

BRIT BALL

The Official Voice of the British Baseball Federation

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The Official Voice
of the
British Baseball
Federation

Issue No 6
September 1993
75p

BRITISH-AMERICAN BASEBALL FESTIVAL COMES TO FOSTER'S OVAL

IT'S JUST NOT CRICKET! Baseball is coming to the Foster's Oval. It may not be cricket, but it will be fun.

Baseball is the shape of things to come in Britain. For three days in October, the cricket square at the Oval will become a baseball diamond as part of a festival of America's National pastime.

Top-flight professional baseball games will be staged in an intimate family atmosphere designed to appeal to everyone, from the committed baseball fan to the absolutely uninitiated. Highlights of the Festival from 1 - 3 October will be matches on Saturday 2 October and Sunday 3 October at 1.30pm between teams of top prospects representing two of baseball's greatest rivals; the Boston Red Sox and the New York Mets.

Sky Sports, who cover Major League Baseball every week for the British audience, will provide LIVE coverage of the Saturday game during their Sports Saturday programme. Sky Sports will also broadcast the World Series LIVE in the UK starting 16 October.

The Festival will begin on Friday 1 October with a demonstration and clinic for school children, including opportunities for them to participate by trying out baseball skills, meeting and receiving coaching from players, and winning prizes.

On Saturday a baseball / cricket challenge, featuring current England cricket stars will match baseball and cricket players at each other's games, emphasising the affinity between these two great bat and ball sports.

Meanwhile at Brandwood Park, Kings Heath in Birmingham, the

first two games of the British Baseball Federation's Premier League Series will take place between Humberside Mets and Bedford Chicksands Indians.

On Sunday, the final game of the best of three British Series will be played before the MLB game, determining the champion of the British Baseball Federation's Premier Leagues. After the contest, an MLB trophy will be awarded to the most valuable player of the series.

For all days of the Festival, the atmosphere at the Oval will be that of a baseball park, combining the top-flight facilities of one of the world's top cricket grounds with the intimate family atmosphere which exists all over America at baseball parks and stadia, both major and minor league, while re-creating the closeness which is a special part of minor league baseball. Entertainment will include the chance to take cuts in a batting cage, watch the antics of a baseball mascot, and participate in contests on the field, all to the accompaniment of a ball park organist. And, of course, the kind of in-stadium food and drink that is so much a part of a day at the ballpark.

Glyn Woodman, Chief Executive of Surrey County Cricket Club commented, "This is a great first for the Foster's Oval, and we are both proud and excited to host such an event here".

Frank Heffron, President of Major League Baseball International, said "MLBI is pleased to have been invited to present this Festival at a venue which has hosted many of the greatest matches in cricket history. We feel that baseball at the Oval is not the sacrilege some have suggested, but rather the natural coming together of two great games and great traditions. We hope to bring to the Oval people of all ages, sports people, families, fans, players and the merely curious - all of whom have in common the desire to experience the family fun that baseball can provide".

If you're interested in attending, per day ticket costs are from: £20.00 (behind home plate) £12.00 (everywhere else) per Adult, £6.00 per Child, £30.00 per Family (2 Adults + 2 Children). The British Baseball Federation are able to offer a 10% discount to BBF members. To book, please call Raphaele at Major League Baseball - 071 240 1279. For non BBF members please call the Oval Ticket office on 071 582 7764 or 071 582 6660.

EL Presidente

This month I'd like to summarise some thoughts and ideas that the Board are kicking around ready for the end of season or preparing for next year.

Non-executive positions as well as two Board places are coming up for selection and election respectively. Keep looking out for the vacancies, especially the Midland League and Umpires Co-ordinator. We need someone to write a Disciplinary Code for the Federation and need that person to ask, and work with, MLB to provide us with guide-lines.

The NPL needs to have its structure altered, current ideas are inter-conference games or having one league again. Also will we have any NL teams back? If so we must cater for them! The 'British Series' will also have been played for the first time and I'm sure there will be lessons to learn from that experience.

All teams of the BBF should prepare for a possible major affiliation requirement - an umpire. In a major recruitment drive this Board recommends all teams must have and register an umpire. There will be no fee, only insurance, and there will be clinics in 1994 or someone's gonna be in it.

The BBF/MLB Clinic is on again, January next year, and we need to plan and publicize this earlier with possibly more co-ordinated events, stalls etc this time. All you new umpires should get a good deal on this one. Major snorers like me should avoid sharing a dormitory or room.

A marketing strategy will be put into effect after this September's MLB conference in Spain. We need to provide members with more than just paper, I'd like cheap balls (but there you go) and reasonably priced gear through the Federation. There's a lot of shekels out there in T-shirts, caps, pin badges etc. and we want it. We're still in a great position regarding the proposed site for a diamond and headquarters and have been offered help with any feasibility costs if needed. The finals and play-offs are upon us, teams will savour the elation of success or the despair of defeat and possible relegation. Board and Council meetings are needed to discuss and propose new bye-laws and appointments, and also to discuss proposals from a PR company. Then the financial year end will appear at the end of October and give rise to our AGM. Gosh where did that year go!

This week-end I'm off to Stoneleigh in Warwickshire for the Town and Country Festival with Kevin (fruit bat) and Wendy (not a fruit bat) Macadam, James Marshall and Paul Halsey. Should be a lot of fun with the Road Show and we hope to sell a lot of handbooks, Brit-Balls and pin Badges.

And finally courtesy of my envoy Cam Stephens....

Devil 'Hey God, how about a game of baseball?'

God 'Sounds good to me, devil'

Devil 'Hey God, how about we make it interesting and have a small wager on the result?'

God 'Hold on there, what sort of wager did you have in mind?'

Devil 'Well whoever loses the game has to do 100 years of purgatory'

God 'No way man, there's some catch, something's fishy. I mean, I got all the great players.

