

## American Series (Black Teams in Cuba)

The American Series began in 1891 when a group of “white” Major League ball players visited the island for a five game exhibition series against local Cuban teams. The team was called the “All Americans” and included National Baseball Hall of Famer, John McGraw. From 1891 and forward every time an American team would visit the island to play, the event was called the “American Series.”

The tradition of teams coming from the United States to play in Cuba continued until 1953. Branch Rickey’s Pittsburgh Pirates were the last team from the United States to play in the American Series in Cuba.

Over the years numerous black and Negro League teams visited Cuba to play in the American Series.

Year	Team	Record
1900	Cuban X Giants	12-3 (.800)
1903	Cuban X Giants	2-7-1 (.222)
1904	Cuban X Giants	6-3 (.667)
1905	Cuban X Giants	5-4 (.556)
1906	Cuban X Giants	6-5 (.545)
1907	Philadelphia Giants	10-12-1 (.455)
1908	Brooklyn Royal Giants	9-8 (.529)
1910	Chicago Leland Giants	7-6-1 (.538)
1912	New York Lincoln Giants	5-8 (.385)
1914	New Lincoln Stars	4-9-1 (.308)
1915	Indianapolis ABCs	8-12 (.400)
1920	Bacharach Giants	0-4-2 (.000)
1925	All Yankees	5-2-1 (.714)
1938	Homestead Grays	2-4 (.333)
1939	Homestead Grays	6-0 (1.000)
1945	New York Cubans	0-4-1 (.000)

Black baseball teams came to Cuba to play in the American Series on sixteen different occasions. When they played the local Cubans teams they always found stiff competition. Over the sixteen American Series in which black teams participated, the black baseball teams had cumulative record of 87 wins 91 loses and 8 ties for a .489 winning percentage. The Cuban X Giants (1900, 1903, 1904, 1905 and 1906) and Homestead Grays (1938 and 1939) were the two most successful black teams to play in the American Series.

- Cuban X Giants played in the most American Series with five appearances.
- Cuban X Giants won the most games in a series with twelve (12) victories in 1900.
- Cuban X Giants had the most overall wins with a 31-22-1 (.585) record.
- Homestead had the best won-loss percentage with an 8-4 (.667) record.
- Homestead Grays played in the only series (1939) without a loss, they were 6-0.

The following summaries review all of the American Series in which black and Negro League teams participated.

## 1900 Cuban X Giants

The Cuban X Giants were the first black team to visit Cuba. The Cuban X Giants played a fifteen game schedule against local Cuban teams that began on February 15<sup>th</sup> with the last game being played on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

E. B. Lamar, the manager of the Cuban X Giants, brought the following roster with him to play the exhibition series.

### Cuban X Giants (1900)

Player	Position	Player	Position
Ed Wilson	1B	Clarence "Kid" Carter	P
Charles Grant	2B	John Nelson	P/OF
Sol White	SS	James Robinson	P
Andrew Jackson	3B		
Clarence Williams	C		
William Jackson	OF		
Robert Jordan	OF		
Parker	OF/C		

The Cuban X Giants fielded an excellent squad. According to a newspaper article that appeared in the January 27<sup>th</sup> issue of El Nuevo Pais, the Cuban X Giants had compiled a won-loss record of 110-21 (.840) for the previous season in the United States. The Cuban X Giants played their first game on Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> against Almendares. The Cuban X Giants defeated Almendares by a score of 13-6. Box scores for fifteen games have been located. One game was rained out and there are possibly two other games for which box scores have not been found. The Cuban X Giants finished their exhibition series in Cuba with a record of 12-3 (.800) before returning home to the United States.

### Cuban X Giants – American Series (1900)

Game	Opponent	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Loosing Pitcher
1	Almendares	Feb 15 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	13-6	-	-
2	Rained Out	Feb 18 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	-	-
3	Cuba	Feb 22 <sup>nd</sup>	X Giants	7-5	-	-
4	Havana	Feb 25 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	6-5	James Robinson	Jose Romero
5	Almendares	Mar 4 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	13-6	-	-
6	Criollos	Mar 8 <sup>th</sup>	Criollos	6-4	-	-
7	Cuba	Mar 11 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	8-6	-	-
8	Libertad	Mar 18 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	15-11	-	-
9	Cuba	Mar 25 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	6-2	-	-
10	Cuba	Mar 25 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	4-1	-	-
11	10 de Octubre	Mar 26 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	14-0	-	-
12	Invencible	Mar 30 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	4-2	-	Armando Molina
13	Criollos	Apr 1 <sup>st</sup>	Criollos	6-4	Armando Molina	-
14	Independencia	Apr 3 <sup>rd</sup>	X Giants	10-6	-	-
15	Havana	Apr 8 <sup>th</sup>	Havana	10-7	-	-
16	Criollos	Apr 9 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	4-3	-	-

## 1903 Cuban X Giants

After an outstanding season in the United States, which saw them defeat the Philadelphia Giants for the “Colored Championship of the United States,” the Cuban X Giants sailed to Cuba under the direction of E.B. Lamar to play in the 1903 American Series. The Cuban X Giants brought an outstanding lineup to Cuba that included Charles Grant, Grant “Homerun” Johnson, Clarence Williams, Pete Hill and Andrew “Rube” Foster. Unfortunately for the X Giants several of their other key players did not make the trip. George “Chappie” Johnson (catcher), Andrew “Jap” Payne (outfield) and Sol White (first base) did not accompany the team to Cuba. The Cuban X Giants roster for the 1903 American Series was as follows:

### Cuban X Giants (1903)

Player	Position	Player	Position
Ray Wilson	1B	Preston “Pete” Hill	OF
Charles Grant	2B	Edward Wilson	OF/P
Grant Johnson	SS	George Wilson	OF
John Hill	3B	Andrew “Rube” Foster	P
Clarence Williams	C	Dan Mc Clellan	P/OF
Robert Jordan	C/OF	James Robinson	P

The X Giants arrived in late November and played their first game on December 1<sup>st</sup>. The Cuban X Giants faced the Colombia team and lost by a score of 6-3 in ten innings. The X Giants could only manage 2 hits in 37 at bats in the game. The loss to Columbia was a prediction of things to come as the X Giants struggled for the entire series against their Cuban opponents. The second game for the Cuban X Giants was no easier as they could only manage 2 hits in 30 at bats and lost to Nuevo Azul by a score of 4-3.

The X Giants hitting woes from the first two games did not improve and lack of hitting became the major nemesis of the X Giants. They only batted .130 (40 for 307) as a team for the series. Ray Wilson (.241) was the only X Giant to hit over .200 for the series. Even with their star studded lineup, the X Giants returned home with a dismal record of 2-7-1 (.222) for the ten games in which they played.

Andrew “Rube” Foster was the team’s leading pitcher in the American Series. Rube’s record of 1-2 did not accurately reflect his pitching performance in Cuba. In the 31 innings he pitched, Rube struck out 31 batters and only allowed 6 runs.

