

= Mets ? Phillies rivalry =

The Mets ? Phillies rivalry or Battle of the Broads is a Major League Baseball (MLB) rivalry between the New York Mets and Philadelphia Phillies . Both clubs are members of MLB 's National League (NL) East division . The rivalry between the two clubs is said to be among the most fiercely contested in the NL . The two NL East divisional rivals have met each other recently in playoff , division , and Wild Card races .

Aside from several brawls in the 1980s , the rivalry remained relatively low @-@ key before the 2006 season , as the teams had seldom been equally good at the same time . A notable moment in their early meetings was Jim Bunning 's perfect game on Father 's Day of 1964 , the first perfect game in Phillies history , which happened when the Mets were on a losing streak . The Phillies were near the bottom of the NL East when the Mets won the 1969 World Series and the National League pennant in 1973 , while the Mets did not enjoy success in the late 1970s when the Phillies won three straight division championships . Although both teams each won a World Series in the 1980s , the Mets were not serious contenders in the Phillies ' playoff years (1980 , 1981 , and 1983) , nor did the Phillies seriously contend in the Mets ' playoff years (1986 and 1988) . The Mets were the Majors ' worst team when the Phillies won the NL pennant in 1993 , and the Phillies could not post a winning record in either of the Mets ' wild @-@ card @-@ winning seasons of 1999 or 2000 , when the Mets faced the New York Yankees in the 2000 World Series .

As the rivalry has intensified in recent years , the teams have battled more often for playoff position . The Mets won the division in 2006 , while the Phillies won five consecutive division titles from 2007 to 2011 . The Phillies ' 2007 championship was won on the last day of the season as the Mets lost a seven @-@ game lead with 17 games remaining . The Phillies broke the Curse of Billy Penn to win the 2008 World Series , while the Mets ' last title came in the 1986 World Series .

In 2015 , the Mets won the National League Championship Series for their fifth pennant while the Phillies entered a rebuild phase . The Mets beat the Phillies 14 times and lost 5 for a lopsided season series . The season still provided contentious moments such as , Mets pitcher Matt Harvey drilling Phillies 2nd baseman Chase Utley in retaliation for mets players getting hit by Phillies pitchers , a benches clearing argument between Phillies coach Larry Bowa in regards to a quick pitch by Hansel Robles and a bat flip by Daniel Murphy . Phillies star Chase Utley while , traded to the Los Angeles Dodgers mid @-@ season , injured Mets shortstop Rubén Tejada on a questionable late slide during Game 2 of the National League Division Series . The Mets would go on to win the series and eliminate the Dodgers en @-@ route to the pennant .

= = Early history = =

= = = Bunning 's perfect game = = =

Bunning 's perfect game occurred in the 1964 season , during which the Phillies finished at the top and the Mets finished bottom . Pitcher Jim Bunning , in his first season with the Phillies , entered play on June 21 with a 6 ? 2 record on the season . He was opposed on the mound by Tracy Stallard for the Mets in the first game of a doubleheader . Through the first four innings , Bunning totaled four strikeouts through twelve batters . In the fifth inning , Phillies second baseman Tony Taylor preserved the perfect game with his strong defensive play . A diving catch and a throw from the knees kept Mets catcher Jesse Gonder off of the bases . Bunning also made plays at the plate , hitting a double and driving in two runs in the sixth inning . By the end of the game , even the Mets fans were cheering Bunning 's effort ; he had only reached a three @-@ ball count on two batters , and retired shortstop Charley Smith on a pop @-@ out , and pinch @-@ hitters George Altman and John Stephenson on strikeouts , to complete the perfect game . Bunning , who at the time had seven children , said that his game , pitched on Father 's Day , could not have come at a more appropriate time . He remarked that his slider was his best pitch , " ' just like the no @-@ hitter I pitched for Detroit six years ago ' " . Bunning became the first pitcher to throw a winning no @-@

hitter in both leagues , and posted the first regular @-@ season perfect game since Charlie Robertson in 1922 (Don Larsen 's prior perfect game was in the 1956 World Series) . The Phillies also won the second game of the doubleheader , 8 ? 2 , behind Rick Wise .