You can't beat me, no way. There must be some catch!
Devil 'If you got all the best players, what you afraid of God?'
God 'Look devil, I know you and I ain't playing no game until I know why you want to bet!'
Devil 'Well...Ok. You're right, you got all those great players but I sure got all the umpires'

Vacancy: Umpires Co-ordinator

A serious effort has been started on coaching this year by using a co-ordinator specifically for that task and being directly responsible and accountable to the Board.

The Umpires must also change their ineffective administration. The Board also recognises that there are several other reasons for persons unwilling to become officials at games and the Board will give its support to rectify this.

Officials are very poorly treated at games and it does nothing to encourage rookies to continue if they are constantly whined at over judgement calls such as balls, strikes and tag plays. I have umpired some games myself and I know just what a bind it can be. While it is preferable to let the game continue as much as possible I think a few ejections are going to be necessary to get the message over to those few stupid players that cause the hassle.

The Board recommend that from the 1994 playing season every registered team must have at least one registered umpire, new teams to be exempt upon application. The registration fee should be zero plus insurance. The BBF must put on umpire courses and all teams must send at least one person to these conferences/seminars. The BBF / MLB clinic in January should have an Umpire Instructor and all BBF umpires will get the opportunity to attend at minimal cost. It may seem like a step backwards but until we get 'club umpires' as a base we will never have enough members to start pre-season scheduling and payment of fees for umpiring.

I am still awaiting nominations from the umpires association and the season is again almost over. The past set up of having individual autonomous associations did not work, whereas the numbers of clubs and players has steadily increased and we still do not have umpires.

If you think you can take this on, please reply in writing with your comments and ideas to the head office. This role is open to anyone in baseball not just umpires.

This situation is just about as bad as it can be, so the chances of success will be high as will be the expectation of the Board and clubs. Someone out there is getting a chance to give baseball a major boost and become almost a hero in most peoples eyes.

Each team has its star player. The player who without his dedication and considerable talent the team would lose week in, week out, or so he likes to think! Now 'BRIT-BALL' offers you the chance to bring your team's prima donna down a peg or two with an in-depth comical look at your star man. This month we look at Chriss Gee, first baseman for Liverpool Trojans.

PAGE THREE PIN-UP



SPOTLIGHT ON:

AGE:

PLAYING POSITION:

TEAM:

LIKES:

DISLIKES:

FAVOURITE TV:

FAVOURITE FOOD:

FAVOURITE DRINK:

AMBITIONS:

Chris "I ain't stealing" Gee

35

First base, catcher if Trojans are desparate!

Liverpool Trojans

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Called 3rd strikes, running and anything healthy

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THE OLD TIMERS PLAY ON... FROM GUILDFORD TO GERMANY!

The Old Timers Visit Germany

On 2 July a party from the Old-Timers Baseball Club, and their supporters, left Dover to travel to Germany to take part in a baseball tournament. They were invited by Kreuzau Red Lions Baseball Team and were to spend the whole weekend playing baseball with three other teams from the UK and Germany. We started out very early and after a calm and quick crossing, we arrived in Calais to begin our journey through France and Belgium (after a quick trip to the hyper-market to collect a few supplies such as beer, wine and bread!) The journey took about six hours and we arrived slightly dishevelled and weary at the Hotel Mariaweiler in Duren. A few of the group went out that evening to explore and consume the local brew(s) with members of the Red Lions.

Saturday dawned sunny and bright - a few sleepy arrivals at breakfast - and by 9am we were ready to depart to the ground for the first game of the day. The Old-Timers were drawn against Crawley Comets. We played well but were defeated by 5 runs.

The next game was in the afternoon, so a few of the supporters went into Duren for a spending and tourist session while the players rested, slept and generally enjoyed the sun and pleasant surroundings. We were playing in a valley, between forest covered hills, a river and a reservoir at the back.

The second game proved a winner for the Old-Timers and the score was 5 - 4. The opposition was provided by the Apperback Wanderers.

Midnight brought us back to the Hotel where Neil and George demanded a lay-in - "no departure before nine" was the cry!!

Sunday - another hot day and we went to see what could be achieved - again a first game - this time 'mein hosts' provided the opposition. We played brilliantly, hits abounded, errors few, winners we were, score 13 - 3. What did this mean? We came second. A trophy for the Club - Manager Peter (grinning from ear to ear) received it on their behalf. Oh, what a feeling!

Four of the players then took part in the All Stars game - Neil, George, Barry and Peter. Peter 'managed' and again a win 3 - 1.

Brian Holland, an official scorer for CEBA scored all the games. A big thank you to him.

Thank you Old-Timers for a grand week-end. We proved there was still life in the 'oldies' and that you 'don't mess with the old folk!'

Old-Timers at the Guildford Tournament

On Saturday 24 July the Old-Timers were invited to take part in the Guildford Tournament. Four teams were participating and the players were looking forward to a good days play.

Their first game was drawn against Hounslow and they won this 9 - 2. Three good hits were made in this game with George Simmons hitting a double, and two singles by Barry Mayfield and Jim "Curly" Ballor. "Curly" hails from Alliance, Ohio, and is



a honorary member of the club.

Their second game was against the Guildford Mavericks and the score was 11 - 7 to the Old-Timers. There were 10 hits in this game, a home run by Barry Mayfield, doubles by George Simmons and 'Goff' Phillips and singles by Neil Vanstone and Malcolm Banwick.

With two wins under their belt, the Old-Timers took 1st place and yet another trophy adorns the mantelpiece of their manager Derek Phillips.

A very enjoyable day was had by both players and supporter, and a very big thank you to the 'host' club - shame about the rain!

JEAN CROOK

OLD-TIMERS PUBLICITY OFFICER

NO HITTER IN STRETFORD

On a Wednesday night at Tum Moss in Stretford, the then "Stretford Saints" took on an all American team of mormons "The Mormon Yankees". The year was 1963 and as was expected it was a bit damp to say the least!

The Yankees and the Saints both played in the Merseyside League and this game was a Lancashire Cup Tie first round; I was just starting out as a player and was 16 years old. When I arrived at the ground I saw two new faces in the warm up practice and I thought they were from 'down South' by their accents.

