

## Three Divisions Instead of Two: "What If" Scenarios for HISTORY MAKER BASEBALL

*By Joe Pritchard*

I love "What If" scenarios, and I'm lousy at completing full season baseball projects. An idea popped into my head the other day that a playoff replay would be a great way of having a chance to complete a project, but since I only own the 1977 and 1987 seasons, there would only be a few playoff rounds to play before I was done with the idea. I would also not get to use one of my favorite teams, the 1987 Milwaukee Brewers. Another idea showed up to save the day, and that is to apply the 1994 playoff format to seasons before the format existed. I'm having great fun playing my 1987 modified playoff, and decided to see what the rest of the 1980's (and then the late 70's and early 90's, as the project grew) would have looked like with the 1994 playoff format. I have attempted to keep the LCS and World Series as they were at the time, with the Division Series being played in its initial 1994 format. The one change I've made from the 1994 format is to have home field advantage in the playoffs determined by the 1998 rules, which is the team with the best record has home field advantage, unless one of the teams is the wild card team, as they can't have home field advantage in any series.

There are a few flaws with this methodology that I wanted to address and then move on from. First, of course, is that teams didn't play balanced schedules across the board. This is especially apparent in the National League, but even the American League couldn't have a perfectly balanced schedule. The National League's unbalanced schedule will come back to bite this project at least once.

The other major flaw is that with more teams still potentially in the hunt, trading deadline action (even though it was earlier in the season for most of the 80's, of not all of them) may have been different, and teams may have had different roster priorities in this universe than they did in real life. There's not much I can do about that.

The third thing that differs here is that, for the 1977-1992 seasons, I had to modify the 1994 National League division format slightly for it to make sense. Florida and Colorado don't exist until 1993, so instead of having 5 teams in the NL Central and 3 in the NL West, I moved Houston to the NL West so that there would be 4 teams in each division, and then moved Houston back to the Central in 1993 when Florida and Colorado made their debuts.

Now that we have established that this shouldn't be considered a serious study and is intended solely as a fun "What If" scenario, let's play ball!

### **1977**

A fantastic scenario right off the bat, as the "first ever" AL wild card will be decided on the final game of the season! Boston and Baltimore finish tied at 97-64, and there is a makeup game that was never played between the two teams in Boston because it wouldn't affect the pennant race. In this scenario, though, it needs to be played to determine the wild card team. That team will face Kansas City in the divisional round, and Texas will face New York.

In the NL, the defending champion Cincinnati team gets a second chance to defend their crown, becoming the first NL wild card team and facing off with Philadelphia, while Pittsburgh and Los Angeles match up in the other divisional matchup.

## 1978

Another fantastic scenario, but in this case, we lose an epic one game playoff showdown between the Red Sox and Yankees, because both teams qualify for the playoffs. The Yankees win the mathematical tiebreaker and the AL East crown, and take on the winner of the AL West, while Boston faces AL Central winner Milwaukee.

You'll notice I didn't name a winner for the AL West. That's because in this scenario, Texas and California are tied at 87-75, so one game playoff fans can rejoice! Texas won the season series with California, so they will be the host of the playoff game.

The NL situation is also a bit convoluted. Pittsburgh finished at 88-73, but San Francisco is at 89-73. In real life, this didn't matter one bit, as neither were in a playoff position. In this case, though, San Francisco is the Wild Card as things stand, so Pittsburgh needs to make up the game missed, which was at Cincinnati. If they win, they would go to San Francisco for a wild card playoff. If they lose either, San Francisco is the wild card team. If they win both, Pittsburgh is the wild card team.

It makes a big difference who the wild card team is as well, as the division winner of the wild card team's division can't host the wild card team in the divisional round.

If San Francisco wins the Wild Card:

San Francisco faces Cincinnati

Philadelphia faces Los Angeles

If Pittsburgh wins the Wild Card:

Pittsburgh faces Los Angeles

Philadelphia faces Cincinnati

## 1979

This is a much tamer scenario. Boston wins the wild card and faces Milwaukee, and California meets Baltimore in the divisional round. In the NL, Cincinnati's machine keeps rolling with a wild card berth, and they face Montreal. Houston wins the West and faces Pittsburgh.

## 1980

This season's AL East race is intense, but a touch less intense than reality, as a Wild Card berth awaits the runner up. Dick Howser's Yankees outrace Baltimore, and earn a first round matchup with an Oakland team that is barely over .500. Baltimore gets to face a tough Kansas City team.

