

BRIT BALL

The Official Voice of the British Baseball Federation

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British Baseball Federation

The Official Voice
of the
British Baseball
Federation

Issue No 25
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Braves Set Sights On European Crown

Birmingham Braves are competing in the CEB Cup B Pool in Borgerhout, Belgium this week and stand a better than even chance of gaining European honours.

They are set to face the Borgerhout Squirrels, Barracudas from Switzerland, Sundsvall from Sweden, Kolejarz from Poland and Karlovac from Croatia. The Braves qualified for the competition after defeating Hounslow Rangers in last years Knockout Cup Final. This year with the expanded play-offs in the National Premier League, the top four teams from both divisions will have a chance at a European spot next year. With three places up for grabs then teams should

be prepared now for a trip to Europe next year to represent their club and country.

However, Humberside Mets will not be travelling to Sweden to compete in the European Cup B Pool as expected after having to withdraw at the last minute following a number of serious injuries. CEB have decided to fine Mets the equivalent of £1100 for this late withdrawal.

Top Coaches Set To Make First BBF Youth Camp A Hit

Major League Baseball Envoy Ralph Rago will head an impressive line up of top coaches at the first residential camp of its kind at Cranfield University, Milton Keynes in August

The camp will run for five days and full details and a booking form are inside. Places are sure to be at a premium so give your parents a break and ask them to send you on holiday for a week!

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INSURANCE..... WHAT YOU GET FOR YOUR MONEY

Over the past couple of weeks we have received a number of queries at Head Office regarding insurance claims and what it covers. All teams were sent full details of the cover at the beginning of the season however hopefully this article will clear up a couple of misconceptions.

Previously, the BBF's player insurance cost £6 per player and provided £5,000 death cover, £5,000 loss of limb and £50 per week if you were off work more than three weeks following a baseball injury. However, the loss of earnings failed to pay out if you were a student, unemployed, over 60 years of age, self-employed or were paid by your own company. Therefore it only covered a small number of people and as most people earn more than £50 a week, it was not of much use. This coupled with the fact that it only paid out £5,000 should you lose an eye or limb or become disabled, made the policy woefully inadequate, and was open to abuse.

It would appear from some of the phone calls we have received some teams are under the impression that player insurance is still £6. This is not the case as was explained at the AGM by Ian Smyth and any insurance fee is now built in to the player registration figure of £23, or coach, umpire and scorer fees of £10.

The BBF's player insurance is now done through Perkins Slade Ltd, who through our membership of the CCPR have negotiated us a better deal. In brief, the cover is £2000 death and £50,000 loss of limb, which are far more realistic figures at a premium of 62p per person.

The public liability insurance this year is again an improvement on last years policy. However, the policy costs the BBF £42 per club. As you well know the cost to clubs was £30, a saving of £12.

OK, you may say but what if I am off work. Well the BBF provides its members with a far better policy than before at an affordable price to all players. If individuals want a policy with higher benefits such as convalescence and cash if in hospital then these policies are available. I have my own personal accident insurance plan which costs me £8 a month. However, I am positive that members would not wish to pay this type of premium each month. If any players are interested taking out this type of policy themselves, then please give me a call and I will pass on the details.



Kevin Macadam

El Presidente

The new season has been very enjoyable for me so far. I've seen two excellent National Premier League games in Humberside Mets vs Birmingham Braves and Enfield Spartans vs London Warriors. Although GB's Martin Dutton pitched an excellent game for the Braves, the Mets once again showed their experience and strength in turning the screw and holding an early lead. It was a cold day in London but the baseball was hot as the Spartans shut out London in an absorbing game. If these early games are any indication, all four teams should have some thrilling and close matches during the season. With expanded play-offs giving any two from eight a chance at competing in the NPL series, this years competition will be very hard to predict. Any chance of a five game series for 1996?

On the youth side I've attended two tournaments, in Leeds and Hull, both of which were again excellently run, and with tee ball games being run alongside the baseball, it made the day exciting for both players and parents. Eventual winners for the baseball games at both tournaments were Menwith Hill, with Trafford Saints winning the tee-ball



games. I went as a spectator to the event in Leeds, sponsored by Burger King, but was pleased to help and manage one of the newer Leeds tee ball teams, and they manage to win one game that day. The event at Eastmount Recreation Centre was once again supported by Humberside Leisure services, and it was good to see Cartmel Valley Lions there - hope to see you again folks.

The umpires clinic I attended at Menwith Hill was excellent and with the expert tuition of Frank Scherer I felt the day passed too quickly but I went away a lot more knowledgeable than when I arrived. No more small strike zone well I'll try! A similar session took place earlier in the year, run by Ted Gerard-Thesingh, and from the reports I've heard this clinic was equally as good. However, I've noticed that even though the numbers of registered umpires have increased this year the clinics were still poorly attended. Is there anyone out there who seriously thinks they cannot learn anything more? I do feel that the umpires out there are generally given a hard time, especially the rookies, but the players should remember that most umpires stats would be far in excess of the majority of players in this country. Give your umpires room to grow and you'll benefit in the long run.

I've also been busy scanning logos and artwork into the computer for us to use in Brit-Ball. We'd also like to be able to use your team's logo when you have an article printed in Brit-Ball, so please send them in to Head Office. Also we're always on the look out for



baseball pictures. If you have any on your computer, or if we have any budding artists out there who can draw us some black and white pictures that we can use then please send them in and help make this publication a better read.

Where will I be next? On 10 June I'll be in Halifax for the GB road tour and if you're really unlucky it could be at your game! Seriously, I would like to attend as many games and events as possible this year and I don't mean just NPL games. If you have a special event and would like me to attend or indeed any other executive please send in the details and we'll do our best to get there.



Next Sunday I will be umpiring my second game this season and I hope it's better than my first, as there was definite room for improvement. I keep saying it "give the pitcher the corners", I might one day do it!

In closing my thanks to FBI for their continued efforts with the BBF British Schools Programme, and once again to MLB for the increasing support for the game in Great Britain.

WELCOME

Over the next few weeks the MLB Envoys will be arriving in the country. They are as follows:

Ralph Rago
Mike Shepperd
Staying with Nigel Moss, Leeds City Royals

Ted Novio
Staying with Gary Roberts, Birmingham Braves

Tom Mendoza
Staying with Frank Parker, Humberside Mets and Kevin Macadam Hessle Apaches

Vince Garcia
Staying with Paul Vernon, Bracknell Blazers and Andrew Wilson, Manchester Cougars

Rick Steen
Staying with Mark Hirst, Neil McLeod, London Wolves and Steve Herbert, El Presidente!

If you should meet up with any of them at games around the country, please make them welcome and listen to what they have to say. Their knowledge and expertise is invaluable.

BBF YOUTH BASEBALL CAMP

**CRANFIELD UNIVERSITY,
MILTON KEYNES
21-25 AUGUST 1995**

Philosophy

This five day residential baseball camp is the first of its kind in Great Britain. This intensive one week course will place great emphasis on the fundamental skills of baseball. This camp is suitable for all levels of players from beginners to advanced, as groups will be chosen according to both age and ability.

The major emphasis of the camp will be on learning both skills and game playing situations. However there will be a fun element, so that all learning situations will be enjoyable, while at the same time the coaching aspects will advance the participants baseball education.

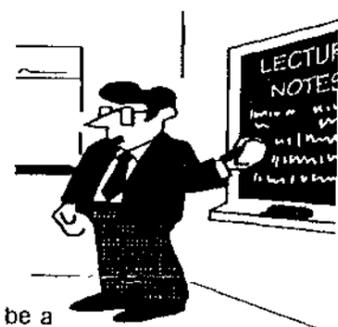
The head coach for the camp will be Ralph Rago. Ralph has been involved in both professional and college baseball in the United States for over 40 years. He has a wealth of knowledge, and is currently coaching

at the University of California at Davis. Alongside Ralph will be several other Major League Baseball International Envoy Coaches. All these coaches currently coach at the college or high school level in the United States.

Organisation

The camp will be run from 10.00am on Monday 21 August until 4.30pm on Friday 25 August.

Participants will be housed in Mitchell Hall on the Cranfield University campus. Participants will be supervised at all times.

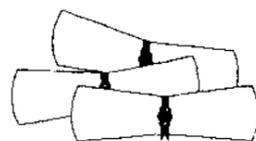


Morning sessions will include skills and drills, emphasising the learning experience.

In the afternoons most of the coaching will

be done in game situations. This will allow the participants to apply their skills in a competitive game environment.