Bernardo P. Carrillo, who pitched two games for the Criollos and one game for San Francisco, totally dominated the X Giants hitters. Carrillo had a 3-0 record and held the X Giants to only 7 runs in 38 innings.

Game	Opponent	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Loosing Pitcher
1	Columbia	Dec 1 <sup>st</sup>	Columbia	6-3	Gabino Cardenas	Ed Wilson
2	Nuevo Azul	Dec 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Nuevo Azul	4-3	Jose Romero	Grant Johnson
3	Columbia	Dec 6 <sup>th</sup>	Columbia	2-1	Gabino Cardenas	Rube Foster
4	Nuevo Azul	Dec 8 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	4-0	Ed Wilson	Jose Romero
5	San Francisco	Dec 10 <sup>th</sup>	San Francisco	10-3	Bernardo Carrillo	Dan McClellan
6	Nuevo Azul	Dec 13 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	3-1	Rube Foster	Jose Romero
7	Clio	Dec 14 <sup>th</sup>	Clio	2-1	Juan Viola	Ed Wilson
8	Criollos	Dec 17 <sup>th</sup>	Criollos	4-0	Bernardo Carrillo	Dan McClellan
9	Criollos	Dec 20 <sup>th</sup>	Criollos	3-2	Bernardo Carrillo	Rube Foster
10	Criollos	Dec 21 <sup>st</sup>	Tied	2-2	-	-

## 1904 Cuban X Giants

The Cuban X Giants returned to Cuba in October of 1904 for the American Series and were determined to redeem themselves for their poor performance from the year before.

The roster for the Cuban X Giants for the 1904 American Series in Cuba was as follows:

### Cuban X Giants (1904)

Player	Position	Player	Position
Ray Wilson	1B	Robert Jordan	OF
John "Pat" Patterson	2B	Harry "Mike" Moore	OF
Grant "Homerun" Johnson	SS	Bill Bowman	OF/P
James Smith	3B	Dan McClellan	P/OF
Clarence Williams	C	Harry Buckner	P
		Emmett Bowman	P

In addition to the roster of players that came from the United States, Luis Bustamante played for the Cuban X Giants in two ball games. Bustamante was a superstar in Cuban baseball and had played for Abel Linares' All Cubans team that toured the United States. Luis also played in three games (one with Azul and two with Carmelita) against the X Giants.

The Cuban X Giants played nine games on their Cuban tour. Eight of the games were against Cuban teams and one against a "white" Minor League team (Lynn) who were in Cuba for the American Series. There were four "white" teams (Lynn, All Nationals, All Americans and Tampa) that played in Cuba during the 1904 American Series. The X Giants played their first game on October 13<sup>th</sup> against Azul. Newspaper accounts differ in the final score of the game. One account has the X Giants winning by a score of 8-1 and another newspaper report has the X Giants winning by a score of 3-1. Both newspaper accounts agree that the Cuban X Giants won the game and Harry Bucker was the winning pitcher and Angel D'Meza was the loser. The low point of the tour occurred when Jose Munoz of Habana pitched a no hitter against the X Giants on Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. The Cuban X Giants finished their 1904 American Series with a record of six wins and three defeats.

The team's hitting did improve over the previous season. The X Giants went 47 for 249 for a team batting average of .189. The leading hitters for the Cuban X Giants were Luis Bustamante (.375), Clarence Williams (.261), Harry "Mike" Moore (.259) and Dan McClellan (.241).

A summary of the X Giants nine games played in the 1904 American Series is as follows:

Game	Opponent	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Loosing Pitcher
1	Azul	Oct 13 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	8-1	Harry Buckner	Angel D'Meza
2	Carmelita	Oct 20 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	2-0	Dan McClellan	Jose Munoz
3	Azul	Oct 21 <sup>st</sup>	X Giants	11-7	Emmett Bowman	E. Palomino
4	Habana	Oct 24 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	9-3	Jose Munoz	Harry Buckner
5	Carmelita	Oct 24 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	2-0	Harry Buckner	A. Acosta
6	Habana	Oct 26 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	8-7	Dan McClellan	Jose Munoz
7	Habana	Oct 30 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	12-0	Jose Munoz	Emmett Bowman
8	Nuevo Criollos	-	X Giants	6-5	Bowman	Borges
9	Lynn	-	Lynn	2-1	Jerry Nops	Harry Buckner

## 1905 Cuban X Giants

E.B. Lamar, manager of the Cuban X Giants, brought his team back to Cuba for the 1905 American Series. The team that traveled to Cuba in October of 1905 had more players from the Philadelphia Giants on its roster than Cuban X Giants players. Grant "Homerun" Johnson, one of the most feared hitters in black baseball, did not make the trip to Cuba. This was the X Giants fourth trip to the island to play the local clubs.

The roster for the Cuban X Giants for the 1905 American Series in Cuba was as follows:

### Cuban X Giants (1905)

Player	Position	Player	Position
Ray Wilson	1B	Clarence "Bobby Winston"	OF
Dangerfield Talbert	2B	Preston "Pete" Hill	OF
John A. Hill	SS	Dan McClellan	OF/P
Harry "Mike" Moore	3B	Andrew "Rube" Foster	P/OF
Clarence Williams	C	Harry Buckner	P

For the third straight year, the Cuban X Giants failed to hit over .200 for a team batting average. The X Giants went 68 for 312 for a team batting average of .167 for the 1905 American Series. The leading hitters for the X Giants during the American Series were Pete Hill (.351), Clarence Winston (.250) and Rube Foster (.200). Harry Buckner and Rube Foster each went 2-2 on the mound and Dan McClellan won the only game he pitched.

Inocenio Perez (All Cubans) provided the most trouble for the Cuban X Giant hitters. Perez pitched 18 innings against the X Giants and only gave up one run on six hits. He won both of this starts by scores of 7-0 and 4-1. The top hitters for the Cuban teams were Emilio Palomino (6 for 11 - .545), Francisco Moran (4 for 9 - .444), Carlos Moran (5 for 13 - .385), Luis Padron (4 for 11 - .373) and Armando Cabanas (3 for 8 - .375).

Despite their star studded lineup the Cuban X Giants could only manage a record of 5-4 (.556) against their Cuban competition.

A summary of the X Giants ten games played in the 1905 American Series is as follows:

Game	Opponent	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Loosing Pitcher
1	All Cubans	Oct 22 <sup>nd</sup>	X Giants	8-6	Rube Foster	Angel D'Meza
2	Habana	Oct 24 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	4-0	Harry Buckner	Pedro Olave
3	Carmelita	Oct 26 <sup>th</sup>	Game rained out in the fourth inning			
4	Fe	Oct 27 <sup>th</sup>	Fe	2-1	Jose Munoz	Rube Foster
5	Habana	Oct 29 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	5-3	Harry Buckner	Luis Padron
6	Fe	Oct 30 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	8-1	Rube Foster	Jose Munoz
7	All Cubans	Nov 2 <sup>nd</sup>	All Cubans	7-0	Inocenio Perez	Harry Buckner
8	Fe	Nov 5 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	8-5	Dan McClellan	Jose Munoz
9	All Cubans	Nov 7 <sup>th</sup>	All Cubans	4-1	Inocenio Perez	Rube Foster
10	Habana	Nov 9 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	6-1	Luis Padron	Harry Buckner

After the conclusion of the American Series, the Cuban X Giants stayed in Cuba to play a series against Santiago located in the eastern part of the island.