The Phillies performed strongly for most of the season , but surrendered a 6 1 ? 2 game lead during the last weeks of the season that year , losing 10 games in a row with 12 games remaining and losing the pennant by one game to the St. Louis Cardinals . " The Phold " of 1964 is among the most notable collapses in sports history . The Mets , meanwhile , finished the year in last place , with a 53 ? 109 record ? the worst in Major League Baseball .

= = = Tug McGraw = = =

Tug McGraw pitched for the Mets from 1965 to 1967 , and again from 1969 to 1974 after spending all of the 1968 season in the minor leagues . In those nine seasons , he amassed 86 saves and appeared in 361 games . He appeared in the postseason for the 1969 Miracle Mets , pitching three innings against the Atlanta Braves . He was selected to the 1972 All @-@ Star team , and appeared in the Most Valuable Player (MVP) award voting in 1972 and 1973 . During the 1973 pennant @-@ winning season , he coined the Mets ' rally cry , " Ya gotta believe ! " In the 1974 season , McGraw experienced issues with his arm and shoulder . Thus , the Mets traded McGraw , along with outfielders Don Hahn and Dave Schneck , to the Phillies in December 1974 for pitcher Mac Scarce , catcher John Stearns , and outfielder Del Unser .

McGraw became a staple of the back end of the Phillies ' bullpen , saving 94 games between 1975 and 1982 , and earning a place on the 1975 All @-@ Star team . Under manager Danny Ozark , the Phillies won three consecutive division championships from 1976 to 1978 with McGraw as the closer , while the Mets finished third in 1976 and last in 1977 and 1978 . In 1980 , McGraw was on the mound against the Kansas City Royals when the Phillies won their first World Series championship , earning his fourth save of that postseason . He struck out Willie Wilson with the bases loaded to preserve the win for Steve Carlton and the Phillies , leaping from the mound to embrace catcher Bob Boone on the field at Veterans Stadium in Philadelphia . Sportswriter Allen Barra recounted that McGraw , in the victory parade after the World Series , told New York fans they could " take this championship and shove it . "

= = 1980s ? 1990s = =

= = = 1986 = = =

The Mets won the National League East by 21 1 ? 2 games in 1986 , but the Phillies were the only team to post a winning record against them , including winning 7 of 9 at Veterans Stadium . On September 12 , up by 22 games , the Mets came to Philadelphia for a three game weekend series needing one win to clinch the division . The Mets brought champagne to Philadelphia . Before the series , Mets manager Davey Johnson told the Associated Press , " It will be nice to clinch in Philadelphia . It gives us a chance to beat the only team in our way ... I have a nice warm feeling about this . " He told The Philadelphia Inquirer : " For the fans ... it would be nicer to clinch at home . But for the safety ... and the livelihood of the players ... it 's better to do it on the road . " In the series opener , Mike Schmidt hit a three @-@ run homer , Phillies rookie Bruce Ruffin out pitched the Mets ' Dwight Gooden , and the Phillies won , 6 ? 3 . The Phillies won the second game of the series , 6 ? 5 ; visiting Mets fans became unruly and damaged seats in the upper deck . One Mets fan was arrested after hitting two Philadelphia police officers . The Phillies completed the sweep by beating the Mets , 6 ? 0 , behind a shutout from Kevin Gross , drove in two runs with a fourth @-@ inning triple . The Mets would clinch the division at Shea Stadium on September 17 . After the season , the Phils ' Schmidt won the National League MVP Award , ahead of the Mets ' Gary Carter and Keith Hernandez who finished third and fourth .

== = 1987 ? 1988 == =

The Phillies played spoiler in 1987 . The Mets went 13 ? 5 against the Phillies in 1987 and outscored Philadelphia 94 ? 56 . However , the Phillies won two of three in September to hurt the Mets ' chances of winning the division significantly .