Evenings will consist of other learning activities, both practical and theory based. Fun activities such as videos, baseball competitions and quizzes will also take place.



At the end of the week there will be an awards ceremony where each participant will receive a certificate of attendance, and the coaching staff will present prizes and awards.

Enrolment

The camp is designed to cater for players between the ages of 12 and 18.

The cost of the camp is £149.00. This includes all meals and accommodation and all coaching and games.

To enrol, please complete the accompanying form and return it with your cheque (made payable to the British Baseball Federation) by 31 July 1995 to 1995 Youth Baseball Camp, British Baseball Federation, 66 Belvedere Road, Hessle, North Humberside, HU13 9JJ.

Further Details

Should you have any questions or require further information about the camp, please contact Ian Smyth on 0113 261 2571.

The British Baseball Federation reserve the right to change, amend or cancel the camp. In this instance a full refund will be given. No refunds will be considered if you cancel after 31 July 1995.

Full details regarding venue, arrival and departure arrangements will be forwarded upon receipt of a booking form.

BRITISH BASEBALL FEDERATION YOUTH BASEBALL CAMP

21-25 AUGUST 1995

I would like to participate in the above residential baseball camp

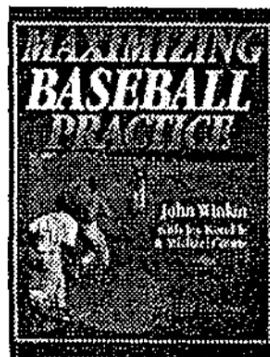
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| Address: | |
| Tel No: | |
| Date of Birth: | |
| BBF Team Name: (if applicable) | |
| Please mention any information about your child that you feel the camp staff need to be aware of, ie dietary or medical information. | |
| | |
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HOW DOES THAT RULE READ?

Many times during the course of a season, or game for that matter, a play will occur that the umpire will have to make a ruling. That is, awarding of bases, fair / foul ball, balk, etc. The rule book is full of information that we as umpires have to be explicitly familiar with. Even then, sometimes unexpected turns of events during a game will necessitate immediate recall of a particular rule which we may not be totally familiar with. Many times this season I have been asked questions on particular aspects of rules with relation to a specific play. It's good to communicate these thoughts as we are all able to learn and improve with each one. This article is the first in hopefully a series of articles on rule interpretations, game scenarios and basic Rules of Baseball reading. I'm referring to the "Sporting News Official Baseball Rules - 1995 edition" as well as other reference material available to me. With that in mind, this month's subject is:

Overthrows and the Awarding of Bases

One of the more often seen plays in BBF league play is the overthrow into dead-ball area, either by a pitcher or fielder, and the subsequent awarding of bases by the umpire. What we'll attempt to explain here is to clarify the rule and give a few examples of how it's employed.

By definition the overthrow is the act of a fielder, while making a throwing play on a runner or batter-runner, throws the ball past its intended fielder and into a dead-ball area, i.e. "out of play". This could happen in several ways: An infielder making a play on the batter-runner (BR) at first base; a relay throw from the second baseman on the back end of a double play; a pick-off attempt by the pitcher on a runner at first base (R1). These are not the only instances that this ruling could come into play. These are but a few examples of the more common ones.



Example 1

No runners on base. The batter hits a ground ball to third. The third baseman throws the ball wildly past first and out of play. Award the BR second base on the overthrow. The award is based on (a) this being the first play by an infielder, so (b) it is "2 bases from the last base occupied at the time of the pitch". The BR having not occupied first base at the time of the pitch obviously, is awarded 2 bases, second base.

Now let's take this scenario one step further.

Example 2

Runners on first (R1) and second (R2) with 1 out. Batter hits a ground ball to the shortstop. He flips the ball to the second baseman to start a double play, forcing R1 at second. The relay throw to first goes past the first baseman and out of play. Award R2 home (scoring the run) and BR second base. This ruling would be 2 bases from the last base occupied at the time of the throw (by the second baseman). R2 is awarded 2 bases from the last base occupied, second base, thus

scoring.

One of the more common rules to confuse is when the pitcher is attempting to pick off a runner. Was the pitcher on the rubber when he threw or did he disengage the rubber before making the throw? What bases do I award on the overthrow?

Example 3

R1 at first base, taking a big lead. The pitcher comes to the set position and then makes a pick-off attempt on R1 without disengaging the rubber, simply turns, steps toward first and throws. The ball gets past the first baseman and goes out of play. Award R1 second base. This is a one-base award since the pitcher maintained contact with the rubber when making the pick-off attempt.

Example 4

R1 at first and R2 at second. The pitcher comes to the set position, disengages the rubber by stepping off legally with his pivot foot and makes a throw to first base. The ball is thrown wildly and goes out of play. This is a two-base award as the pitcher, by virtue of disengaging the rubber, has now become a fielder. On the overthrow score R2 and award R1 third base.

On none of the examples is the award made from the time the ball crossed into the dead ball area. In these examples it's either at the time of the pitch or time of the throw that the award is based. Consult Rule 7.05 for further guidance and clarification.

If there are any rules of questions that you may have and would like to see aired here, send a note to:

Frank Scherer
188 Tennyson Avenue
Harrogate
HG1 3LF

Next month - the balk rule

MAY 1995 RESULTS

7 May

Northern Conference Division One England

Barnsley Strikers 32 Nottingham Pirates 25
Barnsley Strikers got their season off to a good start with a 32-25 win over Nottingham. Steve Bennett went 7 for 7 as the Strikers ran in twelve runs in the eighth to secure the win.

Stretford A's 23 Preston Bobcats 13
Stretford A's beat Preston Bobcats 23-13 in seven innings with Morris taking the win and Anthony Howarth the loss.

Northern Conference Division One Scotland

Dundee Dodgers 5 Edinburgh Reivers 13
Dundee lost seven runs in one inning which effectively gave the Reivers the game despite Dodgers Paul Moody going 3 for 5.

Tayside Cobras 0 Glasgow Comets 9

East Coast Pirates 9 West Lothian Wildcats 0

Northern Conference Division Two England

Darlington RFC Demons 18 Hessle Apaches 8
The Darlington Demons ran out 18-8 winners over Hessle Apaches in seven innings as pitcher Tom Yard struck out ten. The Apaches led 7-2 going into the bottom of the fourth but the Demons batter's took a hold and despite a pitching change the damage had been done. Hessle's Charlie Bruin hit a two run home run and team mate Len Morrill went 4 for 4.

Manchester Cougars 19 Birmingham Brewers 35
Manchester Cougars gave the Birmingham Brewers an early scare as they led 13-2 in the third inning but the Brewers bounced back to win 35-19. Winning pitcher was Gary Ross-Banner.

Southern Conference Division One

Bournemouth B's 6 Tunbridge Wells Royals 20
Bournemouth B's 11 Tunbridge Wells Royals 8
Star billing goes to the Bournemouth Bees as they split a doubleheader with Tunbridge Wells Royals losing 20-6 in game one with Richard Gofton taking the win. But in game two at the bottom of the second inning with the bases loaded and nobody out, the B's third baseman caught a line drive, tagged the runner and then threw to second for a triple play. The winning pitcher was John Troutwine despite Royals Damian Charman going 3 for 4 with two home runs.

Bournemouth's Phil Midgely also hit a two-run shot in the bottom of the second.

Gloster Meteors 15 Waltham Forest Angels 14
Gloster Meteors snatched victory in the bottom of the ninth as they defeated the Waltham Forest Angels 15-14. Steve Hord went the distance for the win.

Hounslow Hawks 20 Stevenage Knights 3
Hounslow Hawks picked up a win against Stevenage Knights running out 20-3 winners.

City Slick Sidewinder 13 Essex Eagles 22
Home runs abounded as Essex Eagles beat City Slick Sidewinders 22-13 racking up eleven runs in the top of the ninth. Vince Warner took the win with Will Beglane the loss whilst Essex homered three times to City Slick's two.

Southern Conference Division Two

Totteridge Trailblazers 10 Milton Keynes Truckers 16
Matt Cook took the loss for Totteridge as they went down 16-10 to Milton Keynes.

Burgess Hill Red Hats 27 Chichester Kyotes 1
Burgess Hill crushed Chichester 27-1.

Gillingham Dodgers 16 Caterham A's 3
Gillingham Dodgers continued their good start beating Caterham 16-3 with Kev Mack taking the loss.

Tiptree Rays 17 Guildford Mavericks 18
Dave Wallace took the win for Guildford Mavericks over Tiptree 18-17 against the Rays Paul Lawless.