## 1906 Cuban X Giants

The 1906 American Series was the fifth and final trip for the Cuban X Giants to play post season baseball in Cuba.

To bolster their roster for their trip to Cuba, the X Giants picked up four players from the “World Champion” Philadelphia Giants. These players were Emmett Bowman, Pete Hill, George Johnson and Harry “Mike” Moore. The complete roster for the Cuban X Giants for the 1906 American Series in Cuba was as follows:

### Cuban X Giants (1906)

Player	Position	Player	Position
George “Chappie” Johnson	1B	Clarence “Bobby” Winston	OF
Emmett “Scotty” Bowman	2B/P	Preston “Pete” Hill	OF
John Hill	SS		
Harry “Mike” Moore	3B	Harry Buckner	P/OF
Clarence Williams	C	Bill Gatewood	P/OF
Bruce Petway	C/OF		

Cuban players, Luis Bustamente and Regino Garcia, each played two games with the Cuban X Giants during the 1906 American Series. Bustamente played shortstop and went 0 for 9 (.000) and Regino Garcia caught two games and went 4 for 9 (.444).

The X Giants only faced two different Cuban teams (Almendares and Habana) during the American Series. The X Giants had little trouble with the Habana squad and took four out of the five games they played against each other. The Almendares team was a completely different situation. The Cuban X Giants could only manage two victories in the six games they played. The Cuban X Giants ended the American series with a won-loss record of 6-5 (.545).

As a team the X Giants posted a team batting average of .243 (90 for 370). It was the highest team batting average than the Cuban X Giants had ever posted in the American Series. The leading hitters for the X Giants were Pete Hill (.351), George “Chappie” Johnson (.333), Clarence Winston (.325) and Emmett Bowman (.250). Pitchers Emmett Bowman, Harry Buckner and Bill Gatewood each won two ball games.

A summary of the X Giants ten games played in the 1906 American Series is as follows:

Game	Opponent	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Loosing Pitcher
1	Habana	Nov 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Habana	8-7	Luis Gonzalez	Bill Gatewood
2	Habana	Nov 6 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	10-1	Harry Buckner	Luis Gonzalez
3	Almendares	Nov 9 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	8-4	Bill Gatewood	Angel D’Meza
4	Almendares	Nov 10 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	7-4	Emilio Palomino	Emmett Bowman
5	Habana	Nov 11 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	4-3	Bill Gatewood	Pedro Olave
6	Almendares	Nov 13 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	6-0	Jose Munoz	Harry Buckner
7	Habana	Nov 16 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	7-4	Emmett Bowman	Luis Gonzalez
8	Almendares	Nov 17 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	6-0	Rafael Figarola	Bill Gatewood
9	Habana	Nov 22 <sup>nd</sup>	X Giants	2-1	Emmett Bowman	Luis Gonzalez
10	Almendares	Nov 29 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	4-3	Jose Munoz	Harry Buckner
11	Almendares	Nov 30 <sup>th</sup>	X Giants	10-1	Bill Gatewood	Angel D’Meza

## 1907 Philadelphia Giants (1<sup>st</sup> Series – October 10<sup>th</sup> to November 8<sup>th</sup>)

The Philadelphia Giants were the “Colored World Champions” in 1907. They arrived in Cuba in early October to take on Almendares and Habana (the two best professional baseball teams in Cuba) in the 1907 American Series.

The roster for the Philadelphia Giants for the 1907 American Series in Cuba was as follows:

### Philadelphia Giants (1907)

Player	Position	Player	Position
Felix Wallace	1B	Preston “Pete” Hill	OF
John Henry “Pop” Lloyd	2B	Charles B. Earle	OF
Grant “Homerun” Johnson	SS	Dan McClellan	OF/P
Emmett “Scotty” Bowman	3B	Bill Holland	P/OF
Clarence Williams	C	John Davis	P
Bruce Petway	C/OF		

The Philadelphia Giants lost the series to the two Cuban teams. Almendares won the series with a record of 4-2-1 (.667), Habana was second with a 3-3 (.500) record and Philadelphia was last with a record of 5-7-1 (.417).

William “Bill” Holland (.321), Grant “Homerun” Johnson (.289), John Henry “Pop” Lloyd (.288), Preston “Pete” Hill (.263) and Charles B. Earle (.261) were the leading hitters for the Philadelphia Giants. Philadelphia had a team batting average of .220 (93 for 422) for the series. Dan McClellan (2-1) and John Davis (2-3) were Philadelphia’s top pitchers.

Carlos Royer (Almendares) was the leading pitcher for the Cubans with a 2-0 record and only allowed 5 runs in 20 innings. Heliodoro Hidalgo (Almendares) was the leading hitter for the Cubans with a .373 batting average.

A summary of the Philadelphia Giants thirteen games played in their first 1907 American Series is as follows:

Game	Opponent	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Loosing Pitcher
1	Almendares	Oct 10 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	6-0	Jose Munoz	Bill Holland
2	Habana	Oct 13 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	9-4	John Davis	Luis Padron
3	Almendares	Oct 14 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	2-1	Carlos Royer	Bill Holland
4	Habana	Oct 17 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	5-1	Dan McClellan	J. Perez
5	Almendares	Oct 20 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	1-0	Andres Ortega	John Davis
6	Habana	Oct 21 <sup>st</sup>	Habana	3-1	Luis Gonzalez	Bill Holland
7	Almendares	Oct 24 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	3-1	John Davis	Jose Munoz
8	Habana	Oct 27 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	7-5	Incenio Perez	Bill Holland
9	Almendares	Oct 28 <sup>th</sup>	Tie	4-4	-	-
10	Habana	Oct 31 <sup>st</sup>	Philadelphia	12-1	Bill Holland	Luis Gonzalez
11	Almendares	Nov 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Almendares	5-4	Carlos Royer	John Davis
12	Habana	Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	5-1	Luis Gonzalez	Dan McClellan
13	Almendares	Nov 8 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	8-2	John Davis	Andres Ortega

## 1907 Philadelphia Giants (2<sup>nd</sup> Series – December 5<sup>th</sup> to December 30<sup>th</sup>)

When the Detroit Tigers cancelled coming to Cuba to play, Cuban baseball officials asked the Philadelphia Giants to extend their stay and play a second series. The 2<sup>nd</sup> American Series of 1907 was played at Almendares Park. It was held from December 5<sup>th</sup> to December 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Giants agreed to play the second series, but had to recruit several players from the United States because four of the players that they had brought to the island were ready to go home and did not want to stay until the end of the year. Pete Hill, Bill Holland, Grant Johnson and Dan McClellan returned to the United States after the Philadelphia Giants finished playing their first American Series. They were replaced by William “Bill” Gatewood, Nathan Harris, Andrew Payne and Clarence Winston who arrived in Cuba on November 20<sup>th</sup>. For some unknown reason, Nathan Harris never appeared in a game during the Philadelphia Giants 2<sup>nd</sup> American Series.