While the AL was straightforward, the NL was not. In real life, LA's sweep of Houston at the end of the regular season necessitated a one game playoff, which Houston won. However, under the format

started in 1994, the two teams would not have played the playoff game, and LA would have won the tiebreaker under 1994 rules based on head to head record, leaving Houston the Wild Card team. Had another team been the wild card qualifier, a playoff game would have been required. If you'd like to swap Houston and Los Angeles based on Houston winning the one game playoff, go ahead, after all, this is a fantasy scenario!

With the way I chose to do this, Houston is the Wild Card and faces Philadelphia in the Division Series, and Cincinnati faces Los Angeles.

## **1981**

The strike makes this a mess. If you as the gamer want to, you can use the MLB's official format for that season, since it does include a division series, but if you want to follow along with our "fantasy" world here, here's how I've got things stacked up:

Based off the precedent set in 1972, where games lost to the strike were simply gone, and the Detroit Tigers won the AL East by half a game, I've done the same thing here, with similar results. Baltimore wins the AL East by losing two fewer games than the Yankees, who have the same number of wins. Detroit has the most wins, but the 3rd best win percentage in the league. New York gets a Wild Card berth and faces their old manager in Oakland in the division series, and Baltimore faces Milwaukee.

The NL East is a tight one, with Philadelphia facing the same fate as Boston did in 1972, falling short of the division leader, Montreal, by half a game. Cincinnati and St. Louis get the playoff berths they didn't get due to the split season, with wild card St. Louis facing Los Angeles and Montreal and Cincinnati squaring off in the Division Series.

## **1982**

The AL is nice and clean, with Baltimore getting California and Milwaukee facing Wild Card Boston. The last series of the season between Baltimore and Milwaukee takes on much less significance than reality.

The NL isn't as clean, once again. We have a tie that isn't easily resolved in the NL East, with Philadelphia and Atlanta finishing 89-73. One gets the wild card, and one gets the division. In this format, since they tied head to head in the regular season (6-6), they'd go to divisional record, but since they played in different divisions in real life (with Atlanta in the West, somehow), a straight divisional comparison isn't easy. I took the games they played against each other, Montreal, and New York, compared them, and found Philadelphia had a slightly better win percentage (albeit in 48 games instead of the 36 games Atlanta played against the 3 teams). In my scenario, Philadelphia gets the Division and Atlanta the Wild Card. The gamer may want to have a one game playoff, though, since the tiebreaker isn't all that cut and dry. St. Louis faces Atlanta (or Philadelphia, if you choose to change who the wild card is), and LA faces Philadelphia (or Atlanta, etc., etc.).

### **1983**

On one hand, 1983 is easy, since the results are clear cut. On the other, it's a bit ugly, since we have two division winners that don't seem worthy of the title (and one that's clearly not worthy). In the AL, wild card Detroit gets to face a Chicago White Sox club that doesn't get a lot of historical attention, and 77 win Texas must make it through Baltimore.

In the NL, Atlanta comes up just short in the NL East, and draws Los Angeles, and 84 win Pittsburgh and Philadelphia face off in a Keystone State series.

### **1984**

The AL East was much better overall than the AL West quite often in the 80's, but it's taken to ridiculous levels this season. The last place team in the AL East (Baltimore, 5th place in real life) could have won either of the other two divisions! Detroit's dominant season gets them .500 California, and Toronto gets into the postseason a year earlier than reality and faces an 84 win Kansas City team.

St. Louis, an 84-win wild card, gets San Diego, and a young Mets team on the rise gets into the playoffs to face the Chicago Cubs.

### **1985**

A definite year of haves and have nots, 1985's AL playoff picture has wild card New York facing Kansas City, and California facing Toronto. The NL has wild card Cincinnati facing New York, and Los Angeles facing St. Louis. There's the potential for a Subway Series, an all-Missouri World Series (as happened in real life), or an LA-area series, as well as a bunch of other fun combos, including a New York - St. Louis NLCS.

### **1986**

Cleveland? In the playoffs? In the 80's? Preposterous! Right? Well, maybe not. The AL Central is weak in 1986, and Cleveland gets in with 84 wins to face Boston, while New York draws California. In the NL, Philadelphia sneaks into the playoffs in a season dominated by division rival New York, drawing Houston, while Cincinnati is trying to send off their player/manager with a title in his last season of playing, but they'll have to get through New York first. Is this scenario fun? Bet on it!