The Mets ' Ron Darling took a no @-@ hitter and 4 ? 0 lead into the eighth inning against the Phillies on June 28 at the Vet before 52 @,@ 206 fans . Philadelphia 's Greg Gross pinch @-@ hit and tripled to lead off the eighth inning , breaking up the no @-@ hitter . Juan Samuel then singled to break up the shutout , and the Phillies came back with nine hits against Jesse Orosco and Roger McDowell , scoring five runs to win 5 ? 4 . It would have been the first no @-@ hitter in Mets history . Compounding the loss for the Mets , the Phillies were in last place at the time , and the loss dropped the Mets 6 1 ? 2 games behind the first @-@ place Cardinals who they would play the next day . Of the win and the Mets , Mike Schmidt said , " The Mets don 't like to give credit when they lose , but they have to do it today . "

On September 28 , the Mets came into Philadelphia for a three @-@ game series against the Phillies . The Mets were 2 1 ? 2 games out of first with six games left : three against the Phillies and the last three against the first @-@ place Cardinals . They had an opportunity to win the division and were playing the Phillies , against whom they had a season record of 12 ? 3 . The Mets won the opener , 1 ? 0 , to move within two games back with five remaining to play . However , the Phillies effectively ended their season on September 29 . As the Cardinals swept a doubleheader from the Montréal Expos , the Phillies ' Don Carman pitched a complete @-@ game one @-@ hitter , facing only 28 batters to shut out the Mets . After the game , Mets manager Davey Johnson said , " How does it feel now ? Empty ? Not yet . But we need to get help . When you play 162 games and you 're eliminated , then you feel empty . And sick . " He promised reporters , " We 're going to win tomorrow night . " . The following night , Mets pitcher Dwight Gooden struck out 10 , and left after pitching nine innings with the score tied at three runs each , but the Phillies ' Luis Aguayo won the game with a 10th @-@ inning pinch @-@ hit home run off of Orosco , clinching at least a tie for first place in the division for the Cardinals .

The 1988 Mets returned to the playoffs , but the Phillies , who finished in sixth place in the division with a 65 ? 96 record , beat the Mets 8 times in 18 games , the third @-@ best record against them of any team in the league . The Mets won their second division title in three years in a game against the Phillies , and like two years before , did it at home . In the postseason , the Mets lost to the eventual champion Dodgers in the 1988 National League Championship Series .

== = 1989 ? 1990 == =

On June 18 , 1989 , after a Mets ? Phillies game , the Phillies traded Samuel to the Mets for McDowell and Lenny Dykstra . Dykstra was a career .278 hitter with the Mets and had not equaled his 1986 season when he hit .295 . Dykstra flourished in Philadelphia and went on to be named to three All @-@ Star teams in six full seasons with the Phillies , finish in the top ten in National League Most Valuable Player voting twice , and help lead the Phillies to the 1993 National League pennant . McDowell saved 45 games for the Phillies in parts of three seasons and became a fan favorite . The trade was a bust for the Mets as Samuel hit only .228 for the Mets in 1989 and was traded to the Los Angeles Dodgers after the 1989 season . It signaled an ascent of the Phillies which culminated in their 1993 National League pennant and the demise of the Mets in the early 1990s . Sports Illustrated writer and Mets fan David Vecsey counts the Dykstra trade as one of the five worst in Mets history , writing , " Never mind that Dykstra was better than Samuel , this trade was devastating to Mets fans on a purely personal level . With one phone call , GM Joe McIlvaine gutted the team of its heart . " The trade also ushered in a period of bad blood between the two teams .

