

BRIT BALL

The Official Voice of the British Baseball Federation

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BRIT BALL

British Baseball Federation

The Official Voice
of the
British Baseball
Federation

Issue No 23
April 1995
75p

PLAY BALL

At last the 1995 season is underway and I'm looking forward to it immensely. Hopefully this will be the biggest and best yet.

The 1995 Handbook is finally out, packed full of all the information and fixtures for this season. Look inside this issue for details of where to obtain your copy.

Over the past couple of months the BBF have been running scorers and umpires clinics up and down the country. I attended both sets of clinics and they were absolutely excellent. For those of

you who didn't go you missed out big time. Remember your club must register an umpire and a scorer this season. Only by identifying those people interested in officiating can we ensure that they receive the best tuition. I was very disappointed in the lack of existing umpires and scorers who attended clinics (obviously they think they know it all!), but was encouraged by the number of new faces.

The lucky winner of the full set of umpires equipment was Richard Gerrard of Brighton, and the winners of the leg guards, ball bags and brush were John Symon of Tayside and Robbie Staff of Norwich. Each person who has attended one of the clinics will receive a certificate of attendance.

For BBF teams, enclosed with this month's Brit-Ball you will find copies of umpires and coaches report forms. Make sure you send these back to the relevant people so that we can fully evaluate what's happening out there around the country - it's the only way we can improve the service we provide.

All the best for the season, and my apologies now if I've tipped you to win!

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in British Baseball, call the
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BBF Handbook: Printed annually, price £4.00 inclusive of postage. Cheques and Postal Orders payable to 'British Baseball Federation' and sent to BBF Handbook, 66 Belvedere Road, Hessle, North Humberside, HU13 9JJ

BBF / MLBI 1995 ENVOY PROGRAMME

The purpose of the Envoy Programme is to provide the CEB Federations with continuous instruction in baseball fundamentals, to players and coaches of all ages and levels.

This summer MLBI are sending six envoys to Great Britain. They will arrive in June, and stay in Great Britain for approximately 10 weeks. All the envoys are experienced college coaches in the US, and many have also coached in Great Britain previously.

The Envoy instructors' time and efforts will focus mainly on our youth and schools programmes, helping existing BBF clubs to grow their junior membership. They will bring to your club many benefits:

- * Develop your junior programme
- * Players receive expert coaching
- * Develop baseball in your local schools
- * Enhance your own coaching skills

The coaches can be expected to work five or six days per week, a minimum of four and maximum of eight hours per day. The majority of their time should be spent on the field in practice or clinic situations.

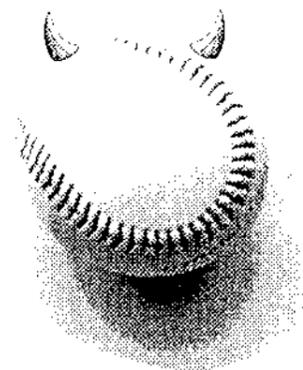
As an envoy host your responsibilities will be:

- * To provide housing and food for the envoy, whether this is in your own home or a local hotel. The envoy coach must have available his own bedroom, with an adequate supply of linens, blankets and hot water. Three meals per day must be provided, which meet the requirements of the coaches themselves.
- * To provide transport to and from his airport of arrival / departure, as well as all local transportation.
- * To arrange coaching sessions with local teams and schools for the duration of his stay. You will also need to supply a certain amount of baseball equipment for the envoy to use during his visits to schools etc, where equipment is not available.

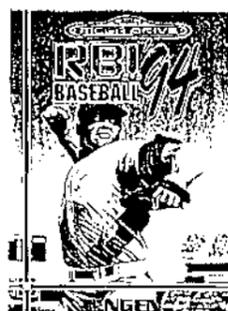
So, if you like the sound of the above, and think that the envoy coach will be invaluable to your club this summer, then you need to send in an application to BBF Head Office giving the following details:

- * Your name, address and telephone number
- * The names of your senior and junior teams
- * An outline of the programme you intend to use for the envoy for the duration of his stay, and how you intend to publicise this.
- * A brief summary of why your area will benefit from the envoy's expertise.

Applications should be sent in by Friday 28 April 1995.