The game started with me in my usual position 'on the bench' - my excuse was I had to give my glove to one of the 'new comers'.

The two new comers had started off with one pitching and the other catching - what a 'battery' they were. The Yankees had been giving everybody in the League a real beating up until that night.

The Saints won the game by a few runs, I can't remember the exact score, but the Yankees didn't get a run, not only that, the pitcher for the Saints had thrown a 9 inning 'no hitter'.

Who were the pitcher and catcher? The pitcher was Ian Glover and the catcher was Ian Chappel - yes that's right - the Australian Cricket Captain and now TV commentator. They were both playing cricket in the Lancashire League and had read about some team in Stretford playing baseball and wanted to play if they could! Ian Glover never made the Australian Cricket team but was supposed to go for a 'trial' with a Major League Team.

The Merseyside League, after protests from the Yankees about their eligibility to play in the game ordered it to be replayed without our imports. The Saints won that one as well.

Just to jog a few 'Old-Timers' memories, other Saints players that night were: Wally Oriell - Canadian, Stan Windross - Canadian, Bob Dawson - English, Pete Dawson - English, John Collins - English.

The Stretford Saints have now started up again as a Junior Team. We would welcome games from other Junior Teams. Please contact me if you are interested.

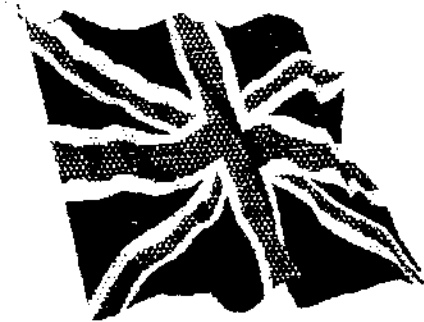
ARTHUR KENDAL

STRETFORD A's

Tel: 061 789 2645

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Those readers who have followed the fortunes of the International Teams will know of the various plans now in operation leading up to the year 2000. The entry into European



competition by the Cadets (13/15 yrs) and juniors (16/18 yrs) this year is the first step. Emphasis is placed on younger members for the senior squad mixed with an element of experience. Whilst no one with the talent and application will be excluded from consideration a definite bias toward a younger average age will be operated. A second plan is also now in operation. Talent alone will not be sufficient to gain selection, at any age group. Application, attitude and determination will also figure.

The next phase of the plan is to change the selection process. In the past four or five years an "assessment day" or programme has operated. This will not be the case for 1994 (for the seniors at least). A training squad of around 30 players (there is no maximum apart from a number that can be handled) will be selected toward the end of October 1993.

This squad will be given a training schedule to follow during the winter periods and following several training sessions in 1994 squads for various functions/tournaments will be chosen leading to the final 20/22 selection to play in the 1994 European Senior Championships "B" Pool in the August. Players who do not show the right attitude or who have not followed their training schedule will be "cut" very early in the programme.

Myself, along with Barry Marshall and Greg Welch, will be keeping an eye on potential squad members throughout the country but I would seek the help of any club manager/coach/secretary/official who see or hear of potential members for any of the cadet/junior/senior squads.

In other words, I would like to have eyes and ears talent spotting throughout the country.

Recommended players need not necessarily be the best now. If you spot someone with the right attitude who has future talent, we want to know. With so many people looking, between us we should be able to identify all of the talent/potential talent. It should be a joint venture so that if we miss one we share the responsibility. We should be able to avoid the situation of "why is my player, or why is so and so, not in the squad?". If you ever thought that, why didn't you telephone me before the squad was chosen?

As I said earlier the cadets and juniors are in operation and hopefully talent will be seen to nurture through that system. The juniors will take part in the 1994 "A" Group Championships in Holland (2/10 July). The cadets competition structure for 1994 will be reviewed following advice from the Youth Director. So, my final message is to ask you to let me, Barry or Greg know about that talent. Call us with details of the player so that we can assess the potential and set the ball in motion.

Mike Harrold
National Teams Manager

COACHING CHILDREN IN SPORT - Martin Lee

This book is written about how to understand children and their involvement in sports, so as to enable the coach to have a better understanding of their needs, wants and motivations. A theme throughout the book is that children are not mini-adults, and thus should not be treated as such, as they have their own unique problems and traits which need to be understood and appreciated. This is further emphasised in various chapters, which discuss why children participate in sport, the effect sport has on children, developmental changes which children experience both physically and psychologically. Further chapters on the role of the coach in their relationships with young athletes is illuminating and worthwhile for any coach to read.

Another important aspect discussed in the legal matters chapter, covers the coach's obligations and where he/she stands in relation to the law. Again a very important chapter for all concerned to appreciate.

Overall, this is a very thorough and informative book. If you work with children, I would seriously recommend this book. Although £16.95 is fairly expensive, it can be used as a reference text, which will be invaluable over a long period of time.

To purchase, please send a cheque or postal order to the BBF Head Office.



**GREAT BRITAIN
V
NATIONAL PREMIER
LEAGUE
ALL STARS**

Sunday 12 September

Eastmount Recreation Centre
Waveney Road,
Longhill Estate, Hull

Dear Sir

I would love to be able to manage / coach and teach baseball in England. My son is eleven years old and show tremendous potential in baseball and football and he has expressed a deep desire to represent England in sport. I have been in the game for many years as a pitcher and second baseman, my son is a pitcher and short stop and at present I am the player manager / coach of the Sea Point Cardinals major league team and teach, manage and coach a youth team of eleven and twelve year olds. I would sincerely appreciate it if you could inform clubs of my interest and that my services are offered free of charge. Any interested parties may contact me by telephone or at the following address for further information.

Yours faithfully

Ivan Stroud

50 Chatham Road, Heathfield, 7945 Cape Town, South Africa
Tel: 010 27 21 729839

Dear Brit-Ball

We recently held a very successful 'summer school' to introduce youngsters to Baseball, with the help of our envoy coach Bob Brandi. As a result of this we are now hoping to form a youth team for the 1994 season.