On September 27 , 1989 , the Phillies faced the Mets in their home finale at Shea Stadium in New York after a disappointing Mets season . The Mets had won the East in 1988 but were in third place on September 26 behind the Chicago Cubs and St. Louis Cardinals . McDowell was closing out a 5

? 3 win for the Phillies when , with two outs in the ninth , he induced former teammate Gregg Jeffries to ground out to second to end the game . As Jeffries was running out the play , McDowell said something to him prompting Jeffries to charge the mound and wrestle McDowell to the ground . The benches cleared and punches were exchanged before the umpires could separate the teams . Jeffries later claimed that McDowell had thrown at him during a 2 ? 1 Phillies victory on September 25 .

The brawling continued in 1990 . During an August 9 game at Shea , Gooden hit Phillies hitters Dickie Thon and Tommy Herr . When Gooden came to bat in the fifth inning , Phillies pitcher Pat Combs hit Gooden in the knee with a fastball . Phillies outfielder Von Hayes defended Combs after the game , " Gooden better expect retaliation if he keeps hitting guys with 95 mph (153 km / h) fastballs . We 've got to protect our players . " Gooden charged the mound and tackled Combs . Phillies catcher Darren Daulton followed Gooden and landed a series of punches on the back of Gooden 's head . Darryl Strawberry had been in the Mets clubhouse and rushed the field after Daulton but was himself blindsided by Hayes . Of Daulton , Gooden later said , " Daulton was the guy we wanted most . He 's a cheap @-@ shot artist . We learned that about him last year " , referring to the September 1989 fight . Six players and Phillies coach Mike Ryan were ejected from the game . Eight players were later fined , including the Mets ' Tim Lincecum , who said , " It was money well spent . Sometimes you just have to defend yourself and your teammates . "

== = 1991 ? 1994 == =

The tone of baseball rivalries changed in the early 1990s ; fraternization between players who had moved to different teams or knew each other from various ventures kept baseball rivalries to a " friendly " level . However , Major League Baseball 's 1994 divisional re @-@ alignment solidified the rivalry between the Phillies and Mets . The Pittsburgh Pirates , former members of the National League East and in @-@ state rivals of the Phillies , moved into the newly created National League Central Division , and the Atlanta Braves , former members of the National League West , entered the division . Prior to the switch , the East Division contained seven teams , spread out over a wider geographical area , including the St. Louis Cardinals and the Chicago Cubs , as well as the expansion Florida Marlins . Members of all 28 teams , including the Phillies and Mets , drew together during the 1994 labor stoppage , but players from both teams were on opposite sides of the argument even then . Dykstra claimed that he was losing \$ 30 @,@ 000 (\$ 46 @,@ 589 in current dollars) per day for every day he did not work during the strike . While other players chastised Dykstra for his comments , Mets pitcher and player representative John Franco intimated that if someone crossed the picket line , as Dykstra suggested , " ' once we get back in I 'll be the first to kick his [butt] [sic] ' " .

== = 1995 ? 2000 == =

The division @-@ rival Braves defeated the Cleveland Indians in the 1995 World Series ; on the way to doing so , they left the rest of the division behind them . The Mets and Phillies finished in second and third places in the division , respectively , with identical 69 ? 75 records ; the Braves were the only National League East team to finish above .500 . The Mets and Phillies staged a close battle for second place , with New York coming out ahead , taking 7 victories from the 13 @-@ game season series . Both the Mets and Phillies finished near the bottom of the division in 1996 : the Mets ended the season in fourth place , with a 71 ? 91 record , while the Phillies finished last (67 ? 95) . The Mets took a second consecutive close season series from the Phillies , with an identical 7 ? 6 record to the prior year . The 1997 Mets improved to 88 ? 74 , but that record was only good for third place in the division , as the Braves finished with 101 wins and the Marlins , with a record of 92 ? 70 , took the National League wild card and won the 1997 World Series . The Phillies , meanwhile , languished in last place behind the Expos , with a 68 ? 94 record , and only managed to take 5 of 12 games from the Mets that season , including a September 9 game at Shea Stadium that was a moment of peace in the rivalry to remember former Phillies player and

broadcaster and original Met Richie Ashburn , who died that morning .

