

ARSENAL STUNS PCBL BY FIRING WALTERS

FRANKFORD'S ONLY MANAGER HAD LED THEM TO FOUR EAST TITLES & ONE LIBERTY BELL CLASSIC

PHILADELPHIA, PENN. (Oct 12, 1878) – Now that the calendar has turned to October, the offseason is underway in the Northeastern United States. Teams take stock of who has called time on their careers, who wants to come back with a pay raise, and who has decided to leave for different pastures. In some cases, those teams may tell some of the employed that they are free to leave.

Incredibly, the latter has happened in the P.C.B.L. in the form of Frankford Arsenal [firing Nicholas Walters](#), who had been the team's only Field Manager during the first six seasons of the league's existence. His crime? "Only" finishing second in East Philadelphia both of the past two seasons after winning it during each of the first four seasons in P.C.B.L. history.

This is the record of the man that the Frankford office has just told to take a hike:

HISTORY										
Year	Team	Job	Salary	Record	AVG	ERA	RS	RA	POS	Playoffs
1873	Frankford Arsenal (PCL)	MA	\$118	43-27, .614 PCT, - GB	.301	2.42	640	527	1st	Made Playoffs
1874	Frankford Arsenal (PCL)	MA	\$118	42-28, .600 PCT, - GB	.296	2.55	623	576	1st	Made Playoffs
1875	Frankford Arsenal (PCL)	MA	\$118	44-26, .629 PCT, - GB	.303	3.04	620	521	1st	Made Playoffs
1876	Frankford Arsenal (PCL)	MA	\$269	52-18, .743 PCT, - GB	.308	2.42	695	454	1st	WON Liberty Bell
1877	Frankford Arsenal (PCL)	MA	\$269	39-31, .557 PCT, 2 GB	.309	3.15	640	548	2nd	-
1878	Frankford Arsenal (PCL)	MA	\$328	47-23, .671 PCT, 3 GB	.296	2.46	656	496	2nd	-
-	Manager Totals:		\$1,220	267-153, .636 PCT	.302	2.67	3874	3122		4 time(s) qualifi

It bears repeating: Nicholas Walters guided Frankford to four straight East Philadelphia pennants, one Liberty Bell Classic title, and won more than 63% of the games he was in charge of. His reward? Being told his services are no longer needed.

On the other hand, the following almost doesn't need stating, but the decision has stunned baseball observers in Philadelphia as well as the member organizations of the P.C.B.L. itself. Frankford's record in 1878 was better than it was during each of their first three pennant-winning campaigns, as was their Run Differential. It just so happened that they shared a subdivision with an even better team: repeat East champions Queen Village.

Two questions are on everyone's minds:

1. Who could Frankford hire to manage them that could possibly do a better job than Walters did?
2. Has the Frankford front office inadvertently done serious harm to the team's future with this sudden move?

For the Frankford office's sake, it had better turn out that something like money or control of the roster was at the center of today's stunner, or else, at the very least, there will be a fan revolt in store.