On enquiring how we go about this - cost, registration, league set up etc, I was very disappointed to find out that nobody could supply me with a "set-up" pack. I have been told that I can either get several teams in my area together to play each other, or arrange my own south coast tournament, or join the American Little League / pony League system. All this seems very half-hearted and not what I had expected. After all, are we not trying to show a united league and get the Olympics in Manchester for the year 2000?

Fortunately I have been involved with British Baseball long enough (8 years) to know that you get told nothing and nobody knows what's going on. I therefore make allowances for bad organisation - but why should I anymore. It is becoming increasingly embarrassing to have to pass off Federation cock-ups as the norm!

If you want everybody to take British Baseball seriously it's about time you got things streamlined - so that it only takes one phone call to get the information you need. Adults may pay their registration money without questions just so they can play the game they love, but parents want to know a lot more before they sign up their children and pay for equipment.

Pull your stirrups up BBF!

Jan Macleod
Bournemouth B's

PS: No offence to Kevin Macadam, who did try and help.

Dear Sir

We have twenty five children in the 8-10 year old age group who would like to play baseball against some British teams. We would be happy to arrange any exchange visit. If you are interested then please contact me.

Edwin Schrouen

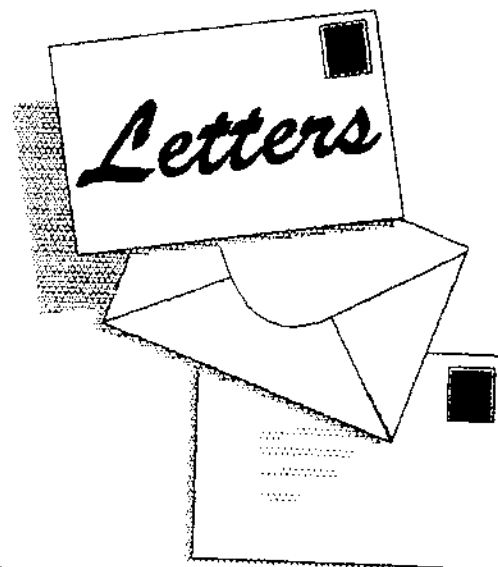
Pinksterbloem 39, 1689 RB ZWAGG, Netherlands
Tel: 010 31 2290 48935

Dear Sir

I am a College/Coach recruiter over here in the states and would like to show interest in helping out over in Britain with Baseball. I have played and coached for the Ensign Markland Kelly Post American Legion baseball team. If any of your teams are interested, then please ask them to contact me.

Stephen Johnson

1807 Forrest Road, Baltimore, Maryland, USA 21234
Tel: 0101 410 665 2596



Wanted- Manager for Bracknell Blazers Baseball Team

Must be experienced and non-playing to take
over game & training sessions
Any Age

Contact John Fletcher on 0344 54683 or Paul
Vernon on 0344 427171

KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY

I remember my first match. I was 5 years old and I was playing for the Hull Jets against the Nottingham Pirates. I walked to first, stole second and was batted home. The bases seemed miles apart, I never thought I would make it, but I did. It felt great to be part of a team.

Looking back, I now know that Alec Williams and co were only amusing me. They wouldn't do that now. I am now a mature 9 year old and have moved on to play for the Hull Mets.

I love baseball. It's a good job because if I didn't, we would run out of things to talk about in our family. Sunday sees the family split - Mum and I go to watch the Hull Giants, while Dad and my younger brother go to the Humberside Mets. Grandad is the encyclopaedia of British Baseball in our family. Where baseball is concerned, Grandad has done everything from treasurer to coach, from player to Great Britain Manager.



He has been around baseball for over 50 years. It was Grandad who bought me my first baseball glove. My uncles Keith and Barry, and Dad Simon have all played for Great Britain, as have my cousins Brian, Mike and Phil. And now cousin Gavin is following in the same path.

What is expected of me - can I do the same?

I have a lot to live up to. Which team should I play for? Which position should I concentrate on? I think I would like to be a pitcher. It's so confusing this game of baseball, especially in this family. What will the future hold for me? It gives me a headache just thinking about it. And what about my little brother? Will he too be confused as to which road he should follow? At the moment all he cares about is how much he can eat and drink on an away trip!

I know what I'd really like. My sights are not just set in following everyone's footsteps, my sights are set on the San Francisco Giants.

Just for now, I'll concentrate on training hard and keep fit, and fingers crossed, with all the help and experience of the family, I'll make it. Maybe having a baseball mad family is not such a bad thing after all.

Long live baseball.

Christopher Radge
Hull Mets Juniors

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OAKLAND CARDINALS MAKE BASEBALL DEBUT

The Oaklands Secondary School Cardinals from York made their baseball debut in a baseball day hosted by Menwith Hill Pirates on Sunday 18 July. It was a big day for the Cardinals players, many who watched and played an organised game for the first time.

Upon their arrival at the RAF base near Harrogate, they watched part of the BBF Knockout Cup match between the Menwith Hill Pirates and Liverpool Trojans, witnessing the pitching wizardry of Great Britain and Liverpool pitching ace Martin Godsall. Later they competed in a game against the Menwith Hill Junior All-Stars, and closed the day with a barbeque. "These kids couldn't believe they were really going to play a game", Cardinals coach Scott Melroy said, "They were really excited. I don't think they'll ever forget it".

STAN HEAPS
MENWITH HILL PIRATES COACH

MATCH REPORTS

AUGUST 1ST

NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - NORTH

Nottingham Hornets 0 Humberside Mets 16
Phil Thurston took the win for the Mets aided by an inside the park home run from brother Brian. Hornets Matt Gaunt took the loss but hit a triple.
Nottingham Hornets 3 Humberside Mets 11
Gavin Marshall took the win with Frank Parker hitting an inside the park homer as Hornets Steve Smith took the loss. Frank earned himself a new nickname when he hit the cover off a ball hence when you speak to him now he is "The Natch" (short for The Natural!)

NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - SOUTH

Brighton Buccaneers 12 Hounslow Rangers 7
Brian Aimes took the win pitching the full nine innings as Brighton kept the pressure on at the top.
Bedford Chicksands Indians 9 Crawley Comets 2
Indians Chuck Chandler went the full nine innings striking out nine and giving up only three hits as the Indians take over top spot in the South.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - ENGLAND

Hull Royals 6 Hull Mets 7
Hull Royals slumped to their second successive defeat at the hands of local rivals Hull Mets.
Ian Asquith took the win for the Mets with Mets third baseman Paul Roberts having an outstanding game. The Mets defense pulled off two double-plays.

Liverpool Trojans 12 Liverpool Tigers 11
The Trojans held off a Tigers comeback despite a 350ft home-run to centre-field by Tigers Ged Bassey. Martin Godsall recorded league win No.10 striking out 12 in a very tight game.
Menwith Hill Pirates 16 Bamsley Strikers 8
Hull Giants 9 Sheffield Bladerunners 0

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - SCOTLAND

Tayside Cobras II 14 Edinburgh Reivers 4
Steve Edwards took the win for the Cobras with team-mate Scott McKillop driving a triple in the fifth inning.
Dairiada Demons 1 West Lothian Wildcats 17

Wildcats pitcher Billy Jenkins struck out 17 for the win which saw the Demons play well up until the sixth at which point they fell apart.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION TWO - ENGLAND

Cumbria Lakers 3 Leeds City Royals II 22
Stretford A's 8 Durham Demons 18
The Demons win ends the A's winning streak and with only a few weeks to go things are hotting up at the top of the table.

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE

Totteridge Trailblazers 6 Hemel Red Sox 5
The Trailblazers end of season spurt continues with a 10 inning win over the Red Sox. Shane Jarvis took the win as well as hitting the game winning RBI.
Bristol Black Sox 17 Stevenage Knights 1
GB Ace Martin Sawyer allowed only his tenth run in the last four games as the Black Sox leapfrogged to the top of the table as their fellow teams fell by the wayside. Two double-plays for Bristol and a three base hit from Martin Sawyer were the game highlights.

City Slick Sidewinders 8 Gloster Meteors 6
The Sidewinders bounced back from their indifferent results of the past weeks to score an important win over the Meteors. This puts them level pegging with Bristol with everything to play for.

Gillingham Dodgers 2 Arun Panthers 15
Arun took a step closer to title glory with a win over their closest rivals.
Bournemouth Bees 15 Croydon Pirates 18

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION TWO

Hounslow Hawks 4 Caterham A's 9
Caterham led all the way as they caused the days biggest upset defeating Hounslow.

Burgess Hill Red Hats 15 Guildford Mavericks 5
Burgess Hill Red Hats Andy Wilson was up to his usual tricks striking out fifteen whilst getting good offensive support from his colleagues. Ed Latham hit 2 triples and a single, Jeff Fox hit a triple, John Sayers and Ian Medhurst both scored three runs as the Red Hats exploded for six runs in the seventh inning and six runs in the eighth.
Lashings Sluggers 19 Waltham Abbey Cardinals 18
The Sluggers struggled against a Cardinals side doomed to Division Three baseball next

season, owing to the loss of their first choice pitchers through injury. Jon Gough eventually recorded the victory.

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION THREE

Hounslow Sentinels 10 Bracknell Blazers 14
Brighton Buccaneers 1 Tiptree Hotspots Rays 31
The Rays have all but won this division following this crushing defeat of the Buccaneers.
London Wolves 18 Tunbridge Wells Wanderers 6
Wolves pitcher Adam Roberts struck out six to take the win with team-mate Sandat Patel going 4 for 5.

AUGUST 8TH

3BF NATIONAL KNOCKOUT CUP QUARTER FINALS

edford Chicksands Indians 9 Brighton Buccaneers 7
he Indians led 9-3 going into the bottom of the ninth but with no outs Brighton pulled the score back to 9-7. With the bases loaded and two strikes on him Brighton's Marco Vettese struck out to end the game. The winning pitcher was Carlos Baez who homered twice whilst team-mate Kevin Slater had a solo shot.
Hounslow Rangers 5 Humberside Mets 7
Mets Gavin Marshall and Phil Thurston combined to put Humberside into the semi-finals despite Hounslow pulling off two double-plays in a very tight game.
Menwith Hill Pirates 12 Stevenage Knights 2
Pirates Jarl Luscomb pitched a three hitter striking out seven to take the win. Menwith's Terry Greer had two hits driving in three runs as the Pirates exploded for six runs in the fourth. Rob Brown had two of the Knights hits whilst Mike Shuster had the other and scored both of Stevenage's runs.
Crawley Comets 7 Hull Royals 6
Comets took an early lead which they held until the third at which point Royals went in front until the eighth. Comets then came back to score 4 and shut-out Hull in the ninth. Crawley pulled off two double-plays in the first and second Innings.

NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - NORTH

Humberside Warriors 8 Nottingham Hornets 15
Matt Gaunt went the distance to take game one of the double-header.
Humberside Warriors 13 Nottingham Hornets 5
Graham Turner notched up Warriors second win of the season as they held the lead throughout.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - ENGLAND

Bamsley Strikers 8 Hull Giants 23
Liverpool Trojans 25 Sheffield Bladerunners 3
Liverpool Tigers 12 Hull Mets 2
Mark King pitched a four hitter for the Tigers.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION TWO - ENGLAND

Preston Bobcats 8 Leeds City Royals II 2
Peter Shone took the win for the Bobcats striking out eleven whilst Phil Cocks took the loss for Leeds.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - SCOTLAND

Clyde Valley Knights 29 Edinburgh Reivers 28
A home run from Ian Smyther of the Reivers failed to clinch this game in the tenth as the Knights held on for the win. The Reivers pulled off a TRIPLE-PLAY in the first inning.