The roster for Philadelphia for the 2<sup>nd</sup> American Series in 1907 was as follows:

### Philadelphia Giants (1907)

Player	Position	Player	Position
Felix Wallace	1B	Andrew “Jap” Payne	OF
Nathan Harris	2B	Clarence Winston	OF
John Henry “Pop” Lloyd	SS	Bruce Petway	OF/1B
Emmett Bowman	3B	Charles Earle	OF/2B/P
Clarence Williams	C/1B	John Davis	P
		Bill Gatewood	P

Luis Gonzalez who was from Cuba and played in the United States for the Cuban Stars also appeared in one game for the Philadelphia Giants.

There were eleven games scheduled for the series. Box scores have only been found for the first ten games. A box score for the game that was to be played on December 30<sup>th</sup> has yet to be found. Philadelphia went 5-5 (.500) for the ten games for which box scores have been located for the 2<sup>nd</sup> American Series in 1907. Habana was 3-2 and Almendares went 2-3 against the Giants.

The Giants leading hitters for the series were Charles Earle (.414), Clarence Williams (.307) and Clarence Winston (.297). As a team the Giants batted .232 (70 for 302). John Davis was the team’s top pitcher with a 4-2 record and 11 runs given up in 53 innings pitched.

A summary of the Philadelphia Giants ten games played in their 2<sup>nd</sup> 1907 American Series is:

Game	Opponent	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Loosing Pitcher
1	Almendares	Dec 5 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	6-2	John Davis	Andres Ortega
2	Almendares	Dec 8 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	3-2	Carlos Royer	John Davis
3	Habana	Dec 9 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	8-7	Angel D’Meza	Bill Gatewood
4	Almendares	Dec 12 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	3-1	John Davis	Jose Munoz
5	Habana	Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	3-2	Luis Gonzalez	Bill Gatewood
6	Almendares	Dec 16 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	2-0	Andres Ortega	John Davis
7	Habana	Dec 19 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	9-8	Luis Gonzalez	Bill Gatewood
8	Almendares	Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Philadelphia	5-1	John Davis	Emilio Palomino
9	Habana	Dec 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Philadelphia	8-2	Charles Earle	Angel D’Meza
10	Habana	Dec 29 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	3-2	John Davis	Angel D’Meza
11	The game scheduled for December 30 <sup>th</sup> does not appear to be reported in the Cuban newspapers.					

## 1908 Brooklyn Royal Giants

The Brooklyn Royal Giants traveled to Cuba in 1908 to play in the American Series. The Royal Giants faced the two top teams (Almendares and Habana) in the Cuban League and played one game against the Cincinnati Reds of the National League.

The roster for the Brooklyn Royal Giants for the 1908 American Series was as follows:

### Brooklyn Royal Giants (1908)

Player	Position	Player	Position
Al Robinson	1B	W. "Gus" James	OF/C
Sam Mongin	2B	Preston "Pete" Hill	OF
Grant "Homerun" Johnson	SS	Ashby Dunbar	OF
William "Bill" Monroe	3B	Harry Buckner	P/OF
Phil Bradley	C	Charles B. Earle	P/OF
		Robert "Jude" Gans	P

In addition Ricardo Hernandez (2B) and Agustin Parpetti (1B) also each played one game for the Brooklyn Royal Giants during the 1908 American Series.

Brooklyn faced Jose Mendez and the Almendares squad in its first game in the American Series. The game was played on October 10<sup>th</sup> and resulted in a 3-2 victory for Almendares. Victories in the series went back and forth between the Royal Giants and the two Cuban teams with no one team dominating the series. The Brooklyn Royal Giants completed their trip to Cuba with a 9-8 (.529) record. Almendares was 5-4 (.556) and Habana was 3-4 (.429).

Preston "Pete" Hill was the leading hitter for the Royal Giants with a .269 batting average for the series. The Brooklyn Royal Giants only hit .204 (95 for 465) as a team. Harry Buckner led all pitchers in the series with four victories and added another victory against Cincinnati. Jude Gans and Charles Earle each had two victories.

A summary of the Brooklyn Royal Giants American Series in 1908 is as follows:

Game	Opponent	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Loosing Pitcher
1	Almendares	Oct 10 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	3-2	Jose Mendez	Charles Earle
2	Habana	Oct 11 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	6-4	Luis Padron	Harry Buckner
3	Almendares	Oct 13 <sup>th</sup>	Brooklyn	9-1	Harry Buckner	Andres Ortega
4	Habana	Oct 15 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	3-2	Luis Gonzalez	Charles Earle
5	Almendares	Oct 18 <sup>th</sup>	Brooklyn	2-0	Harry Buckner	Jose Munoz
6	Habana	Oct 19 <sup>th</sup>	Brooklyn	4-0	Charles Earle	Julian Perez
7	Almendares	Oct 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Almendares	4-3	Carlos Royer	Harry Buckner
8	Habana	Oct 25 <sup>th</sup>	Brooklyn	8-5	Jude Gans	Luis Padron
9	Almendares	Oct 26 <sup>th</sup>	Brooklyn	4-2	Harry Buckner	Jose Mendez
10	Habana	Oct 31 <sup>st</sup>	Brooklyn	2-1	Jude Gans	Luis Padron
11	Almendares	Nov 1 <sup>st</sup>	Almendares	4-3	Andres Ortega	Harry Buckner
12	Habana	Nov 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Habana	6-0	Julian Perez	Jude Gans
13	Almendares	Nov 7 <sup>th</sup>	Brooklyn	4-2	Charles Earle	Jose Munoz
14	Habana	Nov 8 <sup>th</sup>	Brooklyn	5-1	Harry Buckner	Julian Perez
15	Almendares	Nov 9 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	2-0	Carlos Royer	Jude Gans
16	Almendares	Nov 11 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	8-3	Conrado Rodriguez	Charles Earle
17	Cincinnati	Nov 20 <sup>th</sup>	Brooklyn	9-1	Harry Buckner	Jean Dubuc

## 1910 Leland Giants

The Leland Giants were based in Chicago and managed by Andrew “Rube” Foster. When they finished their regular 1910 season, the team barnstormed from Chicago to New York City to catch a ship that would take them to Cuba to play in the American Series. On their barnstorming tour of the East they are reported to have won 18 straight games, giving them a record of 123-6 (.953) for the season. Foster promoted his Leland Giant team as the greatest baseball “white,” “black” or “Latin” club ever to be assembled.

