

BASEBALL

BRITISH AMATEUR BASEBALL FEDERATION
U.K. CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP



KENSINGTON
SPIRIT OF '76

VERSUS

LIVERPOOL TROJANS

ROSSLYN PARK FOOTBALL CLUB

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1976

LONDON, S.W. 15.

Baseball In London

Organized baseball in Great Britain dates back to 1874, when a touring American team ventured onto the hallowed grounds of the Marylebone Cricket Club at Lord's.

The first actual historical reference to the word "baseball" however, appears in a small work on children's games printed in England in 1734, "A Little Pretty Pocket Book", and shows a woodcut of a group of youngsters depicted playing "baseball".

It is thus generally agreed by most historians of the sport that either as a variation of "rounders" or "stoolball", the English settlers played the game in the American colonies long before the birth of General Abner Doubleday of Cooperstown, New York, the man whom most Americans know as "father of the game of baseball".

Today, baseball is played in more than forty countries around the world and the sport is warmly supported in Europe, especially in Italy and Holland (where the games are televised extensively).

In the United Kingdom, baseball has reached several peaks, especially at the turn of the century, in the late 1930's and in the mid-1950's, when there were probably several hundred teams operating in England, and around fifty teams in the Greater London area. Old timers and locals will remember the days when thousands of fans and supporters used to come out to cheer such fabled teams as the Mitcham Tigers, the Epsom Lions, the Hornsey Athletics and the Queens Park Aces. In fact, it is also said that the B.B.C. had even experimented with early television of some of the "fixtures".

At the present moment, there is a great new resurgence of interest in baseball again and there are leagues and teams not only in the London area, but also in Liverpool, Hull and Nottingham. Baseball, of course, has always been played at various levels at the numerous American military bases around the United Kingdom but almost exclusively for American servicemen and their dependents. The overwhelming majority of baseball players in our leagues are British, although a number of other countries (such as Canada, Belgium, New Zealand, and, of course, the United States) are also represented.

In London, the Southern Baseball League is responsible for some of the best baseball played in the United Kingdom. The eight teams which comprise the S.B.L. feature such respected names as Thames Board Mills (founded 1937), the Croydon Blue Jays (founded 1949), the Crawley Giants (founded 1961) and the Sutton Braves (founded 1965). The S.B.L. is also pleased to have recently welcomed the U.S. Navy team again (they first fielded an English league club in 1954) as well as relatively new additions such as the Golders' Green Sox, the Wokingham Monarchs and the "Spirit of '76".

The aim is to give the British sporting public a chance to see a good standard of baseball in the most congenial surroundings available.

We hope that you will enjoy this exciting game again in Britain and we are counting on your support for our future continued success.

Home Plate/Umpire In Chief

H. W. "Hank" Chmielewski

First Base

Bob Hooper

Second Base

Mark Nadeau

Third Base

Wayne Perryman

OFFICIALS

President of the British Amateur Baseball Federation

Don Smallwood

Official Scorekeeper

Brian Holland

Official Baseball Historian

William Morgan

Physiotherapist/Trainer

Tim Hass

Photographer

Tom Evans, of Hayes, Middlesex

LIVERPOOL
"TROJANS"

S T A R T I N G

	<u>Batting No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Pos.</u>
Team Manager-N.Wells, Sr.	1	B.Bretherton	3B
Field Manager-S.Windress	2	S.Windress	CF
Secretary-C.Bolton	3	A.Bolton	P
	4	N.Wells, Jr.	SS
	5	J.Greenberg	1B
address:	6	C.Moody	2B
34 Thorn Holne Cresc.	7	J.Kelly	C
Liverpool 11	8	J.Jones	LF
tel--051-226-2618	9	K.Greenall	RF

Team Profile

The Liverpool "Trojans", unbeaten leaders of the Merseyside--American League, reached the National Championship finals for the second time in the club's history, by defeating the Hull Royals, the Humberside League champions, by a score of 15--10, in the semi-finals. The "Trojans'" only other previous National appearance was in 1969 when they lost the title to the Watford Sunrockets by one run in extra innings.

The "Trojans" were formed in 1946, mainly by demobbed servicemen and, after a brief period of inactivity, the present club was reformed in 1965, when a number of the same players still on the present team came in as schoolboys.

The team consists mostly of native born Liverpoolians, some England international caps and two hard-hitting Canadians, first baseman Joel Greenberg (who has a .452 batting average) and field manager Stan Windress, (who currently has a .380 average at the plate. Six of the "Trojan" players have .363 batting averages or better and England International Norm Wells has a .500 average. Two other England caps, Art Bolton and Carl Moody lead the pitchers, together with Merseyside All-Stars, Kevin Greenall and Josh Jones.

LINEUPKENSINGTON"SPIRIT OF '76"

<u>Batting No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Pos</u>	
1	S.Ward	2B	
2	S.Mundy	3B	Team Manager-J.Archer
3	A.Brown	C	Secretary-Mrs. A.Archer
4	K.Shugg	P	
5	D.Draper	LF	address:
6	R.Cooper	SS	55 Church Rd.
7	C.Mann	1B	Cowley, Mid'sex
8	G.Charles	CF	
9	M.Shelton	RF	tel--Uxbridge (89) - 54476

Team Profile

The Kensington "Spirit of '76" baseball team (sponsored by fashion clothing merchants John Lewis and Tony Murphy, whose West London firm bears the same name) has had a very successful season, culminating in a national championship bid in its first year of operation.

The "Spirit" overall record for 1976 was 17 wins and only 3 losses, and they topped the standings in both the Southern Baseball League as well as the London Twilight League.

"Spirit" advanced to the Championship finals by defeating the Nottingham Lions, Midland League champions, by a score of 7-0, behind American Ken Shugg's three hit pitching.

The key to the "Spirit" success this year however, has been a blend of balance and versatility shown by each member of the squad. In fact, pitching chores have been shared by four other excellent pitchers, each of whom is capable of playing at least three other positions on the field.

Swindon-born southpaw Gary Charles, the fastest pitcher in the league is only 16 years old and two other highly regarded young international prospects, Simon Mundy and Shaun Ward, are each batting over .400. Americans Al Brown, Randy Cooper and Dave Draper add big bats and considerable valuable experience to the team.