### **1987**

This is the first scenario in which the actual champion doesn't even make the playoffs! A weak AL West sent 85 win Minnesota to the playoffs, and ultimately the championship in real life, but in this scenario, they're in the Central, and don't even qualify for the playoffs, while 81 win Oakland does! Paced by young sluggers, they'll face a Detroit team that fortified their pitching staff late in the season, while wild card Toronto, who slid out of the East lead during the final week of the season, draws a young

Milwaukee club. Montreal climbs back into the postseason picture as the NL wild card and faces St. Louis, while New York and San Francisco duel it out.

### **1988**

A weaker AL East than usual sends Boston to Minnesota (who don't make the playoffs in real life, but win the Central here, a reversal of the 1987 scenario) and wild card Detroit to Oakland for a rematch of last year's divisional round, while NL wild card Pittsburgh draws New York, and Cincinnati faces off against Los Angeles.

A quick note on the NL Central, Pittsburgh could possibly tie Cincinnati's 87 wins if two Pittsburgh games and one Cincinnati makeup game were played and all break Pittsburgh's way, but since both teams make the playoffs anyway, there would be no one game playoff, and Pittsburgh would lose the tiebreaker, so it's unnecessary to make up the games, unless, of course, you want to! It appears Pittsburgh was short two games against Atlanta in Atlanta, and Cincinnati was short one game against New York in Cincinnati, a scenario which favors Pittsburgh a bit, although all three would have to go right for them. Since we're in the land of fantasy, you could play those games out, and play a one game tiebreaker if there was a tie at the end of the season, if you prefer that method of breaking ties.

### **1989**

Except for the 1980 NL, no wild cards in the 1980's had come from either of the Western divisions. In 1989, however, both leagues had a wild card from the West. California took the wild card in the AL, and will face Kansas City, while Oakland gets Toronto. In the NL, San Diego gets a wild card berth, and faces an upstart Chicago team, and a fading New York club and San Francisco face off in the other division series.

### **1990**

After an extended absence, the AL welcomes Chicago back into the playoffs, as they win the Central going away. They face off with Boston, while a dominant Oakland club sees a rematch with Toronto. Pittsburgh sits atop the NL Central, drawing Los Angeles, and New York and Cincinnati see each other for the third time in six years in the divisional round.

### **1991**

Our format change causes a one game playoff for the Wild Card in the NL, with St. Louis and San Diego facing off in San Diego for the right to be the Wild Card team. San Diego won the season series between the two clubs, earning them the home field advantage for the tiebreaker.

How the divisional round is set up in the NL is determined by who wins the Wild Card.

If St. Louis wins the Wild Card:

St. Louis faces Atlanta and Los Angeles faces Pittsburgh

If San Diego wins the Wild Card:

San Diego faces Pittsburgh and Los Angeles faces Atlanta

The AL is easier, Chicago won the wild card and the right to play Toronto, and Texas sneaks past Oakland and will play Minnesota.

## **1992**

Deadlocked for the first seed in the AL, Oakland won the tiebreaker with Toronto, and gets to host wild card Minnesota, while Toronto gets Milwaukee. San Diego sneaks in with only 82 wins and draws Pittsburgh, while Cincinnati gets another wild card berth and faces Atlanta.

## **1993**

Instead of locking horns in an epic division duel, Atlanta and San Francisco must wait to duke it out (if they both make it to the LCS, of course), with Atlanta hosting St. Louis and San Francisco getting wild card Philadelphia. In the AL, New York is back, this time as a wild card, and gets Chicago, while Texas takes advantage of Oakland cratering and gets a shot at Toronto.

## **1994**

This is the ultimate fantasy playoff scenario, of course, and in this case, we can use the real standings as is. As it was in 1972, and again in our 1981 fantasy scenario, an uneven number of games screws with the standings, and this time, Houston is on the wrong end of this, losing the NL Central by a half a game.

Cleveland is at the beginning of a good run, and earns a wild card berth. They get New York, who is also climbing to the top of the league. Texas gets yet another break, winning the West division with a 52-62 record, and draws Chicago in the divisional round. Atlanta must settle for a wild card berth this season, and faces Cincinnati. This season's Montreal club finally gets their day in the sun, and a matchup with 58-56 Los Angeles might just be the start of something magical.