The roster for the Leland Giants for the 1910 American Series in Cuba was as follows:

### Leland Giants (1910)

Player	Position	Player	Position
James “Pete” Booker	1B	Frank Duncan	OF
Grant “Homerun” Johnson	2B	Preston “Pete” Hill	OF
John Henry “Pop” Lloyd	SS	Andrew “Jap” Payne	OF
Wes Pryor	3B	Andrew “Rube” Foster	P
Bruce Petway	C/OF	Frank Wickware	P
Phil Bradley	C	Pat Dougherty	P
		Bill Lindsay	P

The team arrived in Cuba in early October to play a fourteen game series against Almendares and Habana who were the two best professional teams in the Cuban League. However, the combination of Jose Mendez and Eustaquio “Bombin” Pedroso for Almendares proved more than the Leland Giants could handle. In six games against the Almendares pitching duo, the best the Giants could do was a lone 7-6 victory on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

Almendares won the American Series with a record of 6-2-1 (.750), Leland was second with a 7-6-1 (.538) record and Habana was third with a 0-5 (.000) record.

John Henry “Pop” Lloyd (.390) and Andrew “Jap” Payne (.288) were the Leland Giants best hitters during the series. Andrew “Rube” Foster was the team’s top pitcher with a 3-1 record.

A summary of the Leland Giants 1910 American Series is as follows:

Game	Opponent	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Loosing Pitcher
1	Habana	Oct 9 <sup>th</sup>	Leland	5-4	Bill Lindsay	Pastor Pareda
2	Almendares	Oct 10 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	5-2	Eustaquio Pedroso	Frank Wickware
3	Almendares	Oct 16 <sup>th</sup>	Leland	7-0	Rube Foster	Jose Munoz
4	Almendares	Oct 20 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	1-0	Jose Mendez	Pat Dougherty
5	Almendares	Oct 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Almendares	3-1	Eustaquio Pedroso	Bill Lindsay
6	Habana	Oct 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Leland	3-1	Frank Wickware	Lico Mederos
7	Almendares	Oct 24 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	5-2	Jose Mendez	Rube Foster
8	Habana	Oct 27 <sup>th</sup>	Leland	3-2	Pat Dougherty	Luis Gonzalez
9	Almendares	Oct 30 <sup>th</sup>	Leland	7-6	Rube Foster	Jose Mendez
10	Almendares	Nov 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Tie	1-1	-	-
11	Habana	Nov 5 <sup>th</sup>	Leland	11-7	Frank Wickware	Lico Medros
12	Almendares	Nov 6 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	1-0	Jose Munoz	Bill Lindsay
13	Habana	Nov 6 <sup>th</sup>	Leland	6-1	Rube Foster	Luis Gonzalez
14	Almendares	Nov 7 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	5-4	Jose Mendez	Pat Dougherty

## 1912 New York Lincoln Giants

The New York Lincoln Giants traveled to Cuba in late November of 1912 to take on Almendares and Habana in the American Series.

The roster for the New York Lincoln Giants for the 1912 American Series in Cuba was as follows:

### New York Lincoln Giants (1912)

Player	Position	Player	Position
LeRoy Grant	1B	Robert "Jude" Gans	OF
George C. Wright	2B	Spottswood Poles	OF
John Henry "Pop" Lloyd	SS	Harry "Mike" Moore	OF
William Francis	3B	Frank "Red Ant" Wickware	P
Louis Santop	C	Richard "Dick" Redding	P
James Booker	C/1B	Joseph "Smoky Joe" Williams	P

Rafael Figarola of the Cuban Stars also caught one game in the American Series for the New York Lincoln Giants.

The first game of the series was played on December 2<sup>nd</sup> against Almendares. The game matched up Eustaquio "Bombin" Pedroso and Smoky Joe Williams. Almendares easily defeated the Lincoln Giants by a score of 10-1. The Lincoln Giants struggled the entire series. New York hit reasonably well and finished the series with a team batting average of .244 (94 for 403). John Henry "Pop" Lloyd (.370) was the leading hitter of the American Series. Spottswood Poles (.292) also turned in a good hitting performance. Pitching which should have been the strength of New York let them down. Smoky Joe Williams who was considered one of the best if not the best pitcher in black baseball went 1-4 for the series. Williams gave up 27 runs in the 44 innings he pitched. Dick "Cannonball" Redding turned in the best pitching performance with a 2-1 record.

The New York Lincoln Giants finished the American Series in last place with a 5-8 (.385) record. Almendares finished in first place with a 4-2 (.667) record and Habana was second with a record of 4-3 (.571).

A summary of the New York Lincoln Giants 1912 American Series is as follows:

Game	Opponent	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Loosing Pitcher
1	Almendares	Dec 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Almendares	10-1	Eustaquio Pedroso	Joe Williams
2	Habana	Dec 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Lincoln	3-0	Frank Wickware	Francisco Munoz
3	Almendares	Dec 5 <sup>th</sup>	Lincoln	8-2	Joe Williams	Jose Mendez
4	Habana	Dec 8 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	14-0	Pastor Pareda	Frank Wickware
5	Almendares	Dec 9 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	1-0	Eustaquio Pedroso	Joe Williams
6	Habana	Dec 12 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	3-2	Francisco Munoz	Frank Wickware
7	Almendares	Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	5-1	Jose Munoz	Joe Williams
8	Habana	Dec 17 <sup>th</sup>	Lincoln	10-7	Dick Redding	Pastor Pareda
9	Almendares	Dec 19 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	6-0	Jose Mendez	Joe Williams
10	Habana	Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Lincoln	7-6	Frank Wickware	F. Munoz
11	Almendares	Dec 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Lincoln	7-4	Dick Redding	Eustaquio Pedroso
12	Habana	Dec 26 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	6-5	Francisco Munoz	Joe Williams
13	Habana	Dec 29 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	4-3	Angel Villazon	Dick Redding

## 1914 New York Lincoln Stars

The Brooklyn Royal Giants, New York Lincoln Giants and New York Lincoln Stars combined forces to send a team to Cuba to play in the 1914 American Series. The combined team played under the name of the “New York Lincoln Stars.”

The roster for the New York Lincoln Stars for the 1914 American Series in Cuba was as follows:

### New York Lincoln Stars (1914)

Player	Position	Player	Position
Pearl Webster	1B/C	Bill Parks	OF
Dell Clark	2B	Spottswood Poles	OF
Bill Handy	SS	Jules Thomas	OF
Joe Forbes	3B	Dick Redding	P/OF
Louis Santop	C/1B	Dizzy Dismukes	P
		Peter “Ed” Green	P
		Frank Harvey	P/OF

The highlight of the series for the Lincoln Stars were 1-0 and 3-0 shutouts that were pitched by Dick “Cannonball” Redding against Habana on October 15<sup>th</sup> and October 19<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately Redding also took four losses in the series.

Spottswood Poles led the Lincoln Stars in hitting with a .308 batting average. His 16 hits in 52 plate appearances were the most of any player in the 1914 American Series.

Future Cincinnati Reds (Major League Baseball) pitcher Adolfo Luque totally dominated the Lincoln Stars. Luque pitched for Almendares and was 3-0 in the series

Almendares won the American Series with a record of 6-1 (.857), Habana posted a 3-3-1 (.500) record for second place and the New York Lincoln Stars were last at 4-9-1 (.308).

