

A Schott From The Bleachers

Babe Ruth's First Major League Home Run

by

Arthur O. Schott

Member, Society for American Baseball Research



On Thursday, May 6, 1915, George Herman "Babe" Ruth hit the first of his 714 major league home runs. It came off a pitcher named Jack Warhop, and was belted at the Polo Grounds since the Yankees rented the site from the Giants for their home games. Here's the way the *New York Times* described Ruth's first homer:

For Boston, the big left-handed pitcher, Babe Ruth, was all that a pitcher is supposed to be and some more. He put his team into the running in the third inning by smashing a mighty rap into the upper tier of the right field grandstand. Ruth was the first batsman to face Warhop in the third inning and with no apparent effort he slammed a home run into the grandstand.

Here's the box score of the historic game played on May 6, 1915:

BOSTON							NEW YORK						
	AB	R	H	PO	A	E		AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Hooper, rf	5	0	0	1	1	0	Maisel, 3b	5	1	2	3	1	1
Wagner, 2b	5	0	3	4	2	1	Hartzell, lf	4	0	0	0	0	0
Speaker, cf	4	0	0	2	0	0	High, cf	6	1	3	4	2	0
Lewis, lf	6	1	3	2	0	0	Pipp, 1b	6	0	1	14	0	0
Hoblitzel, 1b	5	0	0	20	0	0	Cook, rf	5	2	2	2	0	0
Scott, ss	5	0	1	0	6	0	Peckinpaugh, ss	5	0	0	2	6	0
McNally, 3b	6	0	0	2	5	1	Boone, 2b	4	0	2	4	3	0
Carrigan, c	4	1	1	3	1	1	Nunnamaker, c	5	0	0	10	2	0
a - Henricksen	1	0	1	0	0	0	Warhop, p	2	0	0	0	1	0
Thomas, c	0	0	0	2	0	0	b - Mullen	1	0	0	0	0	0
Ruth, p	5	1	3	1	5	1	Piet, p	2	0	0	0	0	1
Totals							Totals						
	46	3	12	37	20	4		45	4	10	39	15	2

a - Batted for Carrigan in 11th

b - Batted for Warhop in 8th

Score by innings:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	R	H	E	
Boston	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	=	3	12	4
New York	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	=	4	10	2

Summary: 2-base hits – Carrigan, Lewis, Scott, Boone. Home Run – Ruth. Stolen Bases – Cook 2, Maisel, Hooper, Hartzell, Hoblitzel. Double Play – Peckinpaugh to Pipp. Sacrifices – Speaker, Hartzell, Hoblitzel. Left on Bases – New York 9, Boston 10. Bases on Balls – off Warhop 4, Ruth 3. Struck Out – by Warhop 1, Piet 6, Ruth 3. Hits – off Warhop 10 in 8, Piet 2 in 5. Hit By Pitcher – by Ruth (Cook). Wild Pitch – Ruth.

Umpires – Evans and Mullaney. Time of Game: 2 hours, 35 minutes.

Copyright © 1974 by Arthur O. Schott. All Rights Reserved.
This article originally appeared in *The Trader Speaks* in 1974.