The 1998 Mets finished in second place , with the Phillies right behind them in third . The Braves finished with the best record in the National League (106 wins) , but were unable to make it to the World Series . The Mets finished over .500 for the second straight year , aided by their 8 ? 4 record against the Phillies . The standings were identical the next season , as the Mets faced the Braves in the 1999 National League Championship Series ; they were defeated , and the Braves lost to the New York Yankees in the ensuing World Series . The Phillies and Mets split the season series , six games each ; the Phillies finished under .500 for the sixth consecutive season with a 77 ? 85 record . The Mets won the wild card again in 2000 , finishing one game behind the Braves in the division and defeating the Cardinals in the League Championship Series to face the Yankees in the 2000 World Series . Though the Phillies finished in last place in the division with a 65 ? 97 record , they defeated the Mets in the season series , 7 ? 6 .

= = 21st century = =

= = = 2001 ? 2003 : Unbalanced schedule = = =

Major League Baseball changed its scheduling format in 2001 , further intensifying division matchups throughout the league . The new " unbalanced schedule " allowed for additional games each season between divisional rivals , replacing additional series with teams outside the division . Due to the change , the Phillies and Mets now played each other 17 or more times each season (19 times in 2001) . Early on , the unbalanced schedule favored the Mets , who had a winning percentage of .540 (27 ? 23) against the division in the 2000 season , while the Phillies managed a .451 mark (23 ? 28) ; the trend held true in 2001 , when the Mets won the season series over the Phillies , 11 ? 8 . The scheduling drew criticism both when it was enacted and after the fact , with some analysts even positing that the unbalanced schedule hurt intra @-@ divisional play . This , however , did not affect the Phillies and Mets , as they drew an average of 27 @,@ 926 fans to their games in 2001 . Attendance for the rivalry games increased in 2002 , to 29 @,@ 403 fans per game , as the Phillies bested the Mets in the season series , 10 ? 9 , and was strong in 2003 , when they drew nearly 28 @,@ 000 fans per game and the Phillies took their second consecutive season series , 12 ? 7 .

= = = 2005 ? 2006 : The rivalry intensifies = = =

The signing of former Phillies closer Billy Wagner by the Mets between the 2005 and 2006 seasons was a factor in the intensification of the rivalry . Pat Burrell and Wagner became embroiled in heated media discussions after Wagner departed the Phillies . For the first time in 2006 , both franchises fielded contenders until deep into the season . The Mets steadily led the NL East (finally supplanting the decade @-@ long division champions , the Atlanta Braves) , while the Phillies maintained pace as a wild card contender until the very end of the season . The Mets won the head @-@ to @-@ head season matchup , beating the Phillies 11 out of 18 times . The Mets won the division , but lost to the St. Louis Cardinals in the 2006 National League Championship Series .

= = = 2007 : Rollins calls out the Mets = = =

On January 23 , 2007 , Phillies shortstop Jimmy Rollins made a statement that may have set the rivalry in a dead heat : " I think we are the team to beat in the NL East ? but that 's only on paper . " Many Mets fans and players laughed at the prediction , especially once the Phillies stumbled out of the gate in April , starting the season at 1 ? 6 and posting an 11 ? 14 record for the month . The Mets , meanwhile , sat firmly in the NL East lead for almost all of the season .

