

## WEST ( $+21 / 2$ ) vs. EAST <br> OVER/UNDER = 276½

There have been 156 inter-conference games this regular season, with the Western Conference winning more than 60 percent of those matchups. The West clearly has the edge in talent, with two of the NBA's three best players in Kobe Bryant and Kevin Durant (who combined for 71 points in last year's game) and the best point guard in Chris Paul. The West will also benefit from chemistry among NBA teammates, as Paul will be joined in the starting lineup by fellow Clipper Blake Griffin while Bryant will be starting with fellow Laker Andrew Bynum. Durant will likely play a significant number of minutes along with his Thunder teammate Russell Westbrook, who will be coming off the bench. The East, meanwhile, has two starters in New York's Carmelo Anthony and Chicago's Derrick Rose that have been dealing with injuries (groin and back, respectively) that kept them out of a number of games earlier this month.

## PLAY ON: WEST ALL-STARS +2½ \& UNDER 276½



Oklahoma City guard Russell Westbrook scored 12 points in 14 minutes to help the Western Conference win, 148-143, in last year's NBA All-Star Game.


Clippers forward Blake Griffin had eight points, five rebounds and five assists in less than 15 minutes of playing time in his first All-Star Game last year.

## ODDS TO WIN ALL-STAR GAME MVP

KEVIN DURANT (WEST) 5-1 LAMARCUS ALDRIDGE (WEST) 12-1 KOBE BRYANT (WEST) DWYANE WADE (EAST) DWIGHT HOWARD (EAST) LEBRON JAMES (EAST) PAUL PIERCE (EAST) CHRIS PAUL (WEST) BLAKE GRIFFIN (WEST) DERON WILLIAMS (EAST) 10

5-1 RUSSELL WESTBROOK (WEST) 12-1
5-1 KEVIN LOVE (WEST) 12-1
5-1 TONY PARKER (WEST) 12-1
5-1 DIRK NOWITZKI (WEST) 12-1
10-1 CARIMELO ANTHONY (EAST) 15-1
10-1 CHRIS BOSH (EAST) 15-1 DREW BYNUM (WEST) With Blake Griffin's Clippers teammate Chris Paul also in the starting lineup, the high-flying forward can expect plenty of scoring opportunities.

## BEST VALUE: BLAKE GRIFFIN at 10-to-1

## ODDS TO SCORE GAME'S FIRST POINT

| DWIGHT HOWARD (EAST) | $5-1$ | CHRIS PAUL (WEST) | $13-2$ |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: |
| LEBRON JAMES (EAST) | $5-1$ | BLAKE GRIFFIN (WEST) | $13-2$ |
| KEVIN DURANT (WEST) | $11-2$ | ANDREW BYNUIM (WEST) | $7-1$ |
| KOBE BRYANT (WEST) | $11-2$ | CARIMELO ANTHONY (EAST) | $9-1$ |
| DWAYNE WADE (EAST) | $6-1$ | DERRICK ROSE (EAST) | $9-1$ |

As a relative long-shot, why not go with Griffin at this price for the same reason as mentioned above?

## best value: BLAKE GRIFFIN at 13-to-2

## SLAM DUNK CONTEST, SATURDAY, 10 PM ET

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Paul George (Pacers)
    3-to-2
Jeremy Evans (Jazz)
Derrick Williams (Timberwolves)
Chase Budinger (Rockets)
11-t0-4
    3-t0-1
    4-to-1
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Although Evans was a late entrant who joined the field on Wednesday after New York's Iman Shumpert was ruled out because of injury, he's arguably the most athletic among this group and is our pick to win.

## BEST VALUE: JEREMMY EVANS at 11-to-4

THREE-POINT CONTEST, SATURDAY, 9:30 PM ET

| James Jones (Heat) | 5-to-2 |
| :--- | :---: |
| Ryan Anderson (Magic) | 3-to-1 |
| Anthony Morrow (Nets) | 3 -to-1 |
| Mario Chalmers (Heat) | 7 -to-2 |
| Kevin Love (Timberwolves) | 5 -to-1 |
| Joe Johnson (Hawks) | 5 -to-1 |



Anderson will not only be the hometown favorite, but he'll benefit from the fact that he rarely elevates when he shoots from long range.

## BEST VALUE: <br> RYAN ANDERSON at 3-to-1



Fields racked up 15 points, six rebounds, three assists, two steals and two blocks for the winning Rookie squad in last year's Rookie-Sophomore Game during NBA All-Star Weekend.

## ODDS TO WIN IVVP OF RISING STARS CHALLENGE, FRIDAY, 9 PIMET

| JEREMY LIN (TEAM SHAQ) | 3-to-1 |
| :---: | :---: |
| BLAKE GRIFFIN (TEAM SHAQ) | 9-to-2 |
| KYRIE IRVING (TEAIV CHUCK) | 11-to-2 |
| DEIMARCUS COUSINS (TEAM CHUCK) | 11-to-2 |
| JOHN WALL (TEAIM CHUCK) | 6-to-1 |
| KEMBA WALKER (TEAM SHAQ) | 6-to-1 |
| RICKY RUBIO (TEAIM SHAQ) | 13-to-2 |
| PAUL GEORGE (TEAM CHUCK) | 15-to-2 |
| GREG MONROE (TEAM SHAQ) | 8-to-1 |
| LANDRY FIELDS (TEAM SHAQ) | 9-to-1 |
| FIELD (ANY OTHER PLAYER) | 10-to-1 |
| GORDON HAYWARD (TEAM CHUCK) | 12-to-1 |

While the spotlight is sure to be on Knicks sensation Jeremy Lin for the Rising Stars Challenge (which takes the place of what was formerly the RookieSophomore Game), we like his teammate, Landry Fields, at a far more enticing price. The two are good friends and have exhibited solid on-court chemistry that could lead to a big performance from Fields.
best value: LANDRY FIELDS at 9-to-1