**1977 Modified MLB Standings**

AL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
New York	100	62	0.617
Baltimore	97	64	0.602
Boston	97	64	0.602
Detroit	74	88	0.457
Toronto	54	107	0.335

Final game @ BOS  
Final game vs. BAL

NL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Philadelphia	101	61	0.623
Montreal	75	87	0.463
New York	64	98	0.395
Atlanta	61	101	0.377

AL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Kansas City	102	60	0.630
Chicago	90	72	0.556
Minnesota	84	77	0.522
Cleveland	71	90	0.441
Milwaukee	67	95	0.414

NL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Pittsburgh	96	66	0.593
Cincinnati	88	74	0.543
St. Louis	83	79	0.512
Chicago	81	81	0.500

Wild Card

AL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Texas	94	68	0.580
California	74	88	0.457
Seattle	64	98	0.395
Oakland	63	98	0.391

NL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Los Angeles	98	64	0.605
Houston	81	81	0.500
San Francisco	75	87	0.463
San Diego	69	93	0.426

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Wild Card  
Kansas City

Texas  
New York

**ALCS (2-3)**

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Cincinnati  
Philadelphia

Pittsburgh  
Los Angeles

**NLCS (2-3)**

World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, No DH)

World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, No DH)

**1978 Modified MLB Standings**

AL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
New York	99	63	0.611
Boston	99	63	0.611
Baltimore	90	71	0.559
Detroit	86	76	0.531
Toronto	59	102	0.366

Wild Card

NL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Philadelphia	90	72	0.556
Montreal	76	86	0.469
Atlanta	69	93	0.426
New York	66	96	0.407

AL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Milwaukee	93	69	0.574
Kansas City	92	70	0.568
Minnesota	73	89	0.451
Chicago	71	90	0.441
Cleveland	69	90	0.434

NL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Cincinnati	92	69	0.571
Pittsburgh	88	73	0.547
Chicago	79	83	0.488
St. Louis	69	93	0.426

Makeup @ CIN, possible playoff @ SF

AL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Texas	87	75	0.537
California	87	75	0.537
Oakland	69	93	0.426
Seattle	56	104	0.350

Playoff vs. California  
Playoff at Texas

NL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Los Angeles	95	67	0.586
San Francisco	89	73	0.549
San Diego	84	78	0.519
Houston	74	88	0.457

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Boston  
Milwaukee

AL West  
New York

**ALCS (2-3)**

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

If San Francisco wins the Wild Card:

San Francisco faces Cincinnati  
Philadelphia faces Los Angeles

If Pittsburgh wins the Wild Card:

Pittsburgh faces Los Angeles  
Philadelphia faces Cincinnati

**NLCS (2-3)**

**World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH)**

**World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH)**



**1979 Modified MLB Standings**

AL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Baltimore	102	57	0.642
Boston	91	69	0.569
New York	89	71	0.556
Detroit	85	76	0.528
Toronto	53	109	0.327

Wild Card

NL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Montreal	95	65	0.594
Philadelphia	84	78	0.519
Atlanta	66	94	0.413
New York	63	99	0.389

AL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Milwaukee	95	66	0.590
Kansas City	85	77	0.525
Minnesota	82	80	0.506
Cleveland	81	80	0.503
Chicago	73	87	0.456

NL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Pittsburgh	98	64	0.605
Cincinnati	90	71	0.559
St. Louis	86	76	0.531
Chicago	80	82	0.494

Wild Card

AL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
California	88	74	0.543
Texas	83	79	0.512
Seattle	67	95	0.414
Oakland	54	108	0.333

NL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Houston	89	73	0.549
Los Angeles	79	83	0.488
San Francisco	71	91	0.438
San Diego	68	93	0.422

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Boston  
Milwaukee

California  
Baltimore

**ALCS (2-3)**

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Cincinnati  
Montreal

Houston  
Pittsburgh

**NLCS (2-3)**

World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, No DH)

World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, No DH)

**1980 Modified MLB Standings**

AL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
New York	103	59	0.636
Baltimore	100	62	0.617
Detroit	84	78	0.519
Boston	83	77	0.519
Toronto	67	95	0.414

Wild Card

NL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Philadelphia	91	71	0.562
Montreal	90	72	0.556
Atlanta	81	80	0.503
New York	67	95	0.414

AL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Kansas City	97	65	0.599
Milwaukee	86	76	0.531
Cleveland	79	81	0.494
Minnesota	77	84	0.478
Chicago	70	90	0.438

NL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Cincinnati	89	73	0.549
Pittsburgh	83	79	0.512
St. Louis	74	88	0.457
Chicago	64	98	0.395

AL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Oakland	83	79	0.512
Texas	76	85	0.472
California	65	95	0.406
Seattle	59	103	0.364

NL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Los Angeles	92	70	0.568
Houston	92	70	0.568
San Francisco	75	86	0.466
San Diego	73	89	0.451

Wild Card

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Baltimore  
Kansas City

Oakland  
New York

**ALCS (2-3)**

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Houston  
Philadelphia

Cincinnati  
Los Angeles

**NLCS (2-3)**

World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH)