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THE KISS OF DEATH

Now then you horrible lot, it is time to get revenge on anyone who has upset me this year and what better way than to tip you team to win the league. This is a sure-fire way to put the mockers on you. Just remember you better be nice to me this year or you will be next!

BBF National Premier League North

Humberstone Mets will walk this one. Their strength in pitching will find them a hard act to beat. Thurston, Marshall, Stephenson and Brownlie should dominate the hitters in this league with Nottingham Hornets and Menwith Hill Pirates fighting it out for second place.

BBF National Premier League South

This is a toughie. However, much to

Cody Cain's dismay I think I am going to have to tip London Warriors to do the business. I do feel that this will be a very tight division all year.

BBF Northern Conference Division One England

Liverpool Tigers have the edge here with Tamworth Strykers coming a close second.

BBF Northern Conference Division Two England

This division is likely to be the most open and will go to any team that can string some wins together. My prediction has to be either the Birmingham Brewers or Hessele Apaches!

BBF Northern Conference Division One Scotland

Once again I think Glasgow will be difficult to beat however East Coast Pirates might be the dark horses and I think the lads from Kirkcaldy will just pip them at the post.

BBF Southern Conference Division One

Cambridge Monarchs are firm favourites for the Northern section of the division whilst in the south both Arun Panthers and London Wolves should do well.

BBF Southern Conference Division Two

Both Tiptree Rays, Milton Keynes Truckers, Brighton Buccaneers and Caterham A's will all be in with a shout with the Bucs and the Trucks taking their respective divisions.

BBF Southern Conference Division Three

And finally in the third division, both Cambridge and London might be able to emulate their first team compatriots however I won't be surprised if Brentwood Stags finish there or thereabouts.

So that's my predictions for the 1995 season. Play ball!

Kevin Macadam

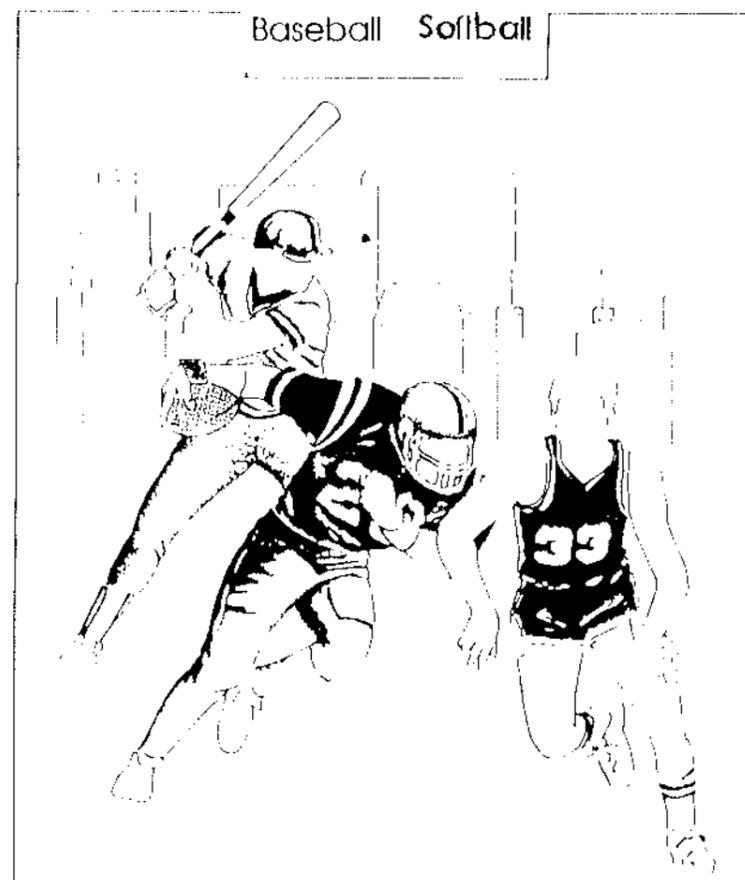


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Have Ball Will Travel

Got a spare weekend, fancy playing someone not in your own league? Why not take a look below and see who is free and arrange a friendly? Alternatively, why not arrange a game against one of the university teams, or any new teams setting up?