A summary of the New York Lincoln Stars 1914 American Series is as follows:

Game	Opponent	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Loosing Pitcher
1	Almendares	Oct 9 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	5-1	Eustaquio Pedroso	Dick Redding
2	Habana	Oct 10 <sup>th</sup>	Lincoln Stars	6-4	Dizzy Dismukes	Pastor Pareda
3	Almendares	Oct 11 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	10-4	Adolph Luque	Frank Harvey
4	Habana	Oct 12 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	4-3	Jose Acosta	Dick Redding
5	Almendares	Oct 13 <sup>th</sup>	Lincoln Stars	3-1	Dizzy Dismukes	Jose Mendez
6	Habana	Oct 15 <sup>th</sup>	Lincoln Stars	1-0	Dick Redding	Gerardo Ballesteros
7	Almendares	Oct 18 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	3-2	Eustaquio Pedroso	Dizzy Dismukes
8	Habana	Oct 19 <sup>th</sup>	Lincoln Stars	3-0	Dick Redding	Pastor Pareda
9	Almendares	Oct 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Almendares	3-1	Jose Mendez	Dizzy Dismukes
10	Habana	Oct 25 <sup>th</sup>	Tie	1-1	-	-
11	Almendares	Oct 26 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	10-5	Adolph Luque	Dizzy Dismukes
12	Habana	Oct 29 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	2-1	Gerardo Ballesteros	Dick Redding
13	Almendares	Nov 1 <sup>st</sup>	Almendares	4-2	Adolph Luque	Dick Redding
14	Habana	Nov 1 <sup>st</sup>	Habana	2-1	Emilio Palmero	Dizzy Dismukes

## 1915 Indianapolis ABCs

The Indianapolis ABCs were managed by Charles I. "C.I." Taylor and represented one of the best black teams in the United States. They traveled to Cuba in late October of 1915 to participate in the American Series against Almendares, Habana and San Francisco.

### Indianapolis ABCs (1915)

Player	Position	Player	Position
Ben Taylor	1B	Oscar Charleston	OF
Elwood "Bingo" DeMoss	2B	Jimmie Lyons	OF
Morten Clark	SS	George Shively	OF
Todd Allen	3B	C.I. Taylor	OF/Manager
Dan Kennard	C	Dick Redding	P
Russell Powell	C	Louis "Dicta" Johnson	P
		James Jefferies	P/OF

The Indianapolis ABCs got off to a good start by winning three of their first four games. Dick Redding got the win in all three games. After a 3-1 start, the ABCs hit a brick wall and went 5-11 over the rest of the series. Over the course of the series, Redding won six games to lead all pitchers in the American Series. The leading hitters for Indianapolis were Todd Allen (.404), Ben Taylor (.380), James Jefferies (.363), Bingo DeMoss (.333) and Dan Kennard (.333). As a team the ABCs hit .287 (182 for 634). Pitching, however, was the downfall of Indianapolis as their pitchers gave up 123 runs in 171 innings.

Cristobal Torriente (Almendares - .423), Bernardo Baro (Almendares - .393) and Eusebio Gonzalez (Habana - .367) were the leading hitters for the Cubans. Adolfo Luque was the leading pitcher for the Cuban teams with four victories.

A summary of the Indianapolis ABCs 1915 American Series is as follows:

Game	Opponent	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Loosing Pitcher
1	Almendares	Oct 30 <sup>th</sup>	Indianapolis	5-4	Dick Redding	Adolfo Luque
2	Habana	Oct 31 <sup>st</sup>	Indianapolis	5-4	Dick Redding	Jose Acosta
3	Almendares	Nov 1 <sup>st</sup>	Almendares	8-1	Adolfo Luque	Dicta Johnson
4	Habana	Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>	Indianapolis	7-3	Dick Redding	Emilio Palmero
5	Habana	Nov 6 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	6-4	Pastor Pareda	Dick Redding
6	Almendares	Nov 7 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	6-2	Adolfo Luque	Dick Redding
7	Habana	Nov 8 <sup>th</sup>	Indianapolis	8-3	Dicta Johnson	Jose Acosta
8	Almendares	Nov 11 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	6-3	Eustaquio Pedroso	Dicta Johnson
9	Habana	Nov 14 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	10-4	Emilio Palmero	Dicta Johnson
10	Almendares	Nov 12 <sup>th</sup>	Indianapolis	8-1	Dick Redding	Adolfo Luque
11	Habana	Nov 18 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	6-1	Pastor Pareda	Dick Redding
12	Habana	Nov 20 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	14-6	Jose Acosta	James Jefferies
13	Almendares	Nov 21 <sup>st</sup>	Almendares	5-3	Adolfo Luque	Dick Redding
14	Habana	Nov 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Habana	4-2	Gerardo Ballesteros	Ben Taylor
15	Almendares	Nov 25 <sup>th</sup>	Indianapolis	5-4	Dick Redding	Jose Mendez
16	Almendares	Nov 27 <sup>th</sup>	Indianapolis	12-9	Dick Redding	Eustaquio Pedroso
17	Almendares	Nov 28 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	7-4	Adolfo Luque	Dick Redding
18	Habana	Nov 28 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	10-4	Jose Acosta	Oscar Charleston
19	San Francisco	Nov 29 <sup>th</sup>	Indianapolis	9-5	James Jefferies	Jose Junco
20	San Francisco	Dec 2 <sup>nd</sup>	San Francisco	5-4	Eustaquio Pedroso	James Jefferies

## 1920 Bacharach Giants

After the 1920 regular season in the United States; the Bacharach Giants, Hilldale and Indianapolis ABCs combined their teams to form an all star team to go to Cuba to play in the American Series. The team that went to Cuba played under the “Bacharach Giants” name.

The roster for the Bacharach Giants for the 1920 American Series in Cuba was as follows:

### Bacharach Giants (1920)

Player	Position	Player	Position
Toussaint “Tom” Allen	1B	Oscar Charleston	OF
Morten “Specs” Clark	2B	Charles Blackwell	OF
Dick Lundy	SS	Julio Rojo	OF/C
S.R. “Eddie” De Witt	3B	Dick Redding	P
Louis Santop	C	Willis “Pud” Flournoy	P
		Merven “Red” Ryan	P

Even with an outstanding lineup that included such stars as Oscar Charleston, Louis Santop, Dick Lundy, Dick Redding and Red Ryan; the Bacharach Giants went winless in the six games that they played in the 1920 American Series. The best that the Giants could do was two tie games. Almendares and Habana had two wins each in the series.

