled , allowing Hiller to score and make the game 5 ? 0 ; Cepeda was then retired to end the inning .

Jack Sanford had allowed just four baserunners through his first five innings , only one of whom reached scoring position . However , after he walked Jim Gilliam to open the bottom of the sixth inning , Giants ' manager Alvin Dark double switched to bring Stu Miller in to relieve Sanford , and replaced McCovey in left field with Matty Alou . After the game Dark explained his decision to remove his thus far successful pitcher : " Sanford was suffering from a cold and he was pooped . " Duke Snider doubled , advancing Gilliam to third . Tommy Davis then hit a sacrifice fly , scoring Gilliam and advancing Snider . This run made the game 5 ? 1 and ended what had been a 35 consecutive scoreless inning stretch by the Dodgers . The Dodgers increased their score as Wally

Moon walked and Frank Howard singled , to bring Snider home and make the game 5 ? 2 . Billy O 'Dell relieved Miller and Doug Camilli , who was pinch hitting for John Roseboro , singled to load the bases . Andy Carey then pinch hit for Willie Davis and was hit by a pitch to score Moon . The Dodgers continued substituting players , pinch hitting Lee Walls for Roebuck and bringing in Larry Burright to pinch run for Carey . Walls then hit a double which emptied the bases , giving the Dodgers a 6 ? 5 lead in the game , and advanced to third base on the throw .

Walls ' double continued his success as a pinch hitter , making him 13 @-@ for @-@ 26 with 12 runs batted in in such situations for the season . Don Larsen entered to relieve O 'Dell , who had not recorded an out but had earned a blown save for his performance . Maury Wills hit a ground ball to the first baseman , who threw home in an attempt to put out Walls who slid hard into the Giants ' catcher Haller . The slide , which cut Haller 's arm deep enough to later require six stitches , caused him to drop the ball , leaving Walls safe on Haller 's error and extending the Dodgers ' lead to 7 ? 5 . John Orsino entered as the new catcher to replace the injured Haller . Wills then stole second , his 101st stolen base of the season , before the batter Gilliam saw a single pitch . Orsino 's throw to try to catch Wills went past second base and into center field . Wills attempted to advance to third , but was thrown out by Willie Mays . Larsen then induced a flyball out by Gilliam and the inning was over . Between the two halves of the sixth the two teams had scored a combined 11 runs and used six pitchers , three pinch hitters , two defensive replacements , and a pinch runner .

Ron Perranoski entered as the new pitcher for the seventh , Camilli took his place as the new catcher , and Ron Fairly replaced Wally Moon at first base . Burright became the new second baseman , replacing Gilliam who moved to third base while the previous third baseman , Tommy Davis , moved to center field . Perranoski allowed singles to Orsino and Pagán after a ground out by Felipe Alou . The Giants pinch hit Harvey Kuenn for Matty Alou and Bob Nieman for Hiller , but both recorded outs to end the top of the seventh . Ernie Bowman replaced Nieman at second base for the Giants in the bottom of the inning and no runs scored in the frame . The Giants continued to hit Perranoski in the top of the eighth , with singles by Davenport and Mays to open the inning . Jack Smith entered in relief but allowed a single to Ed Bailey pinch hitting for Larsen which scored Davenport to cut the Dodgers ' lead to 7 ? 6 . Mays attempted to advance to third on the play but was called out . The play drew arguments from Mays , Alvin Dark , and third base coach Whitey Lockman as third base umpire Jocko Conlan appeared to call Mays safe before changing it to out . Carl Boles pinch ran for Bailey , and Cepeda reached on an error on his fly ball which allowed Boles to move to third . Stan Williams relieved Smith and walked Felipe Alou to load the bases . Orsino hit a sacrifice fly to tie the game at seven runs apiece and Pagán grounded out to end the inning .

Bobby Bolin entered as the new pitcher for the Giants in the bottom of the eighth . Bolin kept the game tied , as did Williams who pitched a perfect top of the ninth inning . Wills walked to leadoff the bottom of the ninth , however , and Dick LeMay relieved Bolin . Gilliam then also walked , advancing Wills to second . The Dodgers announced Daryl Spencer as a pinch hitter for Snider and the Giants countered by bringing Gaylord Perry in relief of LeMay . Spencer laid down a successful sacrifice bunt , advancing the two runners to second and third base . The play drew comment after the game , as some writers believed Perry had a chance to throw to third base to put out the lead runner Wills . He threw to first instead , allowing the sacrifice . Mike McCormick relieved Perry , intentionally walked Tommy Davis , and then allowed a game @-@ winning walk @-@ off sacrifice fly to Fairly driving in Wills . Game 2 lasted 4 hours and 18 minutes , breaking the previous record of 4 hours and 2 minutes for the longest 9 @-@ inning game in major league history . Coincidentally Wills , who scored the winning run , celebrated his 30th birthday on the same day as Game 2 .