April 23rd	Arun Panthers, Bournemouth B's, Milton Keynes Truckers, Brighton Buccaneers B
April 30th	Waltham Forest Angels, Essex Eagles
May 7th	Hull Royals, Liverpool Tigers, Croydon Pirates, Tamworth Strykers, Tonbridge Bobcats, London Wolves, Sheffield Bladerunners
May 14th	Nottingham Pirates, City Slick Sidewinders, Droitwich Spa-Tans, Burgess Hill Red Hats, Guildford Mavericks, Birmingham Brewers
May 21st	Stretford A's, Darlington RFC Demons
May 28th	Barnsley Strikers, Waltham Forest Angels, Stevenage Knights, Manchester Cougars
June 4th	Nottingham Pirates, Croydon Pirates, City Slick Sidewinders, Cambridge Monarchs, Hounslow Hawks, Bracknell Blazers, Totteridge Trailblazers, Hessle Apaches
June 11th	Menwith Hill Pirates, Preston Bobcats, Bournemouth B's, Cambridge Monarchs, Hounslow Hawks, Burgess Hill Red Hats, Gillingham Dodgers, Guildford Mavericks, Totteridge Trailblazers, Sheffield Bladerunners
June 18th	Hull Warriors, Liverpool Tigers, Lashings Sluggers of Maidstone, Chichester Kyotes, Birmingham Brewers
June 25th	Liverpool Tigers, Preston Bobcats, Tamworth Strykers, Darlington RFC Demons
July 2nd	Hull Royals, City Slick Sidewinders, Gloster Meteors, Norwich Wanderers, Brighton Buccaneers B, Crowborough Cougars, Eastbourne Mariners, Manchester Cougars
July 9th	Tamworth Strykers, Gloster Meteors, Stevenage Knights, Hessle Apaches
July 16th	Stretford A's, Tonbridge Bobcats, London Wolves, Tunbridge Wells Royals, Droitwich Spa-Tans, Sheffield Bladerunners
July 30th	Barnsley Strikers, Tonbridge Bobcats, Essex Eagles, Hounslow Hawks, Cambridge Monarchs, Bracknell Blazers, Burgess Hill Red Hats, Birmingham Brewers
August 6th	Nottingham Pirates, Essex Eagles, Droitwich Spa-Tans, Waltham Forest Angels, Darlington RFC Demons
August 13th	Preston Bobcats, London Wolves, Droitwich Spa-Tans, Guildford Mudcats, Chichester Kyotes, Tiptree Rays, Guildford Mavericks, Gillingham Dodgers, Manchester Cougars
August 20th	Bournemouth B's, Arun Panthers, Tunbridge Wells Royals, Croydon Pirates, Norwich Wanderers, Caterham A's, Hessle Apaches

Obviously all league games take priority over friendlies

Brentwood Stags, in the Southern Conference have a second team available all weekends

Book Information

PUBLICATION DATE 27TH MARCH 1995

THE • SKILLS • OF • THE • GAME

BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL

Ian Smyth

THE SKILLS OF THE GAME series is perhaps the best known instructional sports series in Britain. Spread across 35 titles, it presents the basics of a subject clearly and accessibly, using the country's leading sports coaches. With photographs, text and diagrams now extensively updated for the 90's, it remains the best value series on the market.

Top British coach Ian Smyth here takes the reader through all aspects of this growing, deceptively complex sport. Detailed instruction on rules and techniques is accompanied by sequence photographs and line drawings, also offering advice on team strategy and training with drills on each technique explained from pitching to base running.

Ian Smyth is an experienced pitching coach and member of the Great Britain squad.

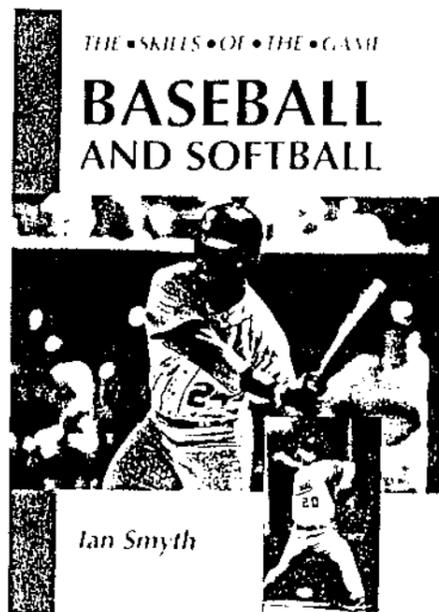
Resident - Leeds

Sales Points

- * A brand new title in the hugely successful *Skills of the Game* series.
- * One of two new titles featuring a superb new cover design.
- * Endorsed by Steve Herbert, President of the British Baseball federation.
- * Superbly illustrated with sequence photographs and line drawings.