World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH)

**1981 Modified MLB Standings**

AL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Baltimore	59	46	0.562
New York	59	48	0.551
Detroit	60	49	0.550
Boston	59	49	0.546
Toronto	37	69	0.349

Wild Card

NL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Montreal	60	48	0.556
Philadelphia	59	48	0.551
Atlanta	50	56	0.472
New York	41	62	0.398

AL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Milwaukee	62	47	0.569
Chicago	54	52	0.509
Cleveland	52	51	0.505
Kansas City	50	53	0.485
Minnesota	41	68	0.376

NL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Cincinnati	66	42	0.611
St. Louis	59	43	0.578
Pittsburgh	46	56	0.451
Chicago	38	65	0.369

Wild Card

AL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Oakland	64	45	0.587
Texas	57	48	0.543
California	51	59	0.464
Seattle	44	65	0.404

NL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Los Angeles	63	47	0.573
Houston	61	49	0.555
San Francisco	56	55	0.505
San Diego	41	69	0.373

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

New York  
Oakland

Baltimore  
Milwaukee

**ALCS (2-3)**

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

St. Louis  
Los Angeles

Montreal  
Cincinnati

**NLCS (2-3)**

World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, No DH)

World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, No DH)

**1982 Modified MLB Standings**

AL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Baltimore	94	68	0.580
Boston	89	73	0.549
Detroit	83	79	0.512
New York	79	83	0.488
Toronto	78	84	0.481

Wild Card

NL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Philadelphia	89	73	0.549
Atlanta	89	73	0.549
Montreal	86	76	0.531
New York	65	97	0.401

Wild Card

AL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Milwaukee	95	67	0.586
Chicago	87	75	0.537
Cleveland	78	84	0.481
Kansas City	90	72	0.556
Minnesota	60	102	0.370

NL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
St. Louis	92	70	0.568
Pittsburgh	84	78	0.519
Chicago	73	89	0.451
Cincinnati	61	101	0.377

AL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
California	93	69	0.574
Seattle	76	86	0.469
Oakland	68	94	0.420
Texas	64	98	0.395

NL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Los Angeles	88	74	0.543
San Francisco	87	75	0.537
San Diego	81	81	0.500
Houston	77	85	0.475

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Boston  
Milwaukee

California  
Baltimore

**ALCS (2-3)**

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Atlanta  
St. Louis

Los Angeles  
Philadelphia

**NLCS (2-3)**

**World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH)**

**World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH)**

**1983 Modified MLB Standings**

<b>AL East</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>		<b>NL East</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>	
Baltimore	98	64	0.605		Philadelphia	90	72	0.556	
Detroit	92	70	0.568	Wild Card	Atlanta	88	74	0.543	Wild Card
Toronto	89	73	0.549		Montreal	82	80	0.506	
New York	71	71	0.500		New York	68	94	0.420	
Boston	78	84	0.481						

<b>AL Central</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>		<b>NL Central</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>	
Chicago	99	63	0.611		Pittsburgh	84	78	0.519	
Milwaukee	87	75	0.537		St. Louis	79	83	0.488	
Kansas City	79	83	0.488		Cincinnati	74	88	0.457	
Cleveland	70	92	0.432		Chicago	71	91	0.438	
Minnesota	70	92	0.432						

<b>AL West</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>		<b>NL West</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>	
Texas	77	85	0.475		Los Angeles	91	71	0.562	
Oakland	74	88	0.457		Houston	85	77	0.525	
California	70	92	0.432		San Diego	81	81	0.500	
Seattle	60	102	0.370		San Francisco	79	83	0.488	

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Detroit  
Chicago

Texas  
Baltimore

**ALCS (2-3)**

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Atlanta  
Los Angeles

Pittsburgh  
Philadelphia

**NLCS (2-3)**

**World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, No DH)**

**World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, No DH)**

**1984 Modified MLB Standings**

AL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Detroit	104	58	0.642
Toronto	89	73	0.549
New York	87	75	0.537
Boston	86	76	0.531
Baltimore	85	77	0.525

Wild Card

NL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
New York	90	72	0.556
Philadelphia	81	81	0.500
Atlanta	80	82	0.494
Montreal	78	83	0.484

AL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Kansas City	84	78	0.519
Minnesota	81	81	0.500
Cleveland	75	87	0.463
Chicago	74	88	0.457
Milwaukee	67	94	0.416

NL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Chicago	96	65	0.596
St. Louis	84	78	0.519
Pittsburgh	75	87	0.463
Cincinnati	70	92	0.432

