

**The British Amateur Baseball & Softball Federation
and The Southern Baseball League
present the**

**1980
NATIONAL BASEBALL
CHAMPIONSHIP
FINALS**

SUNDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 1980

AT

BARNET COPTHALL STADIUM

LONDON NW4

BRITISH BASEBALL

Organised baseball in Great Britain dates back to 1874 when a touring American team ventured onto the hallowed grounds of the Marylebone Cricket Club at Lords. Historians generally agree that the sport was first played by English settlers in the American colonies long before the birth of General Abner Doubleday of Cooperstown, New York, the man whom most Americans have come to know as "father of the game of baseball".

Today, baseball is played in more than forty countries around the world and it is a popular summer sport especially in Holland, Belgium and Italy (where games are even televised). In the United Kingdom, baseball popularity reached peaks in the late 30's and mid 50's, as well as in the early part of the century when, in 1906, over 20,000 spectators ventured into the Highbury football grounds to see the Arsenal Baseball Club defeat the Queens Park Aces by a score of 6-5.

In fact, there have been over 50 baseball teams in the London area alone, and old timers will still recall such fabled names as the Mitcham Tigers, the Epsom Lions and the Hornsey Athletics.

At the moment, there is a general resurgence in baseball interest once more, especially in the London area, as well as in Liverpool, Nottingham and Hull.

As with any growing amateur sport, our success or failure will depend entirely on the amount of moral, financial and media support which we can obtain. Thank you and enjoy the games.

JUNIOR FINAL

The Hull Danes - v - The Isleworth Tigers

SENIOR FINAL

The LIVERPOOL TROJANS -v- The HULL ACES

<u>LIVERPOOL TROJANS</u>	Pos.	<u>HULL ACES</u>	Pos.
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BASIC RULES

Baseball is played by two teams, each consisting of nine players on the field. The object of the game is to score more runs than your opponent. Players bat in a fixed rotation which is presented to the home plate umpire before the game.

The home team (decided today by a toss of a coin) fields first and must put out three men on the opposing team before it can bat. When both teams have batted, until three men are out, the inning is over. A regulation game is nine innings. (Seven innings for the juniors).

The positions of the defensive fielders are:

Infield - consisting of the pitcher (who must be in contact with the pitcher's rubber on the slightly elevated mound from which he throws a 5½ oz horsehide covered ball), a 1st baseman, a 2nd baseman, a 3rd baseman and a shortstop (who stands half-way between 2nd and 3rd bases. The catcher squats behind the batter.

Outfield - consisting of right, centre and left fielders,