Brighton Buccaneers B 9 Bracknell Blazers 0

Southern Conference Division Three

Waltham Abbey Arrows 18 Fulham Flames 7
Jerome Robins gave the Waltham Abbey Arrows the win over Fulham Flames with Mike Bertoli homering.

Guildford Mudcats 12 London Wolverines 23
London Wolverines Dan Mercer struck out twelve giving up only four hits as well as going 3 for 6 with six rbis and a triple as they defeated the Guildford Mudcats 23-12. Clement Salmin went 6 for 6 with six runs a triple and two rbis and Simeon Brown went 4 for 6 with an rbi. Wolverines Dave Nance also homered. Keith Ackroyd took the loss for Guildford despite a good start from Simon Sparrow who struck out the first six batters he faced. Mudcats Crawford Medley hit a double and an rbi whilst Ian Carroll scored three runs.

Cambridge Monarchs B 13 Brentwood Stags 10

Crowborough Cougars 0 Eastbourne Mariners 9

14 May National Premier League South

London Warriors 7 Hounslow Rangers 5

London Warriors 1 Hounslow Rangers 11

Essex Arrows 7 Bristol Black Sox 3
Winning pitcher Kevin Pickston, Martin Sawyer took the loss

Essex Arrows 9 Bristol Black Sox 2
Winning pitcher Paul Raybould, two runs were both unearned. Hancock took the loss

Brighton Buccaneers 15 Hemel Red Sox 4
Home run by Shaun Ozolins. Winning pitcher Andy Wilson

Brighton Buccaneers 16 Hemel Red Sox 15
Brighton were 14-2 down in the bottom of second Ozolins losing pitcher. Winning pitcher Nick Carter

National Premier League North

Liverpool Trojans 17 Hull Warriors 19
Winning pitcher Darren Butler. Trojans leading 10-4 until 6th inning Warriors scored 10 runs, touch and go until last inning. Martin Godsall losing pitcher relieved by Sharpe in 6th Inning

Nottingham Hornets 12 Birmingham Braves 11
Ian McCutcheon bunted in the winning run at the bottom of the 9th, 2 down. Steve Sewell winning pitcher with 11 strike outs and 1 home run. Martyn Dutton losing pitcher with 11 strike outs. Top batter was Joe Yamold going 3 for 4

Menwith Hill Pirates 5 Humberside Mets 3
Winning pitcher Gary Abbott pitching 3 innings in relief from Matt Arridit who had 9 strike outs, 5 hits and 3 runs. Pirates had 11 hits. Foreman went 3 for 4 with 1 home run two singles and 4 RBI. Losing pitcher Gavin Marshall who pitched 7 innings, 7 strike outs and 9 hits.

Southern Conference Division One

Cambridge Monarchs 12 Tunbridge Wells Royals 3
Tunbridge Wells prevent the slaughter rule being used by scoring 3 runs at the top of the 7th, two of which were on errors

Waltham Forest Angels 24 Hounslow Hawks 7

Croydon Pirates 5 Arun Panthers 3
Winning pitcher Colin Denton

Croydon Pirates 17 Arun Panthers 0
Winning pitcher Darren Ward. Home run scored by Ian Pilcher

Bournemouth B's 30 Tonbridge Bobcats 20
Slaughter rule took effect after 8th inning. Game took 3.5 hours, with both teams using all their players. Bournemouth used 3 pitchers and Tonbridge 4 pitchers. Two home runs scored by John Troutwine and Tyler White. Winning pitcher was Phil Midgely, Losing pitcher Ian Hall. Special mention should go to Tonbridge's catcher who was only 14 and caught the whole game, whilst only being knee high to a grasshopper!

Essex Eagles 21 Stevenage Knights 0
Seven inning game with winning pitcher Dave Reed pitching his first game for the club, he normally plays short stop. One hit shut out. It was a close game until the 6th inning. Matt Jennings scored a 3 run homer, and two other home runs were scored by Blackburn and Colvyn.
London Wolves 18 Gloster Meteors 7
Winning pitcher Shane Bursai after 8 innings with 9 strike outs and 4 hits and walked 8 people.

Southern Conference Division Two
Milton Keynes Truckers 20 Lashings Sluggers of Maidstone 7

Tiptree Rays 23 Caterham A's 27

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Totteridge Trailblazers 24 Bracknell Blazers 4
Alan Routledge was the winning pitcher with 11 strike outs and 7 hits. Lionell Cotch was losing pitcher.

Southern Conference Division Three

Eastbourne Mariners 13 Cambridge Monarchs B 3
Winning pitcher was Weller pitching 7 innings with 4 strike outs, 9 hits. Losing pitcher was Lucas. Lee Smith went 3 for 3 with 4 stolen bases, M Usher went 3 for 3 with 3 RBI, Young went 2 for 3 with 3 RBI

Waltham Abbey Arrows 9 Crowborough Cougars 0

Brentwood Stags 45 London Wolverines 29
This 74 run thriller kept the crowd of 230 spectators cheering all the way through. Winning pitcher was Dave Halliwell, losing pitcher Rommel Mendoza. A great display of baserunning was produced by Simon Singleton of the Stags, with big hits from Mark Dowsen and I Stonement (Stags). Home runs galore from both teams with grandslams from Eddie Veale (Stags) and Kevin Rye (Wolves). A perfectly controlled hitting display by Kevin Rye who went 5 for 5.

Guildford Mudcats 16 Fulham Flames 17
Simon Sparrow pitched a solid game, and Tony Collins came in to relieve. Vinny Gibbs was the winning pitcher. Steven Jamett save for Flames and bunted in winning run. Leonard Wilke scored 2 home runs and Steve Jamet and Glen Nakamura both scored one home run.

Northern Conference Division One England

Preston Bobcats 15 Barnsley Strikers 14
Winning pitcher Alan Milhench

Nottingham Pirates 8 Hull Royals 20

Northern Conference Division Two England

Hessle Apaches 37 Sheffield Bladerunners 41

Durham Demons 19 Manchester Cougars 4

Northern Conference Division One Scotland

Glasgow Comets 9 West Lothian Wildcats 0

Dundee Dodgers 14 East Coast Pirates 11
Gary Cumming hit a home run.

Tayside Cobras 0 Edinburgh Reivers 9

21 May

National Premier League - North

Humberside Mets 9 Nottingham Hornets 2

Humberside Warriors 0 Menwith Hill Pirates 6
Matthew Arrldt pitched five strong innings striking out six

giving up only three hits with Gary Abbott coming on in relief for the final four innings. Warriors Darren Butler gave up only six hits but unfortunately he gave up thirteen walks. Pirates Ken Wells led the batting with two hits and two rbis.

National Premier League - South

Brighton Buccaneers 25 Bristol Black Sox 0
Winning pitcher was Andy Wilson who pitched a one hitter

Brighton Buccaneers 20 Bristol Black Sox 0
Winning pitcher was Nick Carter who pitched a one hitter

Enfield Spartans 5 Essex Arrows 4
Winning pitcher was Oscar Marcellino.

Enfield Spartans 6 Essex Arrows 2
Winning pitcher was Julien Fountain with an unassisted double play by Spartan's Simon Lanario.

Hounslow Rangers 7 Hemel Red Sox 3

Hounslow Rangers 8 Hemel Red Sox 4

Northern Conference Division One- England

Hull Royals 20 Tamworth Strykers 4

Nottingham Pirates 24 Preston Bobcats 14

Northern Conference Division Two - England

Birmingham Brewers 31 Sheffield Bladerunners 26

Manchester Cougars 5 Hessle Apaches 36
Winning pitcher was Scott Akester.

Southern Conference Division One

Droitwich Spa-Tans 6 Croydon Pirates 21

Cambridge Monarchs 11 Hounslow Hawks 0
The Hawks had nothing to stem the rout inflicted by the Monarchs with Rick Walker taking the win after going five innings. All Cambridge players added to the run tally hitting well.

Essex Eagles 14 Bournemouth B's 0
Eagles Vince Warner pitched a two hit shut-out.

London Wolves 16 Tunbridge Wells Royals 10
Winning pitcher was Shane Bursae with twelve strikeouts. Wolves Mark Meeny was man of the match going 2 for 4 with a double, a home run and four runs. Royals Jim Pearce took the loss but hit a homer in consolation.

Stevenage Knights 3 City Slick Sidewinders 17
Tonbridge Bobcats 7 Gloster Meteors 24

Arun Panthers 0 Waltham Forest Angels 16
Southern Conference Division Two

Totteridge Trailblazers 11 Chichester Kyotes 22
Keith Bulbeck took the win whilst Phil Cullen took the loss.