The Bacharach Giants had a disastrous series at the plate. As a team Bacharach had a team batting average of .148 (28 for 189). This was the lowest team batting average by any “black” team in the history of the American Series. Dick Lundy was the only player on the team to hit above .200. Lundy went 5 for 22 for a .227 batting average. The batting averages for the starting lineup for the Bacharach Giants in the 1920 American Series was:

Player	Position	Batting Average	Player	Position	Batting Average
Toussaint Allen	1B	.056	Oscar Charleston	OF	.182
Morten Clark	2B	.174	Charles Blackwell	OF	.174
Dick Lundy	SS	.227	Julio Rojo	OF	.174
S.R. DeWitt	3B	.048	Dick Redding	P	.000
Louis Santop	C	.190	Red Ryan	P	.167

Isidro Fabre (Almendares) was the leading pitcher for the Cubans. He started two games and had a record of 1-0. In the 11 innings that Fabre pitched, he didn’t give up a run. Isidro finished the series with an earned run average of 0.00. In addition Jose Acosta (Habana) only gave up 1 run in 9 innings and Walter C. Stewart (Habana) only gave up 1 run in 13 innings.

A summary of the Bacharach Giants for the 1920 American Series is as follows:

Game	Opponent	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Loosing Pitcher
1	Almendares	Nov 21 <sup>st</sup>	Almendares	3-0	Isidro Fabre	Dick Redding
2	Habana	Nov 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Habana	3-1	Jose Acosta	Pud Flournoy
3	Habana	Nov 24 <sup>th</sup>	Tie	2-2	-	-
4	Almendares	Nov 25 <sup>th</sup>	Almendares	5-4	Emilio Palmero	Pud Flournoy
5	Almendares	Nov 27 <sup>th</sup>	Tie	6-6	-	-
6	Habana	Nov 29 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	3-1	W.C. Stewart	Red Ryan

## 1925 All Yankees

During the 1924-25 Cuban League season, Almendares was so dominant during league play that Cuban baseball officials ended the season early. With the season shortened and the Negro League players still on the island, Cuban baseball officials decided to hold a special series between all star teams. One team (All Yankees) was made up of the Negro League players and the other was chosen from the Cuban players (All Cubans). John Henry "Pop" Lloyd was named the manager of the All Yankees and Adolfo Luque and Miguel Gonzalez were chosen to manage the All Cubans. One of the highlights of the all star series was having Kenesaw "Mountain" Landis (Commissioner of Baseball in the United States) attend a game.

The roster for the All Yankees for the 1925 series against the All Cubans was as follows:

### All Yankees (1925)

Player	Position	Player	Position
John Henry "Pop" Lloyd	1B	Oscar Charleston	OF
Leon Daniels	2B	Crush Holloway	OF
Frank Warfield	2B	Clinton Thomas	OF
Dick Lundy	SS	Andy Cooper	P
Newt Allen	3B	Art "Rats" Henderson	P
Alexander Gaston	C	William "Bill" Holland	P
Raleigh "Biz" Mackey	C	Wilbur "Bullet" Rogan	P
		Mervyn "Red" Ryan	P

The series began on February 5<sup>th</sup> with Rats Henderson (All Yankees) facing off against Emilio Palmero (All Cubans). The All Cubans won the first game by a score of 6-5. The All Yankees came back two days later to even the series with Wilbur "Bullet" Rogan pitching a 6-0 shut out. The All Yankees built on Rogan's victory and won the next two games by the scores of 2-1 and 7-4. The All Cubans sent Jose Mendez to the mound for game five. Mendez pitched a good game and the All Cubans responded at the plate with 15 hits and 10 runs to win the ball game by a score of 10-3. The All Yankees won games six and seven by the scores of 2-1 and 6-4. The final game of the series ended in a 7-7 tie. The All Yankees won the series with 5-2-1 (.714) record.

The key to the All Yankees winning the series was their hitting. They had a team batting average of .299 (78 for 261) for the series. The leading hitters for the All Yankees were Leon Daniels (.405), Biz Mackey (.333), Crush Holloway (.333), Clint Thomas (.333) and John Henry "Pop" Lloyd (.321).

A summary of the All Yankees 1925 series against the All Cubans is as follows:

Game	Opponent	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Loosing Pitcher
1	All Cubans	Feb 5 <sup>th</sup>	All Cubans	6-5	Emilio Palmero	Rats Henderson
2	All Cubans	Feb 7 <sup>th</sup>	All Yankees	6-0	Bullet Rogan	Oscar Levis
3	All Cubans	Feb 8 <sup>th</sup>	All Yankees	2-1	Andy Cooper	Jose Mendez
4	All Cubans	Feb 12 <sup>th</sup>	All Yankees	7-4	Bill Holland	Oscar Levis
5	All Cubans	Feb 14 <sup>th</sup>	All Cubans	10-3	Jose Mendez	Red Ryan
6	All Cubans	Feb 15 <sup>th</sup>	All Yankees	2-1	Rats Henderson	Emilio Palmero
7	All Cubans	Feb 16 <sup>th</sup>	All Yankees	6-4	Bill Holland	Martin Dihigo
8	All Cubans	Feb 16 <sup>th</sup>	Tie	7-7	-	-

## 1938 Homestead Grays

The Homestead Grays came to Cuba as the reigning 1938 Negro National League Champions. Vic Harris (Manager of the Grays) had an outstanding team that included two of the best Negro League hitters of all time in Buck Leonard and Josh Gibson. Homestead also had an excellent pitching staff that was anchored by National Baseball Hall of Famer Ray Brown.

To bolster their roster for the American Series, the Homestead Grays added the following players to their team: Sam Bankhead (Pittsburgh Crawfords), Barney Brown (New York Black Yankees), Terris McDuffie (New York Black Yankees) and Willie Wells (Newark Eagles). The complete roster for the Homestead Grays for the 1938 American Series in Cuba was as follows:

Homestead Grays (1938)			
Player	Position	Player	Position
Walter "Buck" Leonard	1B	Vic Harris	OF/ Manager
Matthew Carlisle	2B	Sam Bankhead	OF
Willie Wells	SS/3B	Jim Williams	OF
Norman "Jelly" Jackson	SS	Ray Brown	P
Harry Williams	3B	Barney Brown	P
Josh Gibson	C	Terris Mc Duffie	P
Tom Dukes	C	Roy Partlow	P

The series began on October 8<sup>th</sup> at La Tropical Stadium in Havana. The Homestead Grays had easily dominated the Negro National League during the 1938 season, but they met their match in Cuba. In the six games the Grays played, they could only manage two victories. The final standings for the American Series in 1938 were as follows:

Team	Record	Pct.	Place
Habana	2-0	1.000	1 <sup>st</sup>
Seleccion	2-0	1.000	1 <sup>st</sup>
Homestead Grays	2-4	.333	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Almendares	0-2	.000	4 <sup>th</sup>

Josh Gibson led Homestead in hitting with a .347 batting average. As a team the Homestead Grays only hit .204 (39 for 191) for the series. Ray Brown was the top pitcher for the Grays with a 1-0 record and only allowed 2 runs in 19.1 innings.

Cando Lopez (Habana) was the leading hitter for the Cubans going 8 for 13 for a .615 batting average. The top pitcher for the Cubans was Silvino Ruiz who was 2-0.