British Baseball Federation
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Published 27th March 1995

235 x 165mm

128 pages

100 black & white photographs
and line drawings

ISBN 1 85223 875 5

Hardback £10.99

PRE-SEASON CONSTRUCTION OF BATTING BOXES

When starting the re-construction of your batter's boxes, begin the planning stage by evaluating your daily groundskeeping schedule and your ability to procure materials and supplies.

If you do not have the ability to maintain properly your two high stress areas, the batter's area and the mound (next article), in a positive daily manner, then you'll need to address some alternatives.

Example 1:

If maintenance is limited, then sub-surface hitting pads need to be installed to not only prevent considerable holes from being dug, but also to make repairing those areas easier between games. The pads are an excellent option to use when fields receive a great deal of play and maintenance is limited to non-existent.

Example 2:

If your maintenance schedule is consistent and you can budget for the correct materials then a dense packing clay should be used.

The following methods are steps which should be followed in hitting area maintenance:

Begin your preparation by digging out approximately 4" to 6" of old material from your 4' x 8' batter's boxes. Replace it with new product, which when compacted, remains hard and firm. This packing material should be very high in clay content and low in sand or native soil. It can be a dark red or grey colour. You will bring the new clay to approximately 1/2" of the original surface. Cover with a surface mixture of clay, sand and Turface to absorb water and create a material which is easy to drag.

Post game maintenance is now fairly easy to accomplish and the step by step procedures are listed below:

- Sweep out batter's boxes and remove old material
- Lightly water the stress areas and use a square nose spade to cut into the tightly packed sub-clay
- Use additional packing clay in the stress areas and re-tamp
- Spread back the surface clay to cover the batter's boxes and spike drag
- Let the area dry out and then complete the task by smooth dragging. You are then ready to re-chalk for the next game.

Let me emphasise two important points about working with the hitting area. First, if batting practice is scheduled on your field, use surface hitting pads for extra protection. Second, if you expect rain or if the irrigation pattern covers the home

plate area, be sure to tarp to protect against excessive moisture in your packing clay. Even during extreme daytime temperatures it's best to tarp to retain moisture and avoid the drying and cracking of the packing clay.

The proper daily repair of homeplate takes about an hour a day per field. That's one of the reasons why in the planning stages of your maintenance schedule, you need to budget your time accordingly.

There's nothing better than hitting on a surface that's consistent throughout the contest and also easy to repair.

Next month, there will be an article to explain the proper procedure to maintain your mounds.

Floyd Perry

About the author: Floyd Perry was a high school and college coach in Orlando Florida for 20 years as well as the Director of Baseball at Boardwalk and Baseball. He just completed fifty grounds maintenance workshops and seminars around the country during 1993. His video series, *The ABC's of Grounds Maintenance or Baseball and Softball* is now available on the market.

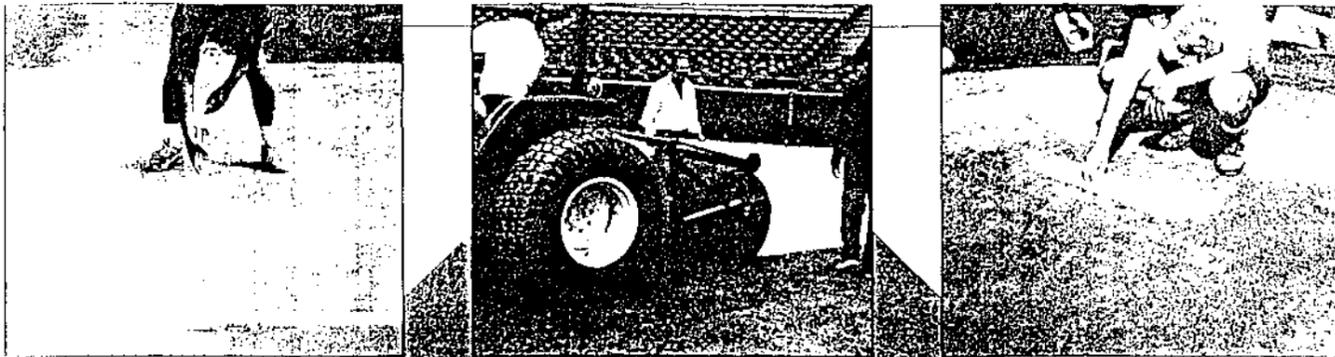
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To identify potential talent I have put together a team of respected coaches to operate a new approach to the GB Cadet Programme. Whilst the Cadets will not be playing competitively, I hope we can attract future GB players. Clinics are open to any child who is 13/15 years of age and will be held as follows.