Wild Card

AL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
California	81	81	0.500
Oakland	77	85	0.475
Seattle	74	88	0.457
Texas	69	92	0.429

NL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
San Diego	92	70	0.568
Houston	80	82	0.494
Los Angeles	79	83	0.488
San Francisco	66	96	0.407

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Toronto  
Kansas City

California  
Detroit

**ALCS (2-3)**

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

St. Louis  
San Diego

New York  
Chicago

**NLCS (2-3)**

World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH)

World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH)

**1985 Modified MLB Standings**

AL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Toronto	99	62	0.615
New York	97	64	0.602
Detroit	84	77	0.522
Baltimore	83	78	0.516
Boston	81	81	0.500

Wild Card

NL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
New York	98	64	0.605
Montreal	84	77	0.522
Philadelphia	75	87	0.463
Atlanta	66	96	0.407

AL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Kansas City	91	71	0.562
Chicago	85	77	0.525
Minnesota	77	85	0.475
Milwaukee	71	90	0.441
Cleveland	60	102	0.370

NL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
St. Louis	101	61	0.623
Cincinnati	89	72	0.553
Chicago	77	84	0.478
Pittsburgh	57	104	0.354

Wild Card

AL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
California	90	72	0.556
Oakland	77	85	0.475
Seattle	74	88	0.457
Texas	62	99	0.385

NL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Los Angeles	95	67	0.586
Houston	83	79	0.512
San Diego	83	79	0.512
San Francisco	62	100	0.383

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

New York  
Kansas City

California  
Toronto

**ALCS (2-3-2)**

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Cincinnati  
New York

Los Angeles  
St. Louis

**NLCS (2-3-2)**

**World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, No DH)**

**World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, No DH)**

**1986 Modified MLB Standings**

AL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Boston	95	66	0.590
New York	90	72	0.556
Detroit	87	75	0.537
Toronto	86	76	0.531
Baltimore	73	89	0.451

Wild Card

NL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
New York	108	54	0.667
Philadelphia	86	75	0.534
Montreal	78	83	0.484
Atlanta	72	89	0.447

Wild Card

AL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Cleveland	84	78	0.519
Milwaukee	77	84	0.478
Kansas City	76	86	0.469
Chicago	72	90	0.444
Minnesota	71	91	0.438

NL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Cincinnati	86	76	0.531
St. Louis	79	82	0.491
Chicago	70	90	0.438
Pittsburgh	64	98	0.395

AL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
California	92	70	0.568
Texas	87	75	0.537
Oakland	76	86	0.469
Seattle	67	95	0.414

NL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Houston	96	66	0.593
San Francisco	83	79	0.512
San Diego	74	88	0.457
Los Angeles	73	89	0.451

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

New York  
California

Cleveland  
Boston

**ALCS (2-3-2)**

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Philadelphia  
Houston

Cincinnati  
New York

**NLCS (2-3-2)**

World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH in AL Park)

World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH in AL Park)



**1987 Modified MLB Standings**

<b>AL East</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>
Detroit	98	64	0.605
Toronto	96	66	0.593
New York	89	73	0.549
Boston	78	84	0.481
Baltimore	67	95	0.414

Wild Card

<b>NL East</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>
New York	92	70	0.568
Montreal	91	71	0.562
Philadelphia	80	82	0.494
Atlanta	69	92	0.429

Wild Card

<b>AL Central</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>
Milwaukee	91	71	0.562
Minnesota	85	77	0.525
Kansas City	83	79	0.512
Chicago	77	85	0.475
Cleveland	61	101	0.377

<b>NL Central</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>
St. Louis	95	67	0.586
Cincinnati	84	78	0.519
Pittsburgh	80	82	0.494
Chicago	76	85	0.472

<b>AL West</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>
Oakland	81	81	0.500
Seattle	78	84	0.481
California	75	87	0.463
Texas	75	87	0.463

<b>NL West</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>
San Francisco	90	72	0.556
Houston	76	86	0.469
Los Angeles	73	89	0.451
San Diego	65	97	0.401

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Toronto  
Milwaukee

Oakland  
Detroit

**ALCS (2-3-2)**

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Montreal  
St. Louis

San Francisco  
New York

**NLCS (2-3-2)**

World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, DH in AL Park)

World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, DH in AL Park)

**1988 Modified MLB Standings**

AL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Boston	89	73	0.549
Detroit	88	74	0.543
Toronto	87	75	0.537
New York	85	76	0.528
Baltimore	54	107	0.335

Wild Card

NL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
New York	100	60	0.625
Montreal	81	81	0.500
Philadelphia	65	96	0.404
Atlanta	54	106	0.338