As the season wore on , Philadelphia developed momentum as a wild @-@ card contender . The Phillies dominated the Mets in head @-@ to @-@ head play , posting three separate series sweeps

, including a pivotal sweep of a four @-@ game series at Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia during late August which included two walk @-@ off hits by Chase Utley and Ryan Howard and comeback victories for the Phillies in three of the four games . During the season , Burrell also hit two home runs off Wagner , resulting in two blown saves . By the time Philadelphia swept the Mets at Shea Stadium in mid @-@ September , the Phillies were threatening to move from wild @-@ card contender to division leader . With 17 games left to play , the Mets led the Phillies by seven games ; during that final stretch , the Mets won only five games and lost twelve , while the Phillies went 13 ? 4 . On the final day of the season , the Phillies won the division , backing up Rollins ' quote . Mets starter Tom Glavine gave up seven runs in the first inning to the Florida Marlins , while the Phillies beat the Washington Nationals behind Philadelphian Jamie Moyer to win the division . Rollins capped his prediction by adding his first career Most Valuable Player award . According to Baseball Prospectus , the Mets ' collapse over the end of the season ranked statistically as the second @-@ worst in baseball history . After the 2007 season , Wagner also said that " [the] collapse didn 't come because the Phillies beat us , the collapse came because we played bad " .

= = = 2008 : Beltran fires back , Phillies win Series = = =

On February 16 , 2008 , Mets center fielder Carlos Beltrán made a statement regarding the upcoming season . He stated that " [without] Santana , we felt , as a team , that we had a chance to win in our division . With him now , I have no doubt that we 're going to win in our division . I have no doubt in that . We 've got what it takes . To Jimmy Rollins : We are the team to beat . " Inasmuch as Beltran had imitated Rollins ' 2007 preseason prediction , Rollins arrived in camp for Spring training and responded :

" There isn 't a team in the National League that 's better than us . The pressure 's back on them if you ask me . They were on paper the best team in the division last year and they were supposed to win , and they didn 't . One , there are four other teams in our division who are going to make sure that doesn 't happen , and two , has anyone ever heard of plagiarism ? That was pretty good , especially coming from him . He 's a quiet guy , so it was probably shocking when he said it . Not shocking in a bad way , like ' Wow , I can 't believe he said that . ' More like , ' Wow , he finally said something because he 's a leader on that team and you definitely need to be a vocal leader . "

Throughout most of the season , the Phillies and Mets battled each other for the NL East lead , along with the Florida Marlins . Going into the final season series between the two teams , former Phillie and special hitting instructor Mike Schmidt fanned the flames of the rivalry with an e @-@ mail to manager Charlie Manuel , later posted for the entire team in the clubhouse .

" One pitch , one at bat , one play , one situation , think ? small ? and ? big ? things result , tough at @-@ bats , lots of walks , stay up the middle with men on base , whatever it takes to ? keep the line moving ? on offense , 27 outs on defense , the Mets know you ? re better than they are ? They remember last year . You guys are never out of a game . Welcome the challenge that confronts you this weekend . You are the stars . Good luck . # 20 . "

Mets players reacted quickly ; David Wright replied , " To each his own . He 's obviously biased in his e @-@ mails or letters . I see a starting pitcher that goes out there and throws like Brett Myers ? that works much better than a rally cry from a former player . " This response came a day after Myers defeated the Mets 3 ? 0 , throwing eight shutout innings and striking out ten . The Mets won the season series 11 ? 7 .

After the final season series , the Mets held onto first place until September 16 , when a September surge moved the Phillies into first place . On September 19 , however , the Phillies lost to the Florida Marlins while the Mets beat the Atlanta Braves to put New York back into the division lead . The results were reversed the following night , and the Phillies regained the top spot , where they would ultimately finish . The Phillies won the National League East on September 27 , while the Mets were eliminated from postseason contention the next day with a 4 ? 2 loss to the Florida Marlins in the final game at Shea Stadium . The Milwaukee Brewers defeated the Chicago Cubs that day to clinch the National League wild card . This marked the second year in a row the Mets were eliminated from the playoffs on the last regular @-@ season game . It also marked the first time in baseball history

that a team had lost the last game of the season to miss the playoffs after holding a three @-@ game lead in two consecutive seasons . After victories over the Brewers and the Los Angeles Dodgers in the postseason , the Phillies went on to win the World Series over the Tampa Bay Rays .