Margaret Borley Tel: 0732 352043
 at Deacons Field, The Slade, Tonbridge
 19 April, 6 May, 10 June, 8 July
 all 10.00am - 12.00 noon

Craig Savage Tel: 0273 306872
 at Preston Park, London Road, Brighton
 22 April, 6 May, 10 June, 8 July
 all 10.00am - 1.00pm

Cody Cain Tel: 01753 581937
 at Feltham Arena's, Shakespeare Avenue,

Feltham
 22 April, 6 May, 10 June, 8 July
 all 10.00am - 1.00pm

Nigel Moss / Simon Radge Tel: 0532 742668
 at West Park Bramhope Rugby Club,
 Leeds
 22 April, 6 May, 10 June, 15 July
 all 10.00am - 3.00pm

All dates and times are subject to change without notice and anyone interested should contact their nearest coach. If the scheme is successful, then I hope to expand it to more locations in the future.

In August there will also be a residential camp open to any 13/15 year olds. Watch out in Brit-Ball for further details.

Please ensure that you pass on this information to anyone who may be interested.

Mike Harrold
GB Team Manager

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 Foreword by Nolan Ryan

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The course will be conducted by GB Coach, Barry Marshall, and will take place on Saturday 22 April 1995 at Windmill Pitches, Kirkcaldy. The course will commence at 10.00am and finish at 3.00pm with a short break for lunch. The cost of the course is £16 and includes a certificate, membership of the coaching association and a coaching badge.

Fifteen candidates are required to register before the course can be held. If you are interested, please complete the form below and return it with the appropriate fee to BBF Head Office by Monday 17 April.

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No. of nights	7.....14	7.....14	7.....14	7.....14
From - To				
01 May - 19May	159.....179	159.....169	169.....179	169.....189
20May - 31May	209.....229	219.....229	219.....229	219.....229
01Jun - 16Jun	169.....189	189.....199	189.....199	179.....199
17Jun - 14Jul	189.....219	199.....229	199.....229	189.....219
15Jul - 21Jul	209.....239	229.....249	229.....249	219.....239
22Jul - 25Aug	259.....279	269.....299	269.....299	259.....289
26Aug - 31Aug	269.....289	279.....299	279.....299	269.....299
01Sep - 15Sep	259.....279	269.....299	269.....299	259.....289
16Sep - 06Oct	199.....229	209.....259	209.....250	199.....249

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Prices includes return flight, accommodation and transfers
All accommodation will be named at time of booking

I would like to participate in the BBF Coaching Association Level A Course.

Name:			
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Baseball Team: (if applicable)			
I enclose £16 registration fee for the course.			
All cheques should be made payable to the British Baseball Federation			

Return this form and money to : BBF Level A Course, British Baseball Federation
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An original dice game of skill and luck for 2 to 6 bored baseball players. The object: to build the "Best Ballpark in the BBF". Duration 5 to 15 minutes.

1. Each player throws two dice. The player throwing the highest number when added together (eg 6 + 5 = 11) becomes SCORER and marks the scorecard below, which is placed in the middle of the table.

2. SCORER is player 'A' on the scorecard; the other players B, C etc in clockwise order. SCORER throws first; then other in order.

3. If a player wishes to accept a number thrown he says 'Buy', and SCORER ticks the appropriate box under the player's identity LETTER opposite the number thrown. (Turn passes to next player). If a player rejects the number thrown he may either (i) throw one of the dice again adding the number to that left on the table or (ii) throw both dice again. Either way, the SCORER automatically marks the second throw even if it is a repeat of the original throw. (Turn passes). NOTE: FACILITIES may only be acquired once; subsequent throws of an acquired FACILITY on a re-throw are 'sunk'.