A summary of the Homestead Grays for the 1938 American Series is as follows:

Game	Opponent	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Loosing Pitcher
1	Habana	Oct 8 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	6-2	Silvino Ruiz	Terris Mc Duffie
2	Almendares	Oct 9 <sup>th</sup>	Homestead	2-1	Ray Brown	Rene Monteagudo
3	Habana	Oct 10 <sup>th</sup>	Habana	7-2	Tomas de la Cruz	Roy Partlow
4	Almendares	Oct 12 <sup>th</sup>	Homestead	1-0	Barney Brown	Jorge Comellas
5	Seleccion	Oct 15 <sup>th</sup>	Seleccion	3-2	Rene Monteagudo	Roy Partlow
6	Seleccion	Oct 17 <sup>th</sup>	Seleccion	5-4	Silvino Ruiz	Barney Brown

## 1939 Homestead Grays

The Homestead Grays returned to Cuba in 1939 to play in the American Series with only one thing on their mind. They were going to avenge their embarrassing loss from the year before. To accomplish his goal of bringing home an American Series championship, Cum Posey (owner of the Homestead Grays) recruited eight players from other Negro League teams to join his Grays team to make the Cuba trip. Most notably among this group of new recruits were Sam Bankhead (Toledo Crawfords), Henry Kimbro (Baltimore Elite Giants), Sammy Hughes (Baltimore Elite Giants) and Willie Wells (Newark Eagles).

The complete roster for the Homestead Grays for the 1938 American Series in Cuba was as follows:

### Homestead Grays (1939)

Player	Position	Player	Position
Walter "Buck" Leonard	1B	Henry Kimbro	OF
Sammy Hughes	2B	Vic Harris	OF/Manager
Willie Wells	SS	Lamb "Bud" Barbee	P
Felton Snow	3B	Harry Cozart	P
Josh Gibson	C	Raymond "Smoky" Owens	P
Sam Bankhead	OF	Roy Partlow	P
Clarence "Fats" Jenkins	OF	Edsall Walker	P

The American Series was played at La Tropical Stadium in Havana and began on October 8<sup>th</sup>. The Grays opened the series with a 7-4 victory over Habana. Raymond "Smoky" Owens (who had pitched for the Cleveland Bears during the regular Negro League season) got the win and Luis Tiant took the loss. The Homestead Grays won the next five games and took the series with a perfect record of 6-0. During the series they beat Habana twice, Almendares twice and the Estrellas Cubanas (Cuban All Star team) two times.

The Homestead Grays returned home to the United States with the American Series championship and the distinction of being the only black team ever to visit Cuba and return with a perfect won-loss record.

Josh Gibson (.375), Henry Kimbro (.370) Sam Bankhead (.333), Sammy Hughes (.333), Clarence "Fats" Jenkins (.304) and Willie Wells (.300) led the Grays in hitting. Homestead batted .280 (60 for 214) as a team. Five different pitchers were used by Homestead during the series. Lamb "Bud" Barbee started two games and led the staff with a 2-0 record. The Grays pitching staff ended the series with a 2.04 team earned run average. In the two games that they played against the Cuban All Star team (Estrellas Cubanas) the Homestead pitchers only allowed 7 hits in 61 at bats for a miniscule .115 batting average for the Cubans.

A summary of the Homestead Grays for the 1939 American Series is as follows:

Game	Opponent	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Loosing Pitcher
1	Habana	Oct 7 <sup>th</sup>	Homestead	7-4	Smoky Owens	Luis Tiant, Sr.
2	Almendares	Oct 8 <sup>th</sup>	Homestead	6-4	Lamb Barbee	Silvino Ruiz
3	Habana	Oct 10 <sup>th</sup>	Homestead	4-1	Harry Cozart	Tomas de la Cruz
4	Almendares	Oct 12 <sup>th</sup>	Homestead	5-1	Edsall Walker	Rene Monteagudo
5	Estrellas Cubanas	Oct 14 <sup>th</sup>	Homestead	2-1	Roy Partlow	Rene Monteagudo
6	Estrellas Cubanas	Oct 15 <sup>th</sup>	Homestead	5-0	Lamb Barbee	Martin Dihigo

## 1945 New York Cubans

Alex Pompez's New York Cubans were definitely not the best team to represent Negro League baseball in the 1945 American Series. The New York Cubans had come in next to last place in the Negro National League during the 1945 season. Pompez didn't even take his best team to Cuba for the American Series. Missing from the team that went to Cuba in October were such players as Dave Thomas, Horacio Martinez, Tom Parker, Dave Barnhill, Barney Morris, Pat Scantlebury, Louis Louden, Johnny Taylor, Ameal Brooks, Jesse Cannady, Carranza Howard, Bill Anderson, Carols Santiago and Greene Farmer. To fill out his lineup for the Cuban series, Pompez recruited players from other Negro League teams, Latin players from the Minor League teams in the United States, five players from the Mexican League and even one player from the Washington Senators.

The roster for the New York Cubans for the 1945 American Series in Cuba was as follows:

### New York Cubans (1945)

Player	Position	Player	Position
Rogelio Linares	1B	Cleveland "Chiflan" Clark	OF
Armando Vasquez	1B	Francisco Campos	OF
Fernando "Bicho" Pedrosa	2B	Miguel Lastra	Utility
Hector Arago	2B	F. Soler	Utility
Antonio Ordenana	SS	J. Terry	Utility
E. Gavilan	SS	Juan "Bibi" Crespo	P
Antonio Rodriquez	3B	Joaquin Gutierrez	P
Pedro Orta	3B	Oliverio Ortiz	P
Pedro Diaz	C	Wilfredo Salas	P
Raul Navarro	C	Rafael Sangil	P
Rafael Noble	C	Luis Tiant, Sr.	P
Jacinto Roque	OF	Francisco Martinez	P

Jose Maria Fernandez, legendary Cuban great, managed the New York Cubans.

The New York Cubans arrived in Cuba in early October and played a five game schedule against a Cuban All Star team. Game one was played on October 10<sup>th</sup> at the La Tropical Stadium in Havana. The New York Cubans could only manage three hits and lost the opener by a score of 3-0. The games didn't get any easier for New York after their opening round loss. Over the next four games, the best the New York Cubans could do was a 1-1 tie in game four. The New York Cubans ended the series on October 13<sup>th</sup> with a 2-1 loss. New York was 0-4-1 (.000) for the last American Series in which a black or Negro League team would compete.

A summary of the New York Cubans for the 1945 American Series is as follows:

Game	Opponent	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Loosing Pitcher
1	Cuban All Stars	Oct 10 <sup>th</sup>	Cuban All Stars	3-0	Julian Acosta	Luis Tiant, Sr.
2	Cuban All Stars	Oct 11 <sup>th</sup>	Cuban All Stars	7-5	Oscar del Calvo	Wilfredo Salas
3	Cuban All Stars	Oct 12 <sup>th</sup>	Cuban All Stars	11-5	Rene Monteagudo	F. Martinez
4	Cuban All Stars	Oct 12 <sup>th</sup>	Tie	1-1	-	-
5	Cuban All Stars	Oct 13 <sup>th</sup>	Cuban All Stars	2-1	Luis Zequeira	Wilfredo Salas