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE

Hemel Red Sox 1 Bristol Black Sox 13
Totteridge Trailblazers 7 Gloster Meteors 5
Matthew Cook took the win for Totteridge.
Arun Panthers 20 Croydon Pirates 4

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION TWO

Lashing Sluggers 12 Reading Royals 4
Mark Tynan took the win for the Sluggers as they overturned the league leaders. He was helped by Ian Macashien and Jon Gough who both doubled.
Caterham A's 16 Waltham Abbey Cardinals 6
The A's winning streak continued. Brian Robson (bored of football??) hit his only home run of the season, a three run shot. Anthony Weakner and Kev Mack went 3 for 4 while Shane Fletcher hit a triple. Winning Pitcher was Kev Mack in a game that saw Caterham in control from the start having taken a 9-0 lead in the first two Innings.

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION THREE

London Wolves 36 Fulham Flames 4
Steve Burns struck out 17 along the way to taking a win for the Wolves. Jacobi and Pollard both homered for London with Jack Riley going 3 for 4 scoring five runs.
Bracknell Blazers 10 Tiptree Hotspots Rays 12

AUGUST 15TH

NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - NORTH

Humberside Warriors 7 Leeds City Royals 3
Warriors Darren Butler went the distance as he silenced the big guns of Leeds giving up only three hits and striking out ten.
Humberside's Stu Brown batted .500 for the 4th game in a row whilst team-mate Rob Houghton was outstanding at shortstop.

NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - SOUTH

Brighton Buccaneers 8 Essex Arrows 18
Crawley Comets 9 Milton Keynes Truckers 2
Mark Mills took the win in the first in a game that was marred by a Rockets player breaking his leg sliding into second.

Crawley Comets 13 Milton Keynes Truckers 5
James Pearce took the win in the second game as the Comets continue their late season surge.
Hounslow Rangers 7 Bedford Chicksands Indians 9
The Indians took another step closer to the championship as Chuck Chandler took the win. Rangers Gus Berutich and Mark Powell battled well on the mound for Hounslow but to no avail.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - ENGLAND

Hull Giants 7 Hull Royals 5
Steve Kirkby took the win for the Giants over their local rivals.
Hull Mets 0 Liverpool Trojans 16
Martin Godsall's no-hitter shut-out clinched the league title for the Trojans as he went the distance striking out fifteen. This performance capped a great season for the Trojans.
Sheffield Bladerunners 1 Barnsley Strikers 14
Menwith Hill Pirates 13 Liverpool Tigers 3
Matt Hearl threw a five hitter striking out six for the Pirates and picking up his second win of the season. Menwith's Stan "The Man" Heaps hit a three run double and an rbi single and Chris Belmont hit a three run homer.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - SCOTLAND

Glasgow Comets 2 West Lothian Wildcats 17

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION TWO - ENGLAND

Leeds City Royals II 7 Stretford A's 1
Phil Cocks took the win for the Royals.

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - WEST

Bristol Black Sox 16 City Slick Sidewinders 10
Bristol's grip on the title tightened as they beat their nearest rivals in a close game.
Stevenage Knights 15 Totteridge Trailblazers 10
Mike Shuster picked up the win for the Knights as they exploded for ten runs in the fourth inning to seal the game.
Gloster Meteors 12 Hemel Red Sox 15
Tunbridge Wells Royals 2 Arun Panthers 12
Arun's win clinched the division title for them as they cruised past the Royals.
Croydon Pirates 15 Gillingham Dodgers 17

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION TWO

Reading Royals 8 Guildford Mavericks 4
Reading led by 8-2 up until the ninth when their concentration went allowing two more runs for the Mavericks, however Paul Bullock for Reading was on form as he struck out 10 for the win giving up only five hits along the way. The win combined with Hounslow's loss puts the Royals at the top of the division with a game in hand.
Burgess Hill Red Hats 24 Hounslow Hawks 14
The Red Hats clawed their way back from 10-3 down in the fourth to rout the Hawks. Andy Wilson struck out nine on the

way to the victory. Offensively, Ian Medhurst homered and went 5 for 5 and John Sayers homered and went 4 for 5 as Burgess Hill moved into joint second place.
Caterham A's 9 Lashing Sluggers 18
The Sluggers finished their first season in convincing style with a win over Caterham. It was a tight game up until the eighth inning when the Sluggers pulled away and inflict a loss on Shane Fletcher.

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION THREE

Bracknell Blazers 16 Tunbridge Wells Wanderers 6
Brighton Buccaneers B 12 Fulham Flames 15
Tiptree Hotspots Rays 16 Hounslow Sentinels 12
The Rays undefeated league run clinched them the title and earned them a place in Division Two next season.

AUGUST 22ND

BBF NATIONAL KNOCKOUT CUP SEMI-FINALS

Crawley Comets 2 Humberside Mets 12
Humberside Mets ran away with their semi-final behind the pitching of Mike Thurston. After the first inning the score read 1-1 but Thurston began to dominate and a double from Crawley's Jim Pearce in the third inning was the last real offense Crawley could manage. Mets Neil Read started a double-play in the fourth.
Menwith Hill Pirates 6 Bedford Chicksands Indians 7
The Pirates led until the bottom of the ninth inning when the Indians tied the game. With runners on second and third with one out, Menwith decided to intentionally walk the batter to load the base and create a force but unfortunately for Menwith their pitcher was balked and the runners advanced one base to seal the win for the Indians. Indians Kevin Slater's three run shot really pulled Bedford back into the game which they rarely looked like winning throughout and they will need to be on top of their game when they take on Humberside Mets in the final in Hounslow on September 26th.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - ENGLAND

Barnsley Strikers 21 Liverpool Trojans 16
Barnsley pulled off a shock result inflicting the Trojans first league defeat this season. Arlott relieved Hewitt on the mound for Barnsley and proceeded to hold the Trojans at bay to take the win.
Hull Mets 16 Hull Giants 18

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - SCOTLAND

West Lothian Wildcats 18 Dundee Dodgers 17
Three roundtrippers for the Wildcats practically handed them the Scottish title as they edged past the Dodgers. Brian Macauley, Fraser Allen and Paul Todd all connected.