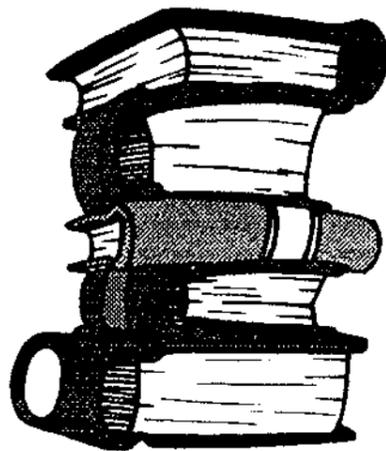
4. Play continues in clockwise rotation until a player gains all eleven FACILITIES: "Best Ballpark". He also

FACILITIES	DICE THROW	PLAYERS					
		A	B	C	D	E	F
Grandstand	2						
Side Fences	3						
Dugouts	4						
Dirt Infield	5						
Mound	6						
Backstop	7						
Foul Poles	8						
Outfield Fence	9						
Bull Pen	10						
Warning Track	11						
Bleachers	12						

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gains any stakes played for from the other players!

HOT TIPS:

a. 6, 7, 8 are easiest numbers to throw and the lower and higher the numbers go the harder they get to throw; 2, 12 are very difficult.

b. Consult the scorecard before deciding to throw again or 'buy'.

c. Keep your eye on how your opponents are faring in the race.

d. Best to mark scorecard lightly with pencil - it rubs out!

PS: If you decided to play again, opportunity to throw first and be

SCORER moves to the left after each game is over; keep your original identity LETTERS though to avoid confusion.

Answer to last month's competitions are:

CODED CLUES

- a. OUT
- b. RUN
- c. BUNT
- d. COUNT
- e. ERROR
- f. RUBBER
- g. CONTROL

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

- 1. Hull Aces
- 2. Crawley Giants
- 3. Cobham Yankees
- 4. Nottingham Lions
- 5. Burtonwood Braves
- 6. Golders Green Sox

JOKE:

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- 3.00pm Batting Practice / Baserunning
- 3.15pm Pitchers Running Programme
- 4.00pm Running Programme (position players)
 1. 6 base to base
 2. 2 laps of field
 3. Stretch
 4. Jog in

All this was happening, and more, on five fields, seven days a week!

The players also had pitching machine batting practice and an individual weight training programme to fit into each day.

To be able to stand next to and listen to Major League coaches instructing players on various fundamentals, and then also be allowed to ask questions on what we had just seen was very enlightening to say the least.

Other coaches at the training camp came from countries such as Sweden, Belgium, Germany, Australia, China, Czech Republic, Phillipines, Peru, Russia and Finland.



The Braves currently have four Australian players, Ben Utting (short stop), Jeff Spencer (3rd base), Glenn Williams (short stop) and Damian Moss (pitcher) as well as one Russian Andre Selwanov

(catcher). Ben Utting, Damian Moss and Glenn Williams are scheduled to be playing Single 'A' at Macon in Georgia this year, however watch out for them in the future.

After ten days of walking around five baseball fields both Steve Hampson and I were exhausted but very much the better as coaches for the trip.

Our thanks to the Braves for their hospitality and Mike Harrold and Ian Smyth for organising the trip.

Arthur Kendal - Trafford Saints
Steve Hampson - Stretford A's

1994 RULE BOOKS

With the compliments of the Great Britain team, there are 20 1994 rule books available free to anyone registered to the BBF and who sends a self addressed 9" x 6" envelope with 38p stamps to:

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Books will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

THE BRAVES WAY

A typical day at the Atlanta Braves Spring Training Camp in Florida begins at 8.30am and ends at approximately 4.00pm, constructed as follows:

- 8.30am Individual Skills
- 10.00am Group Meeting and Assignments
- 10.05am Braves Stretching Programme
- 10.15am Running and Throwing
- 10.30am Infield and Pitchers Meeting
- 10.45am Pitcher Fielding Practice / Infield Practice
- 11.00am Game Work Out
- 12.30pm Running (those not in game)
- 12.45pm Game Should End
- Lunch
- 1.00pm Individual Skills / Fundamentals Demonstration
- 1.15pm Bunt Defence
- 1.30pm Stretching
- 1.45pm Run / Throw Programme
- 2.00pm Team Fundamentals
- 2.30pm Defensive Work

VE TOURNAMENT IN HULL

The Humberside Mets have organised a tournament for the weekend of 6/7 May which coincides with the celebrations of VE the following day.

