

Other Events



TV Presenter Contest

In conjunction with British Baseball's Final 4 National Championship in Brighton, Major League Baseball, Channel 5 and Juice 107.2FM held a competition for kids in the Brighton area to become Channel 5 TV presenters for a day. On 22 August, children aged 8-16 auditioned for the role at The Level in Brighton. The two winners will have a chance to go on-air at the Final 4 National Championship on Saturday 24 August, with their work being broadcast as part of Channel 5's Major League Baseball Live show. The show airs on Wednesdays and Sundays (Check your local listings for times).

Youth

If you want to see some of UK baseball's top younger players, head over to the Sportax Bronco Junior Baseball with Frubes Tournament taking place Sunday at Brighton's second field. Although this is a friendly tournament, the four teams competing have a lot at stake: they will be preparing for their playoffs, which take place in two weeks. Burgess Hill has gone virtually unchallenged this year, finishing their regular season with a 13-1 record. But with play-off fever heating up, Windsor, Bracknell or Tonbridge could all challenge for the crown.

The Sportax Bronco Junior Baseball with Frubes Tournament is one of a series of youth events supported by the clothing and merchandising company Sportax. Their funding for these events are matched pound-for-pound by the generous contributions of the government funding agency Sportsmatch.

Roadshow

The Play Ball! with Frubes Roadshow, a one-of-a-kind interactive 'Introduction to Baseball' event, is on hand to support the British Baseball's Final 4 National Championship. Run by expert American and Great Britain coaches, the extravaganza features a state-of-the-art inflatable batting cage and pitching tunnel, which are used to teach the basics of baseball and softball. Developed by Major League Baseball, the Play Ball! with Frubes Roadshow is in its fourth season of travelling throughout Great Britain and has proved immensely popular with children looking to take a swing at the great game of baseball.



Other Events

Premier Division Final 4 National Championship

If the playoffs are anything to go by, then we are in for a treat at this year's Premier Division Final 4 National Championships. Oxford qualified for a spot at the Final 4 with a walk-off three run home run in the bottom of the ninth against the Sidewinders in the playoffs, to come back from a two run deficit. Menwith Hill, finishing the regular season undefeated, squeaked past Manchester 5-2 in their playoff game. Menwith Hill will be looking to dispose of the determined Oxford Kings in the Semis. Last year's Rawlings National League club, Cambridge, will be facing British Baseball's oldest club, the Liverpool Trojans in the other semi-final.

4-on-4 Tournament

BaseballSoftballUK are looking to run a few 'pick-up' games of 4-on-4 ball this weekend, open to all ages. Please look out for announcements on the PA system or ask at the gate for exact times. The rules for 4-on-4 ball are in the advertorial programme.

Thanks

A special thanks goes to the following for making the Final 4 possible:

Sportax for their sponsorship and donation of the many prizes.

Sportsmatch for helping make the added-value youth tournaments possible.

TGI Friday's for providing the vouchers used for prizes.

Continental Airlines for providing the flights for the BSUK raffle being drawn during the National Final.

Baden for donating balls for the youth tournaments and use at the GB Academy.

Juice 107.2FM, Subway and Legal & General for helping make the TV presenter competition a reality.

Play Ball! with Frubes for the Roadshow

Major League Baseball

BaseballSoftballUK

British Baseball Federation Executive

Brighton and Hove Council Event Office

Brighton Baseball Club

ABUA-GB

Channel 5

Upper Deck

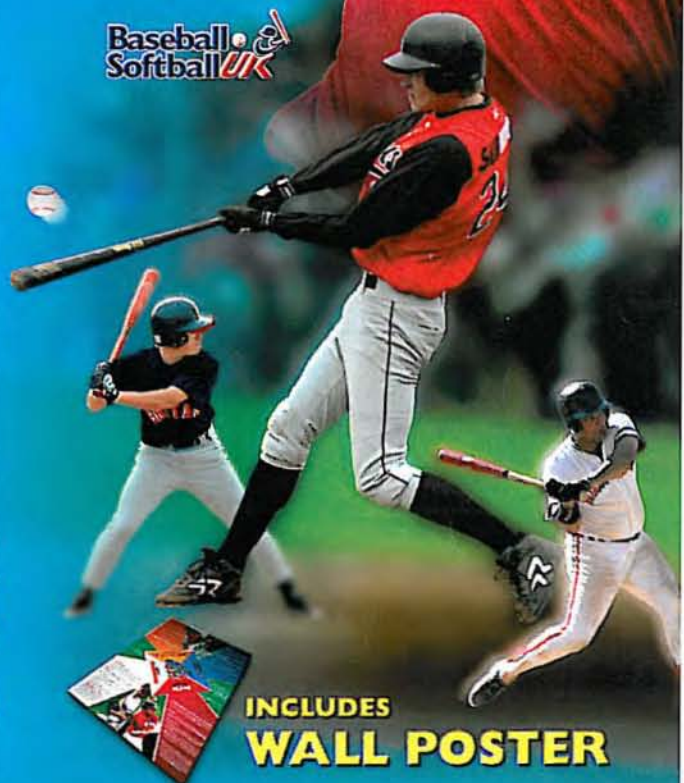
Triple Play and First Base International

Bobby Zamora



2002

24TH & 25TH AUGUST BRIGHTON



INCLUDES WALL POSTER



PRICE £2.00

PROCEEDS TO BRITISH BASEBALL

Foreword

Welcome to the bigger – and hopefully better! – British Baseball's 2002 Final 4 National Championship.

