

# POSEY,

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umpire, a runner attempting to score initiates contact with the catcher (or other player covering home plate) in such a manner, the umpire shall declare the runner out (even if the player covering home plate loses possession of the ball)."

However, Posey came back healthy in 2012 to have the best season of his career. He was selected to his first All-Star Game after hitting .289 with 10 homers and 43 RBIs in the first half of the season. In the final 71 games, Posey went on a rampant tear, batting .385 with 14 homers and 60 RBIs. He also hit his first game-winning homer against Lance Lynn of the St. Louis Cardinals in a 4-2 win on Aug. 7. Additionally, he caught the 22nd perfect game in MLB history on June 13, 2012 — pitched by Matt Cain.

Posey had 24 homers and 103 RBIs in 2012 and his .336 batting average was the top mark in MLB — he became the second player in franchise history to win the batting title. Posey was also the first catcher to lead the NL in hitting since 1942. His incredible .433 average against left-handed pitching was also the best in the big leagues.

When the postseason began, Posey picked up right where he left off. In the deciding game five of the NLDS against the Reds, Posey hit a grand slam off Mat Latos to help the Giants win the game 6-0 and clinch the series. Posey became the third catcher in the big leagues to hit a grand slam in the postseason.

Posey's hit another homer in a series-clinching situation in the 2012 World Series as he took Tigers ace Max Scherzer deep to put the Giants back on top in the top of the sixth. The Giants swept the series and Posey was awarded his second World Series ring.

After the season, numerous accolades came rolling in for Posey, including the NL MVP and his first Silver Slugger Award. He was also given the NL Hank Aaron Award, and was named the NL Comeback Player of the Year.

On March 29, 2013, Posey signed an eight-year contract extension worth \$167 million — the agreement was the second largest for a catcher in MLB history.

Posey production regressed slightly in 2013, but he still had 15 homers and 72 RBIs while batting .294. He received the NL Player of the Week honor for June 23-29 and was named to his second straight All-Star Game. He also caught Tim Lincecum's first no-hitter on July 13.

Despite not being selected to his third straight All-Star Game, Posey put together one of his best seasons in 2014, batting .311 with 22 homers and 89 RBIs, he also won his second Silver Slugger Award in three years and finished sixth in NL MVP voting.

On July 13, 2014, Posey and Bumgarner each hit grand slams in an 8-4 win against the Arizona Diamondbacks. It was the first time ever that a catcher and a pitcher each hit grand slams in the same game.

On Aug. 29, 2014, Posey

went 5-for-5 in a game against the Milwaukee Brewers, becoming the only catcher in team history to have multiple five-hit games.

He batted .389 in the 2014 NLDS against the Washington Nationals as the Giants advanced after winning the series in four games. For the third straight postseason, Posey was behind the dish in every game for the Giants, who won their third World Series in five years after defeating the Kansas City Royals in seven games.

In 2015, Posey was selected to his third All-Star game and led the voting for all catchers. With a .318 batting average, 19 homers, and 95 RBIs, Posey was given his third Silver Slugger Award. He was also named the Wilson Defensive Player of the Year award, given to the best catcher in MLB.

In a 9-5 win over the Los Angeles Dodgers on June 19, 2015, Posey hit a grand slam and stole a base, becoming the first Giants catcher in over 100 years to accomplish the feat. Nearly three months later, Posey hit his 100th homer in a win over the Colorado Rockies.

On June 9, 2015, Posey caught his third no-hitter

when Giants pitcher Chris Heston no-hit the New York Mets. Posey has now caught three no-hitters, which is the second most all-time.

One of Posey's biggest highlights in the 2016 season came on May 28 when he drove in a career-high of six runs in the Giants 10-5 win over the Rockies — it was the second most RBIs by a Giants catcher in the San Francisco era. Posey was also selected to his fourth All-Star Game and got to catch for his teammate Johnny Cueto. It was the second time he got to catch for a teammate in the All-Star Game (Cain in 2012).

On Sept. 27, 2016, Posey recorded his 1,000th hit, a solo homer against the Rockies. He finished the year batting .288 with 14 homers and 80 RBIs. He also had a career-high of 82 runs scored.

Although Posey had been one of the best catchers in the league for the last five years according to advanced metrics, he was finally recognized with his first Gold Glove award in 2016.

Posey hit .333 in the NLDS that year, but the Giants fell to the eventual champion, Chicago Cubs, in four games.

Despite getting injured in the season opener, Posey got

off to a hot start once he came back in 2017. From May 8-10, Posey homered in three straight games against the Mets. Then on May 12, Posey hit a walk-off homer against the Reds in a 17-inning marathon contest.

At the All-Star break, Posey led the NL in hitting with a .339 average. He was named to his fifth All-Star game and made his third consecutive start. He ended the year with a .320 batting average with 12 homers and 67 RBIs. He also won his fourth Silver Slugger.

Posey was an all-star selection yet again in 2018, but a nagging hip injury kept him from playing in the game. He elected to have hip surgery in August, which ended his 2018 season. In 2019, Posey hit .257 seven homers and 38 RBIs.

Posey opted out of the 2020 season due to COVID-19 and the adoption of premature twin girls with his wife, Kristen.

Though the pandemic is still ongoing, Posey plans to play with the Giants in 2021 — which is the final year of his current contract that he signed in 2012. He is considered one of the most important figures in the franchise's rich history.



Posey was named the Wilson Defensive Player of the Year in 2015, then won his first Gold Glove in 2016. Kevin Kuo/Associated Press



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