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - WEST

Bristol Black Sox 7 Totteridge Trailblazers 1
Bristol Black Sox 14 Totteridge Trailblazers 13
Bristol Black Sox swept both games of their double-header to take the Division One West title. Martin Sawyer took the win in game one and gave his team a 6-2 lead in the second game before he was relieved.
City Slick Sidewinders 11 Hemel Red Sox 8
Stevenage Knights 3 Gloster Meteors 13
Waterhouse took the win for Gloster as the Meteors had two five run innings to take control. Pete Blackadder took the loss for Stevenage.

AUGUST 29TH

NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - NORTH

Leeds City Royals 9 Nottingham Hornets 16
Leeds City Royals 4 Nottingham Hornets 12
Humberside Mets 19 Humberside Warriors 5
Mets win clinched the National Premier League North title and earns them a place in the National Premier League Series. This means that they will step out at the Oval to play in front of the thousands of baseball fans who will be there to watch the Boston Red Sox and New York Mets farm teams.

NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - SOUTH

Bedford Chicksands Indians 16 Essex Arrows 8
Bedford Chicksands Indians 19 Essex Arrows 10
The Indians sweep of this double-header earns them a place in the National Premier League Series and the National Premier League South title.
Milton Keynes Truckers 4 Brighton Buccaneers 17
Brighton's win looks likely to have clinched them runners-up spot in the NPL South and a possible place in European Competition next year depending on a number of factors.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - ENGLAND

Liverpool Trojans 0 Menwith Hill Pirates 5

SEPTEMBER 5TH

NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - NORTH

Humberside Mets 15 Leeds City Royals 9
Neil Read took the win in the first game of a double-header.
Humberside Mets 5 Leeds City Royals 9
Rob Lopez took the win for Leeds as they secured runners-up spot in the NPL North.

NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - SOUTH

Bedford Chicksands Indians 7 Brighton Buccaneers 0
The Indians took their final league game of the season helped

by a three run homer from Tom White. Carlos Baez took the win for the Indians. Chuck Chandler took the save. The score was 2-0 going into the sixth when White hit his shot.
Essex Arrows 13 Crawley Comets 6
Duane Brenna picked up the win to give Essex joint third place in the NPL South.
Essex Arrows 11 Crawley Comets 10
Simon Bowden edged the win for Essex in a tight game.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - ENGLAND

Menwith Hill Pirates 14 Sheffield Bladerunners 1

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - SCOTLAND

Glasgow Comets 25 Dundee Dodgers 14

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE

Bristol Black Sox 0 Gloster Meteors 9
Gloster shut out the Black Sox to end their winning streak.
Tunbridge Wells Wanderers 21 Croydon Pirates 11

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION TWO

Hounslow Hawks 14 Guildford Mavericks 4
Hounslow's win puts them in Division One for next season after a hard fought campaign.

1993 KNOCKOUT CUP FINAL

HUMBERSIDE METS
V
BEDFORD CHICKSANDS INDIANS

Sunday 26 September

Feltham Arena
Shakespeare Avenue
Feltham, Middlesex



British Baseball Federation

LEAGUE TABLES

BBF NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE NORTH

	Wins	Losses	Games Back
Humberside Mets	10	2	
Leeds City Royals	6	6	4
Nottingham Hornets	5	7	5
Humberside Warriors	3	9	7

BBF NORTH - ENGLAND DIVISION ONE

	Wins	Losses	Games Back
Liverpool Trojans	12	2	
Menwith Hill Pirates	9	3	2
Liverpool Tigers	9	5	3
Hull Giants	9	5	3
Hull Royals	6	7	5.5
Hull Mets	5	9	7
Barnsley Strikers	4	9	7.5
Sheffield Bladerunners	0	14	12

BBF NORTH - ENGLAND DIVISION TWO

	Wins	Losses	Games Back
Stretford A's	8	3	
Durham Demons	7	3	0.5
Leeds City Royals II	6	5	2
Preston Bobcats	7	5	1.5
Cumbria Lakers	0	12	8.5

BBF NORTH - SCOTLAND DIVISION ONE

	Wins	Losses	Games Back
West Lothian Wildcats	11	1	
Glasgow Comets	8	3	2.5
Dundee Dodgers	6	4	4
Clyde Valley Knights	6	6	5
Tayside Cobras II	5	7	6
Edinburgh Reivers	4	7	6.5
Darriada Demons	0	12	11

Wins Losses Games Back

BBF NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE SOUTH

Bedford Chicksands Indians	15	5	
Brighton Buccaneers	11	9	4
Milton Keynes Truckers	10	10	5
Essex Arrows	10	10	5
Hounslow Rangers	9	11	6
Crawley Comets	5	15	10

BBF SOUTH - DIVISION ONE WEST

Bristol Black Sox	10	5	
Gloster Meteors	7	7	2.5
City Slick Sidewinders	6	7	3
Hemel Red Sox	7	8	3
Stevenage Knights	6	8	3.5
Totteridge Trailblazers	4	11	6

BBF SOUTH - DIVISION ONE EAST

Arun Panthers	12	2	
Gillingham Dodgers	10	4	2
Croydon Pirates	7	7	5
Tunbridge Wells Royals	5	9	7
Bournemouth B's	3	11	9

BBF SOUTH - DIVISION TWO EAST

Reading Royals	11	3	
Hounslow Hawks	10	4	1
Burgess Hill Red Hats	9	5	2
Lashings Sluggers of Maidstone	8	6	3
Guildford Mavericks	7	7	4
Caterham A's	6	8	5
Chichester Titans	4	10	7
Waltham Abbey Cardinals	1	13	10

BBF SOUTH - DIVISION THREE EAST

Tiptree Hotspots Rays	12	0	
London Wolves	10	2	2
Brecknell Blazers	6	6	6
Brighton Buccaneers B	4	8	8
Hounslow Sentinels	4	7	7.5
Fulham Flames	3	8	8.5
Tunbridge Wells Wanderers	2	10	10

THE LONDON TOURNAMENT

11 & 12 SEPTEMBER 1993

London Wolves Baseball Club are proud to present, in association with our major sponsor, General Portfolio Financial Planning Services, an 8 team, 20 game tournament to be held during the weekend of 11 & 12 September at Roundshaw Park, Hannibal Way, Sutton (just off the Fiveways intersection on the I23).