== = 2008 ? 2009 offseason == = =

During the team 's post @-@ parade celebration on October 31 at Citizens Bank Park , Jimmy Rollins took verbal shots at the Mets organization . " A lot of things were made in the offseason " , Rollins said . " We can talk about the New York Mets . They brought in that great pitcher , Johan Santana , but they forgot that it takes more than one player to bring home a championship . "

Nearing the end of 2008 and the thick of the offseason , World Series MVP Cole Hamels was asked by WFAN radio hosts whether he considered the Mets " choke artists " . Hamels replied , " For the past two years they 've been choke artists . " He explained that he considered Mets shortstop José Reyes a showboater for his post @-@ home run displays and that the Phillies had mocked their center fielder Shane Victorino for similar antics during the National League Division Series .

On December 13 , newly signed Mets closer Francisco Rodríguez added his sentiments to the fray . " Of course we 're going to be the frontrunner . Of course we 're going to be the team to beat " , Rodríguez told reporters . " I don 't want there to be a controversy . I don 't want the other team to take it personally , or take it in a bad way . But I 'm a really competitive guy . I like to win . If they ask me , ' Oh , which ballclub is going to win the National League East ? ' It 's going to be the Mets . Easy question . "

== = 2009 ? 2010 == = =

Throughout the first few months of the 2009 season the Mets and Phillies looked as though they would make this year into another close playoff race . By the end of May the Mets had won three out of the four games they played against each other ; however , the Phillies retained a half game lead . Both clubs struggled in June as the Phillies slumped and the New York became plagued with injuries . By the end of June the Phillies had increased their division lead , but only to two and a half games .

This closeness would not continue , however , as the Phillies went on to finish with a 93 ? 69 record , winning the division and securing the second seed in the playoffs . The Mets , on the other hand , went 33 ? 53 from July through September and finished fourth in the NL East , 23 games behind . The Phillies would go on to win the National League Pennant for the second year in a row , but would lose the World Series in six @-@ games to the Mets ' cross @-@ town rivals , the New York Yankees .

One notable occurrence during the 2009 season was the Phillies adding former Mets pitcher Pedro Martínez . Martínez posted a 3 @. @ 63 ERA with a 5 ? 1 record . In his one start against the Mets , he threw six innings and gave up four earned runs .

In 2010 , after leading the division standing by the end of April , the Mets again began to struggle . The Mets would not hold first place at any point after May 1 , although they came close in mid @-@ June . By the end of the season the Mets had finished 18 games behind the first place Phillies . For its part , Philadelphia was mainly engaged in a fierce division race with the Atlanta Braves , trailing them as late in the season as September 6 . However , Philadelphia would surge at the end of the month and once again be crowned division champs . 2010 ultimately served as a disappointment for the Mets ? Phillies rivalry .

== = 2011 ? 2014 == = =

In 2011 , the Phillies won the season series against the Mets , winning 11 of 18 games . The Phillies set a record for wins in a season with 102 , surpassing the previous record of 101 , set back @-@ to @-@ back in 1976 and 1977 , while the Mets finished 25 games out of first place at 77 ? 85

, in fourth place and missed the playoffs for the fifth straight year .

The game on May 1 in Philadelphia became a moment of peace in the rivalry during the top of the ninth inning . Mets ' Daniel Murphy was batting as a pinch @-@ hitter against Phillies ' reliever Ryan Madson when the fans started chanting " U @-@ S @-@ A ! " The Phillies didn 't know the reason for the chants , but in the Mets ' dugout , bench coach Ken Oberkfell told Manager Terry Collins that al @-@ Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden , the mastermind of the September 11 attacks , had been killed by United States special operations forces in Abbottabad , Pakistan . Shane Victorino later told the Phillies the news . However , when asked how they learned about it during an on @-@ air telephone call with Mike and Mike in the Morning on ESPN Radio the next day , he said that a trainer in the dugout broke the news . Ryan Howard called the news " an uplifting moment , " while Victorino said it was " a special moment ... for families ... who ... lost their loved ones ... (on) 9 / 11 " and " a big day in American history . " On the Mets ' side , David Wright called it " just an incredible moment and ... you kind of come together ... for a common cause " , while Collins said that the Mets 2 ? 1 , 14 @-@ inning win behind Ronny Paulino 's game @-@ winning RBI double in his Mets debut was " a good win for us , and obviously a huge win for America tonight " , but felt they " could have finished the game two hours ago and celebrated a little bit of it . " Mike Lopresti of USA Today called the game between the rivals " a perfect fit " when the news broke , while Adam Rubin of ESPNNewYork.com called the peace in the rivalry " fitting " for a Mets fan , and said that it drew parallels to their 3 ? 2 win over rival Atlanta Braves on September 21 , 2001 in the first major sporting event in New York City since the attacks .