= = Game 3 summary = =

Box score for Wednesday October 3 , 1962 at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles , California

Game 3 matched the Giants ' Juan Marichal against Johnny Podres , though Dodgers ' manager Walt Alston had considered starting reliever Larry Sherry . The pair kept the game scoreless through two innings before the Giants opened the scoring in the top of the third . José Pagán singled to lead off the inning , Marichal reached on a throwing error by the pitcher on a throw to second base which

allowed Pagán to move to third , and Pagán scored on a Harvey Kuenn single . Then , while Chuck Hiller was batting , John Roseboro made an error in attempting to pickoff Marichal on second base , allowing him to advance to third . Hiller hit a fly ball to shallow left field and Marichal held at third base . Left fielder Duke Snider threw home but the ball was cut off by the third baseman , who threw to second to try to catch Kuenn in a rundown between first and second . However , the second baseman 's throw to first hit Kuenn in the back , leaving him safe at first and allowing Marichal to score , to make the game 2 ? 0 . Felipe Alou then singled , Kuenn went to third , and Alou advanced to second on the throw . Podres intentionally walked Willie Mays to load the bases with one out , and induced a double play from Orlando Cepeda to end the inning .

The Dodgers cut into the lead in the fourth , as Snider doubled to leadoff , advanced to third on a Tommy Davis single , and scored on a groundout by Frank Howard . The Giants threatened against Podres in the top of the sixth with singles by Cepeda , Ed Bailey , and Jim Davenport on a bunt to load the bases . However , Ed Roebuck relieved Podres and escaped the inning without allowing a run . The Dodgers took a 3 ? 2 lead in the bottom of the inning as Snider singled and scored on a home run by Tommy Davis . They extended this lead in the bottom of the seventh as Wills singled and then stole second as Jim Gilliam batted . Manager Alvin Dark had chosen not to try to hold Wills to the first base bag as Dark did not believe his Giants ' defense could stop Wills from stealing regardless of their positioning . Gilliam was put out for the second out of the inning , but Wills stole third base and then scored on a throwing error by the catcher trying to catch him . This extended the Dodgers ' lead to 4 ? 2 . The Dodgers further threatened in the bottom of the eighth . Don Larsen entered in relief of Marichal midway through Davis ' at bat but Davis walked to lead off the inning regardless . Ron Fairly sacrificed him to second base and Davis then stole third as Howard struck out . However , Larsen intentionally walked both Roseboro and Willie Davis to load the bases and induced a ground out by Roebuck to end the inning .

The Giants took the decisive lead in the top of the ninth inning . Matty Alou pinch hit for Larsen and singled to lead off the inning and Kuenn grounded into a force out at second base . Willie McCovey pinch hit for Hiller and walked to advance Kuenn . Ernie Bowman pinch ran for McCovey and Felipe Alou walked to load the bases . Mays hit a line drive single scoring Kuenn . Roebuck barely managed to knock the ball down to hold Mays to a single and Mays said he was " still mad " after the game because he had expected more off of the hit . Stan Williams relieved Roebuck and Cepeda hit a sacrifice fly to tie the game at 4 ? 4 and advance Alou to third . Mays moved to second on a wild pitch to Bailey and Williams intentionally walked him to reload the bases . Williams walked Davenport to give the Giants a 5 ? 4 lead , and they added to it as Pagán reached on an error by second baseman Larry Burright allowing Mays to score and extend the lead to 6 ? 4 . Billy Pierce pitched a perfect bottom of the ninth to end the game , earning his only save of the season . Had the Dodgers not yielded the lead in the final inning they instead would have earned a postseason berth , their first since winning the pennant via a tie @-@ breaker in 1959 .

= = Aftermath = =

The Giants ' win earned the franchise its 17th playoff berth , the first since moving to San Francisco from New York in 1958 . In the playoffs they faced the New York Yankees in the 1962 World Series which they lost in seven games , ending the Giants ' season . They returned to the playoffs in 1971 and the World Series in 1989 and 2002 . In 2010 , the Giants won their first World Series since moving to San Francisco . The Dodgers returned to the World Series in 1963 and swept the Yankees . The Dodgers set a new attendance record in 1962 , topping the previous mark of 2 @, @ 641 @, @ 845 set by the Cleveland Indians in 1948 with a total of 2 @, @ 755 @, @ 184 fans . Game 2 was the longest nine @-@ inning game in MLB history with a time of 4 hours and 18 minutes , a record which stood until April 30 , 1996 when a game between the Yankees and the Baltimore Orioles lasted 4 hours and 21 minutes . The record was again broken on August 18 , 2006 during a game in which the Yankees beat the Boston Red Sox 14 ? 11 in 4 hours and 45 minutes .

In baseball statistics tie @-@ breakers count as regular season games , with all events in them added to regular season statistics . For example , Willie Mays extended his league @-@ leading

home run total to 49 and Maury Wills raised his record @-@ breaking stolen base total from 100 to 104 , the most since 1900 . Additionally Wills , José Pagán , and Tommy Davis played in 165 , 164 , and 163 games respectively , totals which could not have been matched by players not on the Dodgers or Giants . Wills also won the NL Most Valuable Player Award narrowly over Mays , with Davis placing third in the voting . Don Drysdale won both the Cy Young and Sporting News Pitcher of the Year awards and Jim Davenport , Wills , and Mays each won Rawlings Gold Glove Awards . MLB played two All @-@ Star Games in 1962 . Four Dodgers and five Giants were named to the first while four Dodgers and four Giants played in the second . Five future Hall of Famers were on the Giants roster in 1962 (Cepeda , Marichal , Mays , McCovey , and Perry) while the Dodgers had three (Drysdale , Koufax , and Snider) . Dodgers ' manager Walt Alston was also inducted to the Hall as a manager in 1983 . Additionally , this 1962 series was the last MLB tie @-@ breaker to use the three @-@ game series format . The AL had always used a one @-@ game format and all future NL tie @-@ breakers were played in that format as well .