

# 1915 PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES

90-62 1st  
MGR Pat Moran (NM)

## DP: 311 to 326

## Error: 351 to 361

	BA	SB	W/K	HR	T	D	L	R	RNG	Def.		
Fred Luderus	.315	9		113	116	144	262	262	AR	SD	1B141	L R
Bert Niehoff <i>John</i>	.238	21		111	112	131	235	233	AAR		2B148	R R
Dave Bancroft <i>"Beauty"</i>	.254	15		113	114	125	244	236	AR		SS153	B R
Bobby Byrne	.209	4	MK	-	112	115	224	223	AR		3B105	R R
Gavvy Cravath <i>"Cactus" Clifford</i>	.285	11		124	131	152	254	251	AR	T-1	OF149(RF)	R R
<i>"Possum"</i> Whitted <i>George</i>	.281	24		-	111	123	253	246	AAR	SD/T-1	OF119(CF/LF), 1B7	R R
<i>"Beals"</i> Becker <i>David</i>	.246	12		121	124	142	232	236	AAR		OF98(LF/RF), PH	L L
Bill Killefer	.238	5	MK	-	111	121	235	233	AR		C104	R R
<i>"Dode"</i> Paskert <i>George</i>	.244	9		112	115	134	241	234	AR		OF92(CF/LF), 1B5	R R
Milt Stock	.260	6		111	114	125	243	242	AR	SD	3B55, SS4	R R
Ed Burns	.241	1	MK	-	-	116	234	234	SLO		C62	R R
<i>"Bud"</i> Weiser <i>Harry</i>	.141	2		-	-	121	162	156	AR	LD	OF20(CF/LF)	R R
Oscar Dugey <i>"Jake"</i>	.154	2		-	-	116	164	163	AAR		PH, 2B14, PR	R R
Bert Adams <i>John</i>	.111	0		-	-	-	146	146	AR		C23, 1B1	B R
Pete Alexander	.169	0	MW	112	-	121	212	166	SLO		P49	R R
Erskine Mayer	.239	0	PK	112	114	123	236	233	SLO		P43	R R
Al Demaree	.176	0	PK	-	-	113	212	212	SLO	SD	P32	L R
<i>Eppa</i> Rixey	.164	0		-	-	113	211	165	SLO		P29	R L
George Chalmers	.169	0	MW PK	-	-	125	212	166	SLO		P26	R R
Pitcher R	.110	-	MW PK	111	-	113	153	145	SLO			
Pitcher L	.110	-	MW PK	111	-	113	145	146	SLO			

	ERA	IP	W	K	G	GS	SV				
Pete Alexander	1.22	376	123	565	49	42	3	.169	R R	<i>Grover Cleveland</i>	<i>"Old Pete"</i>
Erskine Mayer	2.36	275	124	632	43	33	2	.239	R R	<i>Jacob</i>	
Al Demaree <i>SD</i>	3.05	210	131	641	32	26	1	.176	L R		
<i>Eppa</i> Rixey	2.39	177	134	624	29	22	1	.164	R L	<i>"Jephtha"</i>	
George Chalmers	2.48	170	126	625	26	20	1	.169	R R		
George McQuillan X	2.12	64	122	652	9	8	0	.091	R R		
Stan Baumgartner	2.42	48	144	615	16	1	0	.083	L L	<i>Stanwood Fulton</i>	
Ben Tincup	2.03	31	132	641	10	0	0	.000	L R	<i>Austin</i>	
Joe Oeschger	3.42	24	135	636	6	1	0	.000	R R		

Philadelphia's first National League champion since joining the senior circuit in 1883. The ball club hit for a .247 average--fifth in the league--but popped 58 home runs, the most in the majors. The latter figure is remarkable if only for the fact this is the so-called "Dead Ball Era" when the baseball was hardly as lively as it is today (often the same ball, scuffed and dirtied, was used the ENTIRE game) and the stolen base, hit-and-run, and sacrifice bunt (hit) were the primary sources of a team's offense. The Phils had one big advantage: They played in the chummy Baker Bowl (just a couple miles from Connie Mack's Athletics haven, Shibe Park, in North Philly) with a home run distance of only 280 feet down the rightfield line. (To right-center it was a mere 300 feet.) Despite the short span to the wall, it was topped with a 60-foot extension, a combination at various times of wood, chicken wire, and tin sheeting which allowed all in attendance to hear an off-key clank when struck by a batted ball. (The wall from right-center to nearly the right-field foul line also sported a Lifebuoy Soap advertisement. Before and after the '15 season, the Phillies were one of the losingest teams in the big leagues which led to the sarcastic statement from someone unknown: "The Phillies use Lifebuoy and they STILL stink!") The team's upper management was very well known--especially by the hired help--for being ridiculously cheap and stingy with whatever cash the ball club had in the bank. It was a common, comical joke among the ballplayers during the Baker Bowl days that management's way of improving the clubhouse was replacing rusty nails with new ones each year for the hanging of jerseys and street clothes. Another unique feature of Baker Bowl was a noticeable hump running across the outfield close to the fence. This was an accommodation for a city railroad tunnel running underneath the ballpark to a nearby depot...

The Phils big power-bat of Gavvy Cravath blasted (?) 24 homers, drove in 115, and put him on-base enough to lead the team with 89 runs scored. Fellow outfielder "Beals" Becker had 11 round-trippers. Slick-fielding first baseman Fred Luderus topped the team in batting average and with his 157 base hits. The Phillies also had one of the best defensive catchers of that time, Bill Killefer, to finger-wiggle signals to an elite pitching staff...The pitching corps could boast the major league's lowest ERA for the year, a microscopic 2.17. (The average ERA in the big leagues was 2.90.) Grover Cleveland Alexander, "Old Pete," who went on to win 373 games in his career over 20 campaigns, won 31 contests, the most in the majors, and dropped only ten. His 241 strikeouts were also a big-league high. Erskine Mayer was next with 21 victories. After his playing career, lefty reliever Stan Baumgartner would become a well-celebrated Philly baseball writer...

The Red Sox from Boston were the Phillies opponents in the World Series. At Baker Bowl, October 8<sup>th</sup>, the Phillies won Game One, 3-1, but lost the next four--all one run games--before the franchise reached its next Fall Classic with the "Whiz Kids" of 1950. Philadelphia hit just .182 to the champion Red Sox's .316. Twenty-year-old "Babe" Ruth, exclusively a pitcher at the time, was zero for one at the plate, but never toed the pitching rubber.