On September 26 , 2011 , the day after the teams ' final meeting of the season , the National Hockey League formally announced that the rivalry would be played out at Citizens Bank Park during the offseason at the 2012 NHL Winter Classic on January 2 , saying it would be a showdown between the teams ' hockey counterparts , the New York Rangers and the Philadelphia Flyers . Shane Victorino attended the game , which the Rangers came from behind to win , 3 ? 2 , which MLB.com said that " just like the Mets ? Phillies rivalry , being able to come back and steal a game on the road was quite sweet , " and said of the rivalry being played out : " What better rivalry than this ? Both these teams , they 're in first place (in the Atlantic Division) . I 'm excited to see it . "

During the 2012 season , the Mets beat the Phillies ten times , including a sweep of a three @-@ game series at Citizens Bank Park in early May in which they came from behind to win each game in the late innings . In 2013 , the Mets clubhouse store in New York City started selling shirts saying , " My Ex @-@ Wife is a Philles fan " , while MLB Network aired a MasterCard / StandUp2Cancer commercial featuring Phille Phanatic and Mr. Met .

In 2014 , the Mets and the Phillies met in a rare 5 game regular season series at Citizens Bank Park . The Mets took 4 out of 5 games . Three straight games were decided in extras , with the Phillies walking off 6 @-@ 5 in 14 in Game 2 and the Mets winning 5 @-@ 4 in 14 and 4 @-@ 3 in 11 in Games 3 and 4 respectively .

= = = 2015 : Phillies rebuild , Mets win Pennant = = =

In 2015 , the Phillies entered a rebuilding phase , trading away former stars Cole Hamels and Chase Utley mid @-@ season . The Phillies would go on to a last place finish in the National League East , losing 99 games on the season , while the Mets would go on and win the National League East title .

While the rivalry was somewhat subdued by the lopsidedness of the two teams records , the rivalry did provide some moments . On April 15 , Mets pitcher Matt Harvey drilled Chase Utley in the back , after a few Mets pitchers had been hit by the Phillies . On August 25 , during a game at Citizens Bank Park Phillies coach Larry Bowa started yelling out of the dugout after a quick pitch by Mets reliever Hansel Robles while Darin Ruf was in the box not looking up and not ready for the pitch . Bowa also yelled at Mets 1st baseman Daniel Murphy over a perceived slight by Murphy 's bat flip earlier in the game during a home run . Benches cleared as Bowa threatened Murphy with retaliation and was ultimately ejected from the game .

The Mets played in the 2015 National League Division Series against the Los Angeles Dodgers

whose roster featured former Phillies players Jimmy Rollins and Chase Utley . The series featured a contentious slide in Game 2 by Utley at 2nd base , injuring Mets shortstop Rubén Tejada . The fallout created controversy on take out slides at 2nd and Utley was suspended for two games . Mets fans booed Utley loudly during the pregame for Game 3 at Citi Field , and chanted " We want Utley " after the mets took a 10 @-@ 3 lead during the game . However Utley did not appear again in the series until late in Game 5 and the Mets won the series , and eventually won the 2015 National League Championship Series for the pennant .

= = = Inline citations = = =