Milton Keynes Truckers 19 Gillingham Dodgers 9

Caterham A's 33 Brighton Buccaneers 10

Bracknell Blazers 10 Tiptree Rays 16

Southern Conference Division Three

London Wolverines 24 Eastbourne Mariners 23
Dan Mercer took the win striking out twelve and going 4 for 7 in an exciting ten inning game.

Guildford Mudcats 6 Waltham Abbey Arrows 19
Winning pitcher was J Robbins, losing pitcher Keith Ackroyd. Outstanding catches by Matthew Anderson and Nathan Cauley in 3rd inning and Mike Bertoli had four hits and four runs for the Arrows.

Fulham Flames 16 Brentwood Stags 11

Cambridge Monarchs 9 Crowborough Cougars 0

28 May

National Premier League - North

Liverpool Trojans 5 Menwith Hill Pirates 14



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In game one of a double header Matthew Arrldt took the victory for the Pirates to take them to the top of the division. Abbott homered for the Pirates whilst Bassey homered for the Trojans.

Liverpool Trojans 4 Menwith Hill Pirates 18
Ken Wells took the win for Menwith hitting a three run homer into the bargain with team mates Jay Stichberry and Chris Dulawan both hitting two run shots.

Leeds City Royals 12 Nottingham Hornets 8
Winning pitcher Phil Cocks

Leeds City Royals 3 Nottingham Hornets 11
Winning pitcher Jason Ball

Birmingham Braves 8 Hull Warriors 3

Birmingham Braves 15 Hull Warriors 3
The Braves swept the Warriors with Martyn Dutton hitting two home runs one of them back to back with James Moran.

National Premier League - South

Brighton Buccaneers 11 Bristol Black Sox 0
Andy Wilson took the win striking out eight and giving up one hit with Brad Dyson hitting a two run homer in the top of the third.

Brighton Buccaneers 16 Bristol Black Sox 0
Nick Carter took the win striking out seven giving up one hit and Craig Savage hit a two run homer in the top of the second to keep it tight at the top of the division.

Enfield Spartans 21 Essex Arrows 9
Winning pitcher was Rob Lanario.

Enfield Spartans 19 Essex Arrows 5
Winning pitcher was Rob Nelson with Oscar Marcellino hit a three run home run over the left field fence.

Hemel Red Sox 12 Hounslow Rangers 21

Hemel Red Sox 11 Hounslow Rangers 18

Northern Conference Division One - England

Preston Bobcats 11 Hull Royals 12
Andy Wiltshire took the win to keep the Royals at the top as the game went to ten innings.

Stretford A's 37 Tamworth Strykers 43
Is this the highest scoring game ever? If you know any different then let us know!

Northern Conference Division Two - England

Hessle Apaches 19 Birmingham Brewers 30
This game was very close up until the fifth inning when both teams broke the game open with the Brewers pitching being the more effective. Martin Dixon hit a solo home run for the Apaches.

Darlington RFC Demons 18 Sheffield

This game was very close up until the fifth inning when both teams broke the game open with the Brewers pitching being the more effective. Martin Dixon hit a solo home run for the Apaches.

Darlington RFC Demons 18 Sheffield Bladerunners 5

Northern Conference Division One - Scotland

Edinburgh Reivers 18 Glasgow Comets 17
Keith Graham pitched eleven innings to take the win striking out fifteen with the last eighteen Comets batters failing to get a hit. A suicide bunt enabled Callum Craig to score the winning run.

Southern Conference Division One

Bournemouth Bees 19 Droitwich Spa-Tans 20

Gloster Meteors 10 Arun Panthers 12

Essex Eagles 3 Cambridge Monarchs 7
Winning pitcher was Matt Gilbert.

Essex Eagles 14 Cambridge Monarchs 6
Vince Warner took the win and Steve Gilbert the loss as both teams split the doubleheader to keep it tight at the top of the division.

Croydon Pirates 23 Tunbridge Wells Royals 19
Both sides committed a lot of errors but Darin Ward eventually took the win for Croydon hitting a home run as well. For the Royals Richard Gofton also homered twice whilst taking the loss on the mound.

London Wolves 16 Tonbridge Bobcats 6
Winning pitcher was Shane Bursae with seven strikeouts and giving up only four hits. Wolves Ian Lloyd homered.

London Wolves 23 Tonbridge Bobcats 6
Winning pitcher was Adam Roberts with seven strikeouts and giving up only three hits. Wolves Simon Fraser homered.
Offensively over the two games Wolves Rod Arris went 5 for 7 with seven runs and nine rbis and Neil Macleod went 5 for 7 with four runs and 4 rbis.

Southern Conference Division Two

Brighton Buccaneers 26 Chichester Kyotes 14

Bracknell Blazers 9 Lashings Sluggers 0

Burgess Hill Red Hats 8 Gillingham Dodgers 27
Adrian Stubbs homered for the Red Hats but they had no reply to Gillingham's pitching.

Guildford Mavericks 10 Caterham A's 33

Tiptree Rays 30 Totteridge Trailblazers 29
Totteridge led by 10 runs at one stage only for Tiptree to claw back to a two run lead at the top of the ninth. However

the Trailblazers scored five runs to regain the lead only to lose the game in the bottom of the ninth when Rays Gareth Francis doubled to bring Justin Davis in from third base for the winning run.

Southern Conference Division Three

Eastbourne Mariners 12 Fulham Flames 2

Crowborough Cougars 0 Guildford Mudcats 9

Cambridge Monarchs 15 London Wolverines 40
Winning pitcher was Dan Mercer who struck out five and gave up three hits over five innings to take the win. Wolves Joe Giacobbe hit two doubles, one home run, nine rbis and scored five runs. Team mate Kevin Rye also hit a triple, four rbis and scored six runs.

ON THE MOVE.....

Please note the following changes in your 1995 BBF Handbook:

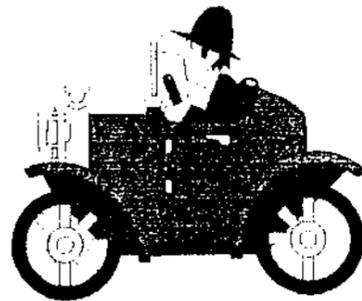
Glasgow Little League
New telephone number for Craig Menzies is 0595 646752

Essex Arrows
1st contact is now
Adrian Bonsor
6 Durham Avenue, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 7NL
Tel: 0181 504 8246
2nd contact is:
Steve Brown, 36
Brighton Avenue,
Walthamstow, London,
E17 7NE
Tel: 0181 923 4827

Keith Peskett
New telephone number
for Keith is 0171 838
5117

Stretford A's
1st contact is now
Paul Murray (details found under 2nd contact)
2nd Contact is:
Keith Kushner
55 Broadwalk, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5PL
Tel: 01625 526915

Southern Conference Umpires Commissioner
For southern conference umpiring scheduling the contact is:
Mack McKinney
38 Fairfield South, Kingston Upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 2UW
Tel: 0181 546 8776
For umpiring queries, ie rule clarification please contact
Frank Scherer, Northern Conference Umpires
Commissioner



BBF LEAGUE STANDINGS AS AT 28 MAY 1995

BBF NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - NORTH

| | WINS | LOSSES | GAMES BACK |
|----------------------|------|--------|------------|
| Menwith Hill Pirates | 6 | 0 | |
| Humberside Mets | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Liverpool Trojans | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Nottingham Hornets | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| Birmingham Braves | 3 | 6 | 4.5 |
| Leeds City Royals | 2 | 5 | 4.5 |
| Humberside Warriors | 2 | 6 | 5 |

BBF NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - SOUTH

| | WINS | LOSSES | GAMES BACK |
|---------------------|------|--------|------------|
| Enfield Spartans | 7 | 0 | |
| Brighton Buccaneers | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| Hounslow Rangers | 7 | 1 | 0.5 |
| London Warriors | 3 | 3 | 3.5 |
| Essex Arrows | 3 | 7 | 5.5 |
| Hemel Red Sox | 1 | 8 | 7 |
| Bristol Black Sox | 0 | 9 | 8 |

BBF NORTH - ENGLAND DIVISION ONE

| | WINS | LOSSES | GAMES BACK |
|--------------------|------|--------|------------|
| Hull Royals | 3 | 0 | |
| Stretford A's | 1 | 1 | 1.5 |
| Barnsley Strikers | 1 | 1 | 1.5 |
| Tamworth Strikers | 1 | 1 | 1.5 |
| Nottingham Pirates | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Preston Bobcats | 1 | 3 | 2.5 |