AL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Minnesota	91	71	0.562
Milwaukee	87	75	0.537
Kansas City	84	77	0.522
Cleveland	78	84	0.481
Chicago	71	90	0.441

NL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Cincinnati	87	74	0.540
Pittsburgh	85	75	0.531
Chicago	77	85	0.475
St. Louis	76	86	0.469

Wild Card

AL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Oakland	104	58	0.642
California	75	87	0.463
Texas	70	91	0.435
Seattle	68	93	0.422

NL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Los Angeles	94	67	0.584
San Diego	83	78	0.516
San Francisco	83	79	0.512
Houston	82	80	0.506

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Detroit  
Oakland

Boston  
Minnesota

**ALCS (2-3-2)**

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Pittsburgh  
New York

Cincinnati  
Los Angeles

**NLCS (2-3-2)**

World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH in AL Park)

World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH in AL Park)

**1989 Modified MLB Standings**

<b>AL East</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>
Toronto	89	73	0.549
Baltimore	87	75	0.537
Boston	83	79	0.512
New York	74	87	0.460
Detroit	59	103	0.364

<b>AL Central</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>
Kansas City	92	70	0.568
Milwaukee	81	81	0.500
Minnesota	80	82	0.494
Cleveland	73	87	0.456
Chicago	69	92	0.429

<b>AL West</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>
Oakland	99	63	0.611
California	91	71	0.562
Texas	83	79	0.512
Seattle	73	89	0.451

Wild Card

<b>NL East</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>
New York	87	75	0.537
Montreal	81	81	0.500
Philadelphia	67	95	0.414
Atlanta	63	97	0.394

<b>NL Central</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>
Chicago	93	69	0.574
St. Louis	86	76	0.531
Cincinnati	75	87	0.463
Pittsburgh	74	88	0.457

<b>NL West</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>PCT</b>
San Francisco	92	70	0.568
San Diego	89	73	0.549
Houston	86	76	0.531
Los Angeles	77	83	0.481

Wild Card

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

California  
Kansas City

Toronto  
Oakland

**ALCS (2-3-2)**

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

San Diego  
Chicago

New York  
San Francisco

**NLCS (2-3-2)**

World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, DH in AL Park)

World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, DH in AL Park)

**1990 Modified MLB Standings**

AL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Boston	88	74	0.543
Toronto	86	76	0.531
Detroit	79	83	0.488
Baltimore	76	85	0.472
New York	67	95	0.414

Wild Card

NL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
New York	91	71	0.562
Montreal	85	77	0.525
Philadelphia	77	85	0.475
Atlanta	65	97	0.401

AL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Chicago	94	68	0.580
Cleveland	77	85	0.475
Kansas City	75	86	0.466
Minnesota	74	88	0.457
Milwaukee	74	88	0.457

NL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Pittsburgh	95	67	0.586
Cincinnati	91	71	0.562
Chicago	77	85	0.475
St. Louis	70	92	0.432

Wild Card

AL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Oakland	103	59	0.636
Texas	83	79	0.512
California	80	82	0.494
Seattle	77	85	0.475

NL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Los Angeles	86	76	0.531
San Francisco	85	77	0.525
San Diego	75	87	0.463
Houston	75	87	0.463

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Toronto  
Oakland

Boston  
Chicago

**ALCS (2-3-2)**

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Cincinnati  
New York

Los Angeles  
Pittsburgh

**NLCS (2-3-2)**

World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH in AL Park)

World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH in AL Park)

**1991 Modified MLB Standings**

AL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Toronto	91	71	0.562
Boston	84	78	0.519
Detroit	84	78	0.519
New York	71	91	0.438
Baltimore	67	95	0.414

AL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Minnesota	95	67	0.586
Chicago	87	75	0.537
Milwaukee	83	79	0.512
Kansas City	82	80	0.506
Cleveland	57	105	0.352

AL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Texas	85	77	0.525
Oakland	84	78	0.519
Seattle	83	79	0.512
California	81	81	0.500

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Chicago  
Toronto

Texas  
Minnesota

**ALCS (2-3-2)**

World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, DH in AL Park)

NL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Atlanta	94	68	0.580
Philadelphia	78	84	0.481
New York	77	84	0.478
Montreal	71	90	0.441

NL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Pittsburgh	98	64	0.605
St. Louis	84	78	0.519
Chicago	77	83	0.481
Cincinnati	74	88	0.457

NL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Los Angeles	93	69	0.574
San Diego	84	78	0.519
San Francisco	75	87	0.463
Houston	65	97	0.401