The thrills and excitement offered by this uniquely American sport can be seen by the general public from sunrise to sunset on both days, with some of the best British Baseball Federation teams currently playing hardball in London on display. Baseball, as a result of SKY Sports live broadcast of the All Star Game in Baltimore and coverage of the National and American Leagues during the summer, has captured the imagination of the nation with the immensely popular fashion of wearing baseball caps and stylish buttondown baseball shirts further enhancing all that is good about the sport.

Now, for the first time in many years, Londoners will be able to catch the fever themselves, by watching live games which will be freely accessible to all that come to Roundshaw Park. Members of the public will be able to rub shoulders with the experts in the British Baseball Federation's 'Road Show', a pitching machine that hurls pitches over the plate at 94 miles per hour. Those that are courageous enough to stand in the cage will get a glimpse of the ball as it whistles past their flailing bat! The 'Field of Dreams' atmosphere will be further heightened by the appearance of all 8 teams dressed in the full uniform, an American theme marquee, signals from the Third Base Coach, shoe-string catches in right field and the home runs over the left field fence.

This will be an opportunity for Londoners to make up their own minds about the game before the professionals play it out on the hallowed turf of Lords next year. After the excitement and the fun of Roundshaw, no-one who comes into contact with the sport will be in any doubt about the attraction the game played with a round bat holds.

Teams taking part are:

Fulham Flames
Caterham A's
Croydon Pirates
London Wolves
Guildford Mavericks
Old Timers
Lashings Sluggers of Maidstone
Hounslow Hawks

If you require any more information, then do not hesitate to contact Neil McLeod, Tournament Director on 081 715 0214 (home) or 071 798 2001 / 3276 (work).

Ground Standards and Disciplinary Procedures

Having recently had the company of an envoy from a college in the States and several MLB personnel visit me over the last two months, I've needless to say picked their brains over a few of our ideas, regulations and problems.

Ground Standards

Whilst agreement was unanimous for the need for rules in ground standards everyone agreed that we were a little ambitious for our size and that at the entry level we were in danger of actually losing teams, potential or existing. We need to seriously re-think and be careful that we are not over zealous and forget that the purpose of this Federation is to enable anyone to play in a team in an organised league at some level. Most teams are still playing on council or school fields and are not able to easily develop or move to a more appropriate site.

Hopefully with the settling of the conferences into divisions we will be able to expand the levels of playing and ground standards and not lose potential new clubs but also still strive to make the top flight of baseball a viable spectator event.

Disciplinary Procedures

Let's face it we haven't got a clue. We have no documentation or guide-lines and are then forced into making incorrect, over-reactionary, weak or harsh decisions. This is a criticism of the system and not any individuals. I feel that while it would be folly to model ourselves on another sport or the MLB we must get some serious advice from these parties as they have all been in our position in the past and I for one would like to not repeat the same mistakes.

I would like someone, not the Board, to offer their services as Disciplinary Co-ordinator and discuss our administration and playing with a view to producing a working document that will both help us sort out trouble quickly and correctly and also protect ourselves from the undesirables we seem to sometimes attract.

I see this as just a part of revitalizing sections of our bye-laws that have in some areas become meaningless or inoperable words that are sometimes used as weapons and not for the smooth fair running of our game.

Steve Herbert
President

Do you have any comments to make on the above - would you like to be Disciplinary Co-ordinator? Write to Brit-Ball and let us know your views.

THE SQUADS!

The following players have been selected to play in the Great Britain v National Premier League All Star game on Sunday 12 September at Eastmount Recreation Centre, Longhill Estate, Hull. The game is set to start at 2.30pm, and looks to be a close game between the country's top talent.

Great Britain Squad

Ray Brownlie - Leeds City Royals
Martin Godsall - Liverpool Trojans
Darren Butler - Humberside Warriors
Andy Maltby - Humberside Mets
John Heather - Arun Panthers
Neil Eggleston - Nottingham Homets
Frank Parker - Humberside Mets
Brian Thurston - Humberside Mets
Neil Read - Humberside Mets
Glen Matsell - Humberside Mets
Gavin Marshall - Humberside Mets
Phil Cocks - Leeds City Royals
Phil Thurston - Humberside Mets
Rob Dixon - Hull Royals
Mark King - Liverpool Tigers
James Pearce - Crawley Comets
Rob Norris - Milton Keynes Truckers

National Premier League All Star Squad

Rob Lopez - Leeds City Royals
Andy Pellegrin - Leeds City Royals
Mike Thurston - Humberside Mets
Simon Radge - Humberside Mets
Marco Vettese - Brighton Buccaneers
Brian Aimes - Brighton Buccaneers
Nik Warminck - Brighton Buccaneers
Paul Raybould - Essex Arrows
Colin Bicknell - Crawley Comets
Steve Smith - Nottingham Homets
Mike Reavill - Milton Keynes Truckers
Carlos Baez - Bedford Chicksands Indians
Tommy White - Bedford Chicksands Indians
Lee Mayfield - Hounslow Rangers
Bob Gray - Hounslow Rangers
Chris Foster - Humberside Warriors
Kev Macadam - Humberside Warriors

THE BRITISH BASEBALL FEDERATION 1994 HANDBOOK

Contains all the 1994 fixtures and team contacts for British Baseball

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