BBF NORTH - ENGLAND DIVISION TWO

| | WINS | LOSSES | GAMES BACK |
|------------------------|------|--------|------------|
| Birmingham Brewers | 3 | 0 | |
| Darlington RFC Demons | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Sheffield Bladerunners | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Hessle Apaches | 1 | 3 | 2.5 |
| Manchester Cougars | 0 | 3 | 3 |

BBF NORTH - SCOTLAND DIVISION ONE

| | WINS | LOSSES | GAMES BACK |
|-----------------------|------|--------|------------|
| Edinburgh Reivers | 4 | 0 | |
| Glasgow Comets | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| East Coast Pirates | 1 | 2 | 2.5 |
| Tayside Cobras | 1 | 2 | 2.5 |
| Dundee Dodgers | 1 | 2 | 2.5 |
| West Lothian Wildcats | 0 | 3 | 3.5 |

BBF SOUTH - DIVISION ONE NORTH

| | WINS | LOSSES | GAMES BACK |
|------------------------|------|--------|------------|
| Essex Eagles | 5 | 1 | |
| Cambridge Monarchs | 5 | 1 | 0 |
| City Slick Sidewinders | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Waltham Forest Angels | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Droitwich Spa-Tans | 2 | 3 | 2.5 |
| Stevenage Knights | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| Gloster Meteors | 2 | 4 | 3 |

BBF SOUTH - DIVISION ONE SOUTH

| | WINS | LOSSES | GAMES BACK |
|------------------------|------|--------|------------|
| London Wolves | 7 | 0 | |
| Croydon Pirates | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| Bournemouth B's | 3 | 3 | 3.5 |
| Tunbridge Wells Royals | 2 | 5 | 5 |
| Hounslow Hawks | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Arun Panthers | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Tonbridge Bobcats | 0 | 6 | 6.5 |

BBF SOUTH - DIVISION TWO NORTH

| | WINS | LOSSES | GAMES BACK |
|-------------------------|------|--------|------------|
| Milton Keynes Truckers | 3 | 1 | |
| Gillingham Dodgers | 3 | 2 | 0.5 |
| Tiptree Rays | 3 | 2 | 0.5 |
| Lashings Sluggers | 1 | 2 | 1.5 |
| Totteridge Trailblazers | 1 | 3 | 2 |

BBF SOUTH - DIVISION TWO SOUTH

| | WINS | LOSSES | GAMES BACK |
|-----------------------|------|--------|------------|
| Caterham A's | 4 | 2 | |
| Guildford Mavericks | 2 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Burgess Hill Red Hats | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Brighton Buccaneers B | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Chichester Kyotes | 2 | 3 | 1.5 |
| Bracknell Blazers | 1 | 4 | 2.5 |

BBF SOUTH - DIVISION THREE

| | WINS | LOSSES | GAMES BACK |
|----------------------|------|--------|------------|
| Waltham Abbey Arrows | 3 | 0 | |
| Eastbourne Mariners | 3 | 1 | 0.5 |
| London Wolverines | 3 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Cambridge Monarchs B | 2 | 2 | 1.5 |
| Fulham Flames | 2 | 2 | 1.5 |
| Brentwood Stags | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Guildford Mudcats | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Crowborough Cougars | 0 | 3 | 3 |

NORTH WEST LITTLE LEAGUE

Results for May 1995

4th May
Trafford Saints 10 Holy Family 3

11th May
Bolton Knights 12 Holy Family 2
Aaron Richardson hit a grand slam for Bolton

13 May
Preston Panthers 5 Bolton Knights 20

Cartmel Valley Lions 7 Bolton Knights 14
Aaron Richardson hit a home run for Bolton

Kirkby Braves 0 Trafford Saints 24
Saints pitchers Cromes and Kendal gave up 1 hit between them. Paul Kendal went 5 for 5 with 8 RBIs

18 May
Holy Family 7 Kirkby Braves 6

20 May
Cartmel Valley Lions 13 Kirkby Braves 7

Bolton Knights 2 Trafford Saints 3
Aaron Richardson hit his third home run of the season in what was a pitching dual between Jason Cromes (Saints) and Kevin Stidman (Knights)

25 May
Preston Panthers 4 Holy Family 2
The game was tied after 6 innings, with the Panthers scoring 2 runs in the 7th to take the win

27 May
Kirkby Braves 11 Preston Panthers 3

League Standings

| | Won | Lost |
|-------------------------|-----|------|
| Trafford Saints | 3 | 0 |
| Bolton Knights | 3 | 1 |
| Cartmel Valley Lions | 1 | 1 |
| Preston Panthers | 1 | 2 |
| Kirkby Braves | 1 | 3 |
| Holy Family (Liverpool) | 1 | 3 |

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HULL METS BASEBALL CLUB VE TOURNAMENT

Game 1

Menwith Hill Pirates 6
Humberside Mets 9

The opening game to this VE Tournament saw some good fielding in the early stages with no one being able to make any progress with their batting, until the fourth inning when Abbott for Menwith had a three base hit and ran home on a wild pitch, Forman and Urick adding two more to take Menwith to a 3 to 0 lead. However the Mets had also decided that this was the inning where things should happen and ran in six through Evans, Read, Vickers, Phil Thurston, Reading and Brian Thurston. Not to be outdone Menwith ran in three to tie the score at six all. In the fifth Mets pushed forward to end the match with another three runs.

Frank Parker pitching for the Mets recorded two strike outs before bringing on Brian Thurston for his first trip to the mound this season, and this was a shrewd move by the Mets team manager as Brian proceeded to put the Menwith Hill players back into their dugout in quick succession.

Lee Evans, Phil Thurston and Brian Thurston all scored two runs apiece, along with Abbott of Menwith Hill. Mark

Vickers and Phil Thurston both batted a 1.000, as did Foreman for Menwith.

Game 2

Menwith Hill Pirates 1
Great Britain "Greys" 5

In another hard fought contest Menwith did their utmost to overturn the tables on the Great Britain "Greys" but even having the better hitting quota they could not quite make the runs, although they had men on third base three times they couldn't get home.

The trial team put together for the "Greys" had a lot of individual potential and should have pleased the Great Britain manager.

Although only batting once, Milsap for Menwith batted a 1.000, Simmons for the "Greys" had two runs and Malihoudis batted .666. Ward pitching for the "Greys" took six strike outs and gave away only two walks.

Game 3

Great Britain "Whites" 2
Humberside Mets 15

This game was played with determination from both teams but it was the Mets who ran rampant with Maltby, Brian Thurston and Phil Thurston each scoring three runs, and Read, Vickers and Stephenson two runs apiece. The top batters in this dual, however, were the Great Britain "Whites" players, Dutton and Bladon, both batting 1.000.

On the mound for the "Whites" first Marshall, then Maas and finally Bladon could not stem the flow of hits from the Mets, who incidentally had eleven hits to five.

Ray Brownlie took the win for Mets with five strike outs and only two walks.

There was a lot of good baseball in the first three games, but the best was in this game, two three base hits from Marshall and Bladon, Bladon's bringing in the "Whites" only runs, were sheer delights, only to be topped by the most brilliant of bunts from Brian Thurston. From the run down of Stephenson to the force outs on two of Radge and Gilbert by short stop

Vickers to the runners interference of Reading marked this games as the best in the eye of the spectator.

Game 4

Menwith Hill Pirates 3
Great Britain "Whites" 20

Dutton took the win for the "Whites" with eight strike outs, he also had an impressive four runs, two runs batted in and a batting average of 1.000.

It was a dismal performance from the Menwith pitchers, Foreman and Luscombe, who could only obtain one strike out between them, but the rest of the team faired no better as only four of the "Whites" runs were eamed, which speaks volumes for the poor fielding of Menwith. This does not take anything away from the Great Britain side who saw their chances and took them well, with eleven hits and fourteen runs batted in, they deserved the win.



Unfortunately, one of baseball's star performers, Simon Radge, well known for his base running abilities, broke his hand in stealing second base and looks to be out of action for some time.

Game 5

Great Britain "Greys" 7
Humberside Mets 4

This was the game that lost the Mets the tournament with a lack lustre performance that could only have come from the night before. They seemed so out of touch with the game they were lucky that the "Greys" did not completely overwhelm them.

Top scorers for the "Greys" were Simmons with 2 runs and batting .666 and Malihoudis with 2 batting .750 and once again nothing can be taken away from the Great Britain side who showed a lot of individual promise and who had the enthusiasm to go for it and win.

Read, Vickers, Brownlie and Brian Thurston all batted .500 for the Mets and they had only Lee Evans struck out on a called strike but they lost their grip in their fielding where they are normally so brilliant that this one off

game stands out from the rest.

Game 6

Great Britain "Whites" 17
Great Britain "Greys" 7

The "Whites" simply powered away with this one by going seven up in the first frame and Sawyer was pleased to take the win. Although the "Greys" made a valiant attempt to counter the hitting abilities of the "Whites" eleven to seven in the "Whites" favour, they really lost it in their poor fielding performance.

Summary

Apart from the weather souring the proceedings toward the end of the second day the tournament was a resounding success.

The Great Britain "Whites" took the VE Tournament trophy piping the Humberside Mets by one run.

Dutton for the Great Britain "Whites" took the well deserved Most Valuable Player trophy.

Finally the top batter award was won by Malihoudis of the Great Britain "Greys".

Although Menwith Hill did not manage to win a game, the part they played in this tournament is incalculable, for it is from such as them that we learn and improve our game.

For the Great Britain team managers it has given them a window in which to view the potential of aspiring future Great Britain players and we hope that for them too this was a learning tournament.

As for the Humberside Mets, the tournament has proved that they are the team of the present, and that if they are to be a team of the future they too must learn, particularly that being top performers in their field requires a self discipline that all good sportsmen should have and team managers insist on.

All participating teams would like to thank the Humberside Leisure Services Department for their support and sponsorship of the event.

Puzzle Corner

This is the first in a series of quizzes, provided by Terry Greer, a BBF registered umpire. Why not test your team and see if they know as much as they seem to think they do!

1. A pitcher can balk while no runners are on base, true or false?

2. What is the term that identifies a player who has just completed his time at bat, but has not been put out or the play in which he became a runner has not ended?

3. A fielder catches a ball in flight, falls into the stands, and immediately comes up holding the ball. Is this a catch?

4. A fielder catches a ball in flight on the dead run; After running three steps while off-balance, he collides with another fielder and, because of the collision, drops the ball. Is this a catch??

5. A line drive ricochets off the third baseman's glove and the shortstop catches the ball in flight. Is this a catch?

6. The strike zone is the area over home plate between the batter's armpits and the top of his knees; true or false?

7. A foul-tip is always a live ball; true or false?

8. On a foul tip, the runner from 1st base steals 2nd; the umpire calls time and sends the runner back to first. Is this correct?

9. A batted ball goes sharply and directly from the bat, off the catcher's mitt, then hits the catcher in his mask and ricochets 20 feet above home plate, and the catcher catches it before it hits the ground. Is this a foul-tip?

Give two examples of an illegal pitch

10.

11.

Give two examples of an illegally batted ball

12.

13.

14. A pitched ball bounces and passes through the strike zone, the batter takes the pitch. Is this a strike?

15. A pitched ball hits the ground and then hits the batter, who does not swing at the pitch. Is this a ball, a strike or award of first?

16. With an 0-2 count, the batter bunts foul on the next pitch. Is this considered a foul or a strike?

17. A pitched ball, not a strike and not swung at by the batter, touches the batter's shirt but not his body. Do you award first?

List the four types of interference

18.

19.

20.

21.

22. A fielder, while not in the act of fielding a ball nor in possession of the ball, impedes the progress of a runner. What is this infraction called?

23. On an interference, the ball is dead immediately. True or false?

Questions 24-27. Determine if the statement is fair or foul.

24. A batted ball strikes first base and bounces into the dugout.

25. A line drive which leaves the infield over fair territory and first touches the ground in foul territory beyond first base.

26. A bunted ball settles on the foul line between home and first.

27. A topped ball hits home plate,

bounces in the air and the pitcher fields it in front of the pitcher's mound.



Questions 28-32.

Does the statement describe a live or dead ball?

28. The umpires declare an infield-fly.

29. A foul ball is not caught.

30. A foul tip

31. The batter swings and is hit by the pitched ball.

32. The batter is awarded a base-on-balls.

Questions 33-35 are true or false.

33. A pop-fly that an outfielder catches may still be judged an infield-fly under provisions of the infield-fly rule.

34. One out, runners at 1st and 3rd. The batter flies out for the second out. R3 legally tags up and scores after the catch. R1 tries to retouch 1st before the throw from the outfielder reaches 1st, but does not get back in time and is called out. Is this a force play?

35. A bunted pop-up can never be correctly called an infield-fly.

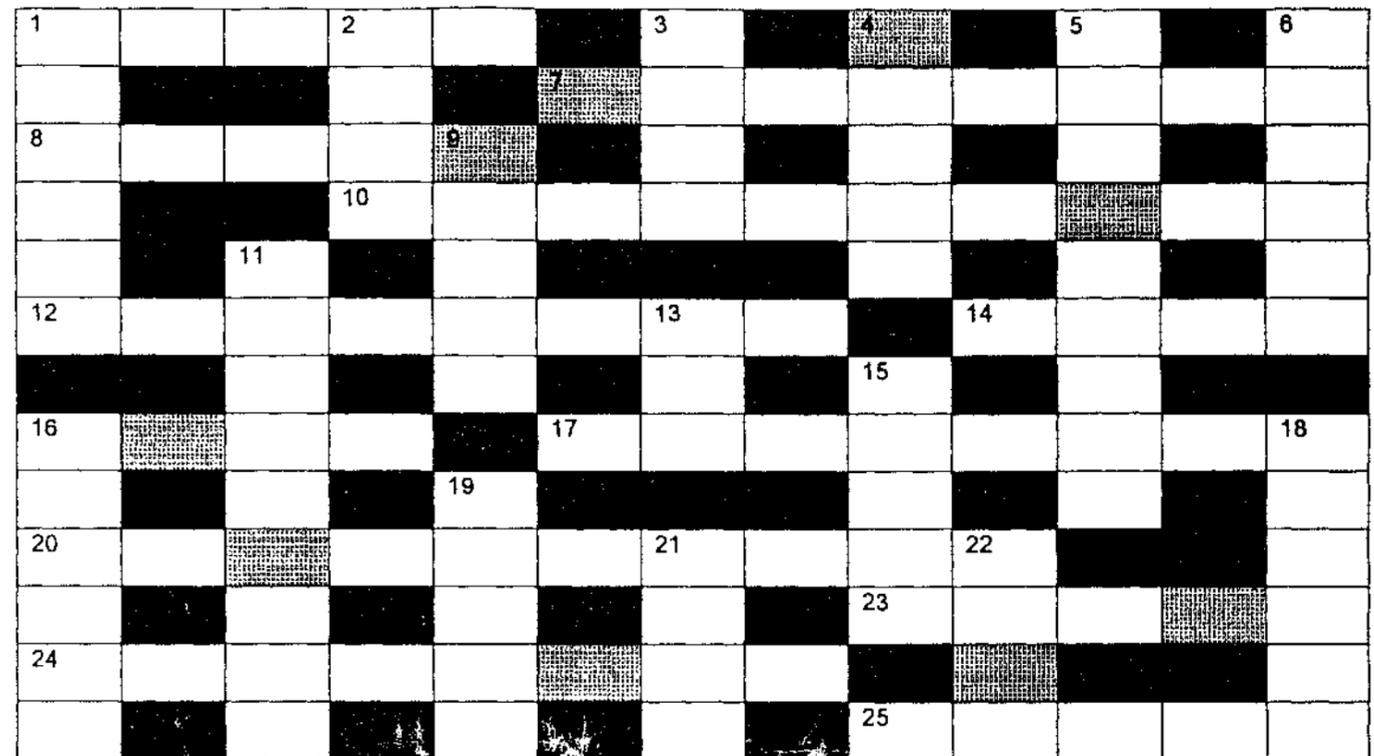
Watch out next month for the answers and another set of questions.

Answers to last month's puzzle are as follows:

1. Tree
2. Bush
3. Grass
4. River
5. Hedge
6. Gully
7. Nettles
8. Thicket
9. Brambles
10. Undergrowth

PUZZLE CORNER

Crossword compiled by Frank Counce



When you have completed the crossword, rearrange the nine shaded letters to spell out a common baseball term.

ACROSS

1. You will find 50s Yankee catcher in Canberra these days (5)
7. Stans place for US youngsters to play ball (8)
8. Pitcher Bobby _____ (Boston AL N Y National) (5)
10. These Mets are not in Shea, rather a kind of Elastic Uni (5,5)
12. Cabin not in on board, pitchers love 'em (4,4)
14. _____ Hershiser. LA pitcher (4)
16. Tony _____, catching in the bull pen again! (4)
17. These are the thinkers in the game !! kind of angers ma (7)
20. Pitcher for Yankees / Senators in 1940s and 50s (5,5)
23. Pitcher Bob Feller, known as _____ Robert (5)
24. You see some funny ones under the hats - "wild thing" mixed up true sons (8)
25. Find Jack in the baker shop at Spartan;..... (5)

DOWN

1. Played at Sportsmans Park until 1953 (6)
2. Russians in Cincinnati? (4)

3. Johnny _____. Sounds like a level headed pitcher from 40s-50s (4)
4. Favourite players at day games become matinee _____? (5)
5. Nero and Torch together will result in this infield spot (3,6)
6. One way to go ninety feet - at a pinch... (1,5)
9. Hammerin' Hank. Lifetime home run record holder (5)
11. Businessman who put up the money to start Kansas City's first organised black baseball team, Walls Laundry Grays in 1897 (5,4)
13. Shortly to be announce (1,1,1)
15. Break up the old Bowl in Philly (5)
16. Seattle's first ML franchise were no high flyers!! (6)
18. Wear these in the sun field, find them in the catalogue Rawlings had especially made (6)
19. Mr Cobb is kinda rusty - Ty to his friends (5)
21. Dodger catcher, 1940s Mickey was 3 points below zero! (4)
22. _____ Taylor. Browns manager 1948-51 (4)



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| OLU DENIZ / HISARONOU | | | | | | | | |
| Montana Hotel | 239 | 349 | 279 | 379 | 319 | 449 | 349 | 499 |
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| Hisar Holiday Club | 189 | 249 | 219 | 269 | 239 | 289 | 259 | 299 |
| Sonmoz Hotel | 199 | 229 | 209 | 239 | 229 | 259 | 259 | 289 |
| Koscoglu Hotel | 199 | 229 | 209 | 239 | 229 | 259 | 259 | 289 |
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| Paradiso Hotel | 229 | 269 | 249 | 289 | 259 | 299 | 269 | 319 |
| CESME | | | | | | | | |
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| Zoo Gold Hotel | 179 | 209 | 249 | 289 | 259 | 299 | 279 | 329 |
| Lord Hotel | 169 | 199 | 229 | 269 | 249 | 289 | 269 | 319 |
| Hora Hotel | 169 | 199 | 229 | 269 | 249 | 289 | 269 | 319 |

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THE FIRST LINE OF DEFENCE

For a baseball team to be successful, it's best to have strong pitching and a solid middle-of-the-diamond defence. A football team needs to have a flexibility defensive scheme and strong defensive personnel. A basketball team many times can become outstanding with pesky guards and an intimidating centre.

What's the Sports Manager or Groundskeeper's first line of defence on his property? In my observation, it's signage! Let me continue with my reasoning so you don't become confused. In today's "Sue me - Sue you" society, every one of us is vulnerable to potential lawsuits every time paying or non paying patrons enter our stadiums, use our fields or view our games!

How is the sports manager the first line of defence in their sports facilities? Along with maintaining the turf areas, the clay portions, the common areas, many times the bleachers and parking lots, there needs to be developed a strong preventive program of consumer signage and public address announcements that place the patron on alert to potential dangers along with institutional rules and regulations.

In 1989, at Boardwalk and Baseball, our baseball staff and Ed Mangan's grounds crew orchestrated over 1,250 games in 265 days. These games were part of the professional, amateur and recreational agenda. That's a lot of games for a six field private complex. It was accomplished by a professional safety minded grounds staff and was extremely successful. Did we have paying patrons hit with baseball? Did we have people go to the emergency room? Did we have people sue?

Of course, the answer is "Yes". The

question that hasn't been answered though, "Was anyone successful in their law suit?" That answer is "No"!

**BEWARE
LOWLYING
BASEBALLS**

The company did not have a single claim that went to court or was settled by a mediator out of court. The primary reason was a strong defence in signage. The courts will tell you that everyone assumes some degree of risk when playing or viewing an athletic contest. But that risk must be explained and qualified by the host site through quality care and maintenance of the total facility and with the availability of first aid and immediate second aid to the patron.

This first phase of defence (signage and announcements) must be implemented and in place to have a solid, well-fortified sports arena. Many patrons do not read signs or cannot relate to the English language (international visitors) so many times symbols are required. Many patrons are too busy with the viewing of the event, and one time announcements on safety are not sufficient so it must be repeated throughout the contest. Many patrons when they pay their 25 cents feel that they own the facility and can do or go where ever they please. That's also where signage and announcements assist with access control and security.

The job ramifications and responsibilities of the solid manager or groundskeeper is widening daily. Many times new responsibilities meet with anger and displeasure since time is already short. Please avoid letting this one small part of the job get to you. Your strongest line of defence is being pro-active safety rather than reactive after the lawsuit is filed. My comments to managers and groundskeepers at my seminars is to put their requests in writing and take pictures of their strongest concerns and run it up the flag pole. It's better to solve a \$2500.00 problem than face a \$2.5 million law suit.

What saves the managers from aggravation and discomfort from accidents and injury on their property? What can the parks, fields, stadiums, schools and colleges do to create their solid first line of defence? **SIGNAGE!** It works!

Floyd Perry is a current member of the STMA and PGMS and travels around the USA co-ordinating workshops and seminars on Grounds Maintenance and Facility Improvement. He has authored the textbook, *A Pictorial Guide to Quality Groundskeeping* and created two videos, *The ABC's of Grounds Maintenance, for baseball and softball fields.*

**LET THE
PUBLIC
KNOW....**

Each Sunday evening, here at Head Office we send out the National Premier League results to all the national newspapers by fax. This process has now become quite streamlined, and we would like to extend the service to all teams and cover all your local media.

So in order to enable us to do this we need the information on your local newspapers, television and radio stations. The details we require are as follows:

- Name of publication
- Contact name (ie Sports Editor)
- Full address
- Telephone Number
- Fax Number

By providing your local media with results on a regular basis will increase awareness of your team and the game of baseball, bringing new players and spectators to the game. You will also find that when you have a larger event in your area, they will be only too happy to cover the event for you, so send in those details now.

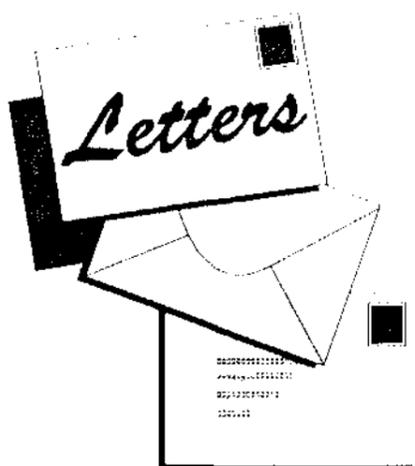


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Dear Brit-Ball

I was intrigued to come across a reference in a recently published book concerning a baseball match staged in September 1942 at the Oldham Rugby League ground between the Californian Eagles and the New York Yanks. In the absence of further details I presume these teams may have consisted of American servicemen. I would if any reader knows about these teams and why the match took place?

Yours faithfully
Will Cosgrave

Dear Readers

"A View on 48 Years Dedication to Baseball"

May I put my view on baseball in general. As regards baseball, it saddens me to see how many teams, some long established ones are quitting the game. Ok some may say yes but look at the new teams but how long are the new ones staying in the game!?

Registration and affiliation fees are at their highest ever. Insurance, what are player's getting for their money. It seems one has to lose a limb or a life to get any return for their premium. Public Liability in 48 years being involved in baseball I have only ever known one claim every being made which incidentally the claimant never got paid out.

Umpires, since losing their own

association status, seem to be losing out from the British sector and are being taken over by the Americans who are doing a good job but what about the future when they have gone back home, we only seem to have one British umpire in the Northern Premier League at the moment. As regarding Mr F Scherer's article in the May issue of Brit-Ball on umpires, his proposal that umpires fees be in-built with affiliation fees would not be practical due to the initial pre season outlay and where do you ever pay for a service before you receive it.

Regarding the umpires fees not being enough, are BBF officials trying to price our game out of existence, as seems to be happening with so many teams disbanding as stated previously, after all it's not so many years ago that umpires and scorers did the job for the love of the game only, and not for personal gain, or are we getting into the fat cats syndrome when it is pay, pay, pay. If anyone would like a run down on the cost of playing a scheduled game at home I will be happy to send them one.

My last point is why has the Premier League fixtures been so disrupted. Prior to the 1994 BBF AGM I wrote to Head Office asking when GB team in 1995 would be out of the UK in to fulfil fixtures. I was assured that they would not be travelling out of the UK in 1995. Now, all our fixtures have been disrupted due to the GB squad going to the USA so some of our league fixtures may not now be played as on 4 June we had one of our rain days which have not been allowed for in the programme of fixtures.

Why don't we go back to playing one home and one away with each team (double headers are a pain anyway) this would give us a chance to get cancelled and rescheduled games fitted in, playing the same team 4 times is ludicrous at amateur level.

Wishing all the lovers of our sport well.

Yours faithfully
Doreen Megson
Honorary Secretary
Hull Mets Baseball Club

My dear colleague
It is appropriate time to mention here

that the Pakistan Baseball Federation is considering to arrange an overseas tour where it proves feasible. Therefore we would like to send our 18 member team to play exhibition games with your representative team on reciprocal basis. Kindly inform us by return of post and invite us according to your convenient programme. Looking forward to hearing from you.
Yours faithfully
Dr Qasim Baloch
4 Brewery Road
Quetta, Pakistan

Dear Sir

As I have lived, and I'm still living high caliber baseball experiences as a player and a coach, I have learned with the contact of many players of Quebec (Canada), of my interests in particularly teaching this sport.

So I'm writing to you, to tell you of my interest as regard to the possibility of teaching the basics of baseball to the players of your federation. It would be for me a learning experience, as for your players. If you look at my curriculum vitae you'll see that I can teach the technic, theory and strategy of the sport.

Naturally this would be done to complement the work already done by your organisation, and I'm ready to involve myself in any work being done already to further baseball in your region.

Don't hesitate to communicate with me for further information.

Yours truly
Michel Goyette
(If you would like a copy of Michel's CV, please contact Head Office)

BBF Scratchcards

At last BBF Scratchcards are now available at a price of 30p per card. These are a great way of raising money for your club and can be obtained from Head Office. Please make cheques payable to the BBF.




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OLD TIMERS MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

The Old Timers Memorial Tournament took place on Monday 29 May 1995 at Kneller Hall. The idea for the tournament came from George Simmons a player on the squad and a former member of the Basildon Mariners.

In 1994 three Old Timers had passed away, two of them team members and the third a social member. Frank Brady ex Basildon Mariner had attended a practice with George and unfortunately had a heart attack on his way home. Jeff Moffatt ex Wokingham Monarch player lost his fight for life while he was in the operating theatre. Vic Beach ex Boumemouth player was in his 80's.

Three teams were invited; Brentwood Stags, Boumemouth B's and Bracknell Blazers. The sun shone, the ground looked fantastic and plenty of faces young and old smiled

and eagerly awaited the first game. The Old Timers took the field, baseballs flew between 1st and 3rd, 6 and 4, pitcher and catcher, outfielders 7, 8, and 9. They were ready, umpires called in the balls. At the plate stood A Newell, Bracknell's lead off batter, a ball followed by two strikes then a error 5 he gets to first base and the game is on its way. Bracknell's final score 6 with two singles from P Vernon and R Rance. Old Timers 25 with hits from B Mayfield, O Everett, G Simmons, P Crook, J O'Grady, J Thomas and E Dix. A good win now they can sit and enjoy the next two games.



The next game was between Boumemouth and Brentwood and Brentwood scored the first run, a home run from Dowsett. Boumemouth then had a good innings with 5 hits and 9 runs bringing the final score to Brentwood 3, Boumemouth 10.

The third game was between the two losers, Bracknell and Brentwood - what a nail biter! 11 runs or Bracknell in the first innings 8 from Brentwood. Innings 2 another 10 to Bracknell - 21 in total - can Brentwood catch up only 14 runs to win, and yes they do it - 22 they score.

The grand finale Old Timers v Boumemouth. Old Timers win the toss. Boumemouth go up to bat, a single from A Bond but no runs. Old Timers lead off batter Mayfield gets on base, a double from Everett brings him home - they are on the way. Another 3 runs follow, end of innings. Innings 2, 3 and 4 no runs for Boumemouth. Pitching too good from N Vanstone. Old Timers score another 5 in innings 2 and 3. No score in fourth for the Old Timers. Final inning 2 to Boumemouth. The Old Timers win 9-2.

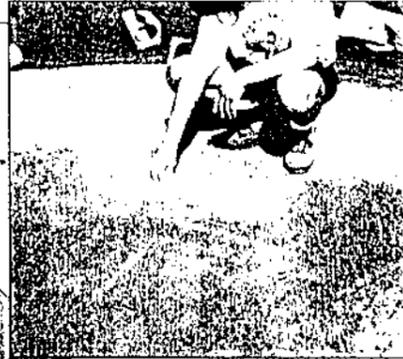
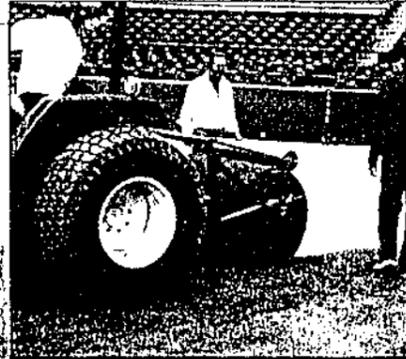
What a fantastic day - weather brilliant games good, plenty of good food and drinks and a day to remember.

The presentation of trophies was carried out by Peggy Moffatt, Jeff's wife.

A big thank you to Barry Mayfield and his team for the organisation, the umpires, scorers and all the players, the ladies for the barbecue and finally the Adjutant RMSM for permitting us to use the school for the tournament.



Jean Crook
Old Timers Publicity Officer



"Nobody does it better than Perry. This is, without question, the most comprehensive book ever written on the subject of baseball field maintenance."

— Collegiate Baseball • October 7, 1994

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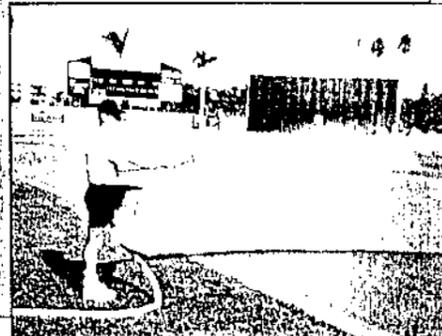
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TRAVELLING IN EUROPE THIS SUMMER.....

then you may like to go and watch some European Baseball Tournaments. Below are a list of the events. If you would like more details of exact times and venues, please contact BBF Head Office.

European Championships Seniors A Pool
7 - 16 July, Haarlem, Netherlands

European Championships Juniors A Pool
9-16 July, Trieste, Italy

European Championships Juniors B Pool
6-13 August, Wien, Austria

European Championships Cadets
6-13 August, Livorno, Italy

European Championship Juveniles
1-16 July, Praha, Czechia

Super Cup
19-21 May, Rotterdam / Haarlem, Netherlands

European Cup A Pool
13-18 June, Haarlem, Netherlands

European Cup B Pool
10-16 June, Leksand, Sweden

European Cup B Pool
13-18 June, Brno, Czechia

Cup Winners Cup B Pool
13-18 June, Szentendre, Hungary
13-18 June, Wien, Austria

CEB Cup A Pool
13-18 June, Brevanne, France

CEB Cup B Pool
13-18 June, Borgerhout, Belgium
13-18 June, Nagykanisza, Hungary

Birmingham Braves are competing in the CEB Cup B Pool in Belgium and the Great Britain Juniors are competing in the European Championships Juniors B Pool in Austria.

If you do manage to attend any of these events, then please drop a line to Brit-Ball and let us know what you thought of the tournament.

National Premier League Statistics as at 21 May 1995

| Batting | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Lee Mayfield (Rangers) | 0.667 |
| Mike Livingstone (Trojans) | 0.667 |
| Brian Bretherton (Trojans) | 0.571 |

| Runs | |
|----------------------------|----|
| Gavin Keffert (Buccaneers) | 14 |
| Brad Dyson (Buccaneers) | 13 |
| 2 players tied on 10 | |

| Hits | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Lee Mayfield (Rangers) | 12 |
| Gary Bedingfield (Spartans) | 11 |
| Gavin Keffert (Buccaneers) | 10 |

| Doubles | |
|------------------------|---|
| Ian Lanario (Spartans) | 4 |
| Gary Abbott (Pirates) | 4 |
| 10 players tied on 3 | |

| Triples | |
|----------------------|---