The Mets would have liked to have hosted at least one foreign team but invitees were already committed. The tournament will act as a build up for the Mets quest for European glory when they participate in the European Cup later in the year. Accepting invitations for the tournament were newly promoted to the Premier League, Menwith Hill Pirates, and two squads of Great Britain aspirants.

Great Britain Manager, Michael Harrold said "I am delighted and appreciative of the Mets for organising this tournament. It will give me the opportunity to look at several players knocking on the door of the senior squad. With the European Championships 'B' in the UK next year I plan to have the basis of the 96 squad at least in my mind before the end of this season.

We have organised several events during this season to give players the chance to impress. I shall be treating each of this year's events on its own merits with different objectives for each one.

I am particularly pleased to give some of the players from the old National League to opportunity to vie for consideration.

Naturally Mets players are not available to me although I understand

two players are considering signing for the Mets before the season starts. They were available to me at the time of making my selections.

I hope lots of people will turn out to watch what will be a terrific weekend of baseball and help it to be successful. I hope the Mets will make this a regular annual tournament".

HULL METS BASEBALL CLUB

VE TOURNAMENT

6-7 MAY 1995
10.30am - 6.00pm each day

Eastmount Recreation Centre
Waveney Road, Longhill Estate
Hull, North Humberside

Refreshments available

For further information, contact
Doreen Megson on 01964 622915

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Gentlemen

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your efforts in hosting the 1995 European Clinic Tour. Your organising committee did an outstanding job of presenting the clinics and making the MLBI instructors and their wives feel welcome. Without your tireless work and the effort of all your representatives the clinics would not have been so successful.

In co-operation with all the host federations, MLBI was able to bring the clinics to nine countries and reach over 1,200 coaches. The European Clinic Tour has established a strong tradition in the last four years and Major League Baseball feels that through grass roots programs like this, the future of baseball in your country will continue to grow rapidly.

I look forward to working with all of you on future game development programs in an effort to continue the growth of baseball in your country.

Thank you again for your work in making this year's event so successful.

Sincerely

Chris Stuart
European Game Development
Coordinator

Dear Sirs

I am writing on behalf of myself and the members of our club that attended the BBF Cranfield Coaching Clinic in January of this year, we all found it excellent in every respect. I would like to congratulate you on your choice of venue and the excellent facilities provided at Cranfield College.

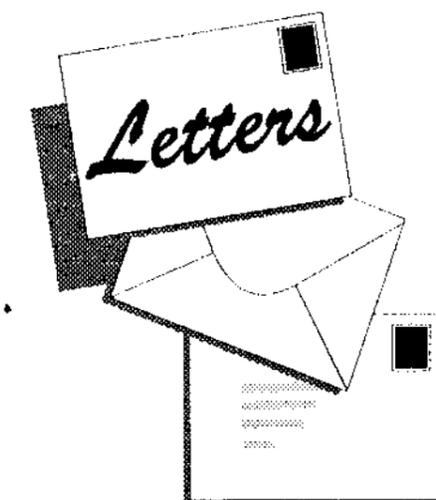
The team of clinicians provided by Major League Baseball International were superb and the lectures covered an excellent spread of game elements explained in a very matter of fact and concise way. All of my members thought that it would be very difficult to improve on this years clinic and the overall quality of expertise of the clinicians provided.

We are very busy here in Belfast, and are in the process of gaining access to public park land at Wedderburn Park

for the coming season. We have chosen this site due to the close proximity of an Education and Library Board youth centre. They have expressed an interest in developing baseball as its main summer sport as currently when the soccer season ends there is not replacement activity. A lot of the juniors that attend these youth centres in Belfast have been involved with student exchange type schemes with America and Canada where they all were exposed to playing or watching baseball and this is where their interest stems from.

All the best for the coming season, and I hope to be in touch in due course.