Once again, the heart of this year's Final 4 is the four-team competition between the top clubs in the Rawlings National League. It will determine British Baseball's national champion for 2002. The semi-finals will be played on Saturday and the final will be the climax of the weekend on Sunday afternoon.

But this year's Final 4 has been expanded to include two other competitions as well:

- A Premier Division Final 4, pitting the top two teams from the Premier Division South against the top two teams from the North.
- A Bronco Youth Tournament, sponsored by Frubes, Sportax and Sportsmatch that will showcase some of the top young players in the country.

This is the second year of operation for the Rawlings National League, a circuit created to increase standards of play at the top of the British Baseball structure by concentrating the best players in the country in a small number of teams. There has certainly been increased competition. The spread between the top five teams was closer than the previous season and the fifth-place Croydon Pirates even took two games from the top team, the London Warriors.

Moreover, there have been a number of unforgettable games including a no-hitter by London's Matt Scales against Croydon to avenge the team's early defeats at the hands of the Pirates. Another positive step has been in field improvement. The itinerant London Warriors found a permanent home at Finsbury Park in London's Haringey area and the Bracknell Blazers erected a purpose-built backstop at their field in Westmoreland Park.

Of course, more progress can always be made and BaseballSoftballUK will work hard to further improve the country's top echelon of baseball. But that is for the future, and this is now. Let's hope the sun shines this weekend and that this season culminates with a final game as exciting as the championship contest between Brighton and Windsor last season.

Relax, sit back and enjoy some of the best baseball this country has to offer.



Bob Fromer
CEO
BaseballSoftballUK

Schedule and Officials

Saturday 24th August 2002

- 11:30am **Rawlings National League Semi-Final Game 1**
Brighton Buccaneers vs Bracknell Blazers on Diamond 1
Umpires HP - Jacob Plieth 1B - Darrin Muller
2B - Ed Edsall 3B - Cliff Booth
- 11:30am **Premier Division Semi-Final Game 1**
Cambridge vs Liverpool on Diamond 2
Umpires HP - Steve Williams B - B.J. DeLorenzo
- 2:30pm **Rawlings National League Semi-Final Game 2**
London Warriors vs Windsor Bears on Diamond 2
Umpires HP - B.J. DeLorenzo 1B - Ed Edsall
2B - Cliff Booth 3B - Jacob Plieth
- 2:30pm **Premier Division Semi-Final Game 2**
Menwith Hill vs Oxford on Diamond 2
Umpires HP - Darrin Muller B - Steve Williams
- 5:30pm **Great Britain Juniors vs Croydon Pirates**
On Diamond 1
Umpires HP - Ed Edsall B - Steve Williams

Sunday 25th August 2002

- 9:30am **Rawlings National League 3rd / 4th Playoff Game 1**
7 Innings on Diamond 1
Umpires HP - Cliff Booth 1B - Darrin Muller
2B - B.J. DeLorenzo 3B - Steve Williams
- 12:00pm **Premier Division Final**
7 Innings on Diamond 1
Umpires HP - Jacob Plieth B - Darrin Muller
- 3:30pm **Rawlings National League Final**
On Diamond 1
Umpires HP - Ed Edsall 1B - B.J. DeLorenzo
2B - Jacob Plieth 3B - Cliff Booth

Other Events on Sunday

All Day **PlayBall!** with Frubes Roadshow

All Day **Youth Games**
On Diamond 2 & 3

7th Inning Final - BaseballSoftballUK
National Raffle Draw on Diamond 1

Scorers

Scoring Commissioner
Brian Holland

Northern Conference Scoring Commissioner
Clive Maude

Stats and Standings

British Baseball National Champions

| | |
|------|-----------------------|
| 1982 | London Warriors |
| 1983 | Cobham Yankees |
| 1984 | Croydon Blue Jays |
| 1985 | Hull Mets |
| 1986 | Cobham Yankees |
| 1987 | Cobham Yankees |
| 1988 | Cobham Yankees |
| 1989 | London Warriors |
| 1990 | Enfield Spartans |
| 1991 | Enfield Spartans |
| 1992 | Leeds City Royals |
| 1993 | Humberside Mets |
| 1994 | Humberside Mets |
| 1995 | Humberside Mets |
| 1996 | Menwith Hill Patriots |
| 1997 | London Warriors |
| 1998 | Menwith Hill Patriots |
| 1999 | Brighton Buccaneers |
| 2000 | London Warriors |
| 2001 | Brighton Buccaneers |

| Final Standings 2002 | W | L | % |
|----------------------|----|----|------|
| London Warriors | 23 | 3 | .880 |
| Brighton Buccaneers | 16 | 8 | .667 |
| Bracknell Blazers | 15 | 10 | .600 |
| Windsor Bears | 12 | 12 | .500 |
| Croydon Pirates | 9 | 16 | .360 |
| Preston Stingers | 0 | 25 | .000 |

These are the final standings for the 2002 Rawlings National League season.