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

If Wild Card is St. Louis, then St. Louis vs. Atlanta  
If Wild Card is San Diego, then San Diego vs. Pittsburgh

If Wild Card is St. Louis, then Los Angeles vs. Pittsburgh  
If Wild Card is San Diego, then Los Angeles vs. Atlanta

**NLCS (2-3-2)**

World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, DH in AL Park)

Wild Card

Playoff at San Diego

Playoff vs. St. Louis

**1992 Modified MLB Standings**

AL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Toronto	96	66	0.593
Baltimore	89	73	0.549
New York	76	86	0.469
Detroit	75	87	0.463
Boston	73	89	0.451

NL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Atlanta	98	64	0.605
Montreal	87	75	0.537
New York	72	90	0.444
Philadelphia	70	92	0.432

AL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Milwaukee	92	70	0.568
Minnesota	90	72	0.556
Chicago	86	76	0.531
Cleveland	76	86	0.469
Kansas City	72	90	0.444

Wild Card

NL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Pittsburgh	96	66	0.593
Cincinnati	90	72	0.556
St. Louis	83	79	0.512
Chicago	78	84	0.481

Wild Card

AL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Oakland	96	66	0.593
Texas	77	85	0.475
California	72	90	0.444
Seattle	64	98	0.395

NL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
San Diego	82	80	0.506
Houston	81	81	0.500
San Francisco	72	90	0.444
Los Angeles	63	99	0.389

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Minnesota  
Oakland

Milwaukee  
Toronto

**ALCS (2-3-2)**

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Cincinnati  
Atlanta

San Diego  
Pittsburgh

**NLCS (2-3-2)**

World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH in AL Park)

World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH in AL Park)

**1993 Modified MLB Standings**

AL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Toronto	95	67	0.586
New York	88	74	0.543
Detroit	85	77	0.525
Baltimore	85	77	0.525
Boston	80	82	0.494

Wild Card

NL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Atlanta	104	58	0.642
Philadelphia	97	65	0.599
Montreal	94	68	0.580
Florida	64	98	0.395
New York	59	103	0.364

Wild Card

AL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Chicago	94	68	0.580
Kansas City	84	78	0.519
Cleveland	76	86	0.469
Minnesota	71	91	0.438
Milwaukee	69	93	0.426

NL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
St. Louis	87	75	0.537
Houston	85	77	0.525
Chicago	84	78	0.519
Pittsburgh	75	87	0.463
Cincinnati	73	89	0.451

AL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Texas	86	76	0.531
Seattle	82	80	0.506
California	71	91	0.438
Oakland	68	94	0.420

NL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
San Francisco	103	59	0.636
Los Angeles	81	81	0.500
Colorado	67	95	0.414
San Diego	61	101	0.377

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

New York  
Chicago

Texas  
Toronto

**ALCS (2-3-2)**

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Philadelphia  
San Francisco

St. Louis  
Atlanta

**NLCS (2-3-2)**

World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, DH in AL Park)

World Series (2 AL, 3 NL, 2 AL, DH in AL Park)

**1994 MLB Standings**

AL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
New York	70	43	0.619
Baltimore	63	49	0.563
Toronto	55	60	0.478
Boston	54	61	0.470
Detroit	53	62	0.461

AL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Chicago	67	46	0.593
Cleveland	66	47	0.584
Kansas City	64	51	0.557
Minnesota	53	60	0.469
Milwaukee	53	62	0.461

AL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Texas	52	62	0.456
Oakland	51	63	0.447
Seattle	49	63	0.438
California	47	68	0.409

**AL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Cleveland  
New York

Texas  
Chicago

**ALCS (2-3-2)**

World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH in AL Park)

NL East	Wins	Losses	PCT
Montreal	74	40	0.649
Atlanta	68	46	0.596
New York	55	58	0.487
Philadelphia	54	61	0.470
Florida	51	64	0.443

Wild Card

NL Central	Wins	Losses	PCT
Cincinnati	66	48	0.579
Houston	66	49	0.574
St. Louis	53	61	0.465
Pittsburgh	53	61	0.465
Chicago	49	64	0.434

NL West	Wins	Losses	PCT
Los Angeles	58	56	0.509
San Francisco	55	60	0.478
Colorado	53	64	0.453
San Diego	47	70	0.402

**NL Division Series (2 at lower seed, last 3 at higher seed)**

Atlanta  
Cincinnati

Los Angeles  
Montreal

**NLCS (2-3-2)**

World Series (2 NL, 3 AL, 2 NL, DH in AL Park)