Yours faithfully
Alan Milliken
Belfast Blue Sox Baseball
Club



MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL INTERNATIONAL NEWS RELEASE

MLB International
Announces Promotion in
Germany

Major League Baseball International will make its biggest foray yet into Germany when a group of former major league stars travel to Frankfurt as part of a baseball festival, June 2-4,

MLB International announced.

The announcement was made at ISPO, the international sports trade show in Munich.

The MLBI team, which will be announced later this spring, will conduct clinics, sign autographs and play an exhibition game against the German national team. Attendees will have the chance to learn about baseball through several interactive displays, including batting machines.

"Baseball continues to grow in popularity throughout Europe and promotions like this help fuel that growth" said Tim Brosnan, Chief Operating Officer for Major League Baseball International. "We are delighted to bring MLB to Frankfurt".

Representing MLB International at the Munich press conference was Vice President, Game Development Steve Baker and former major leaguer Jerry Reuss, who will pitch for the MLB team.

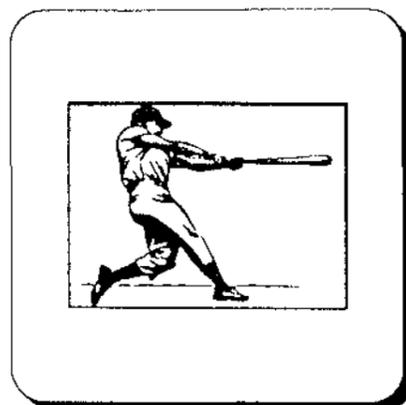
"Baseball is a big part of life in America and it's exciting to play a roll in increasing its popularity around the world", said Reuss, whose grandparents emigrated to the United States from Germany around the turn of the century. "My personal connections with Germany make it even more special to return with Major League Baseball International".

Reuss played in parts of 22 seasons for eight major league teams. He won 220 games, pitched in five League Championship Series and the 1981 World Series for the Los Angeles Dodgers. His best season came in 1980 for the Dodgers when he went 18-6 with a 2.52 ERA and a league-leading six shutouts.

The event is the latest in MLBI's continuing work in Germany and throughout Europe. Most recently, former Major league players Dave Duncan, Jim Lefebvre and Frank White and others conducted clinics to nearly 1,000 baseball coaches in England, Holland, Sweden, Slovenia, the Czech Republic, Italy, Spain, Israel and Germany. In past years, MLBI has staged games involving minor league stars in England and Holland.

We are on your slide

The B.B.F. are creating a slide library of British Baseball teams for use in the Federation Press Pack which throughout the year will be handed out to a number of Media and Press organisations. If you would like to contribute to this by sending slides of your team in their uniform, action shots, individual players or managers then we will include these in the press pack. This may mean that you will see your face popping up in the many magazines and papers that are taking an increasing interest in baseball. What better way to attract a sponsor than by giving them a copy of your team in a major publication. Get those cameras out and start snapping and you may win the best baseball photo prize to be awarded at the clinic in January 1996. Don't forget it's only slides that count.



BBF LINE UP PADS

Orders are now being taken for BBF Line Up Pads for the forthcoming season. The pads are priced at £4.00 and are self carbonating. Each pad is in quadruple sets and there are thirty sets in each pad which should last a team one season. The white copy goes to the umpire, the yellow copy to the scorer, the pink copy to the away team and the green copy is kept by the club.

If you wish to purchase some of these pads, then please send a cheque payable to the British Baseball Federation to Head Office and mark your envelope "Line Up Pads".

BBF SCRATCH CARDS

Is your team running short of money now that you have paid your affiliation and player registration fees.

Looking for ideas to raise some cash fast? Why not purchase some BBF Scratch Cards. For a small investment players can raise ££££££'s each week.

If you wish to purchase some of these cards, they are available at a cost of 30p each. Cheques should be made payable to the British Baseball Federation and sent to Head Office. Please mark your envelope "Scratch Cards".

TYPICAL BRITISH WEATHER!

It's pouring with rain and your team desperately need to train, where can you go?

For those of you in and around Birmingham, why not take advantage of the indoor training centre. It's a large warehouse, in which the BBF Roadshow is set up, ie the batting cage, pitching machine, and there's also a portable pitching mound. There are hitting socks available, and real baseballs can be used.

If you would like to take advantage of the facility, call Gary Roberts on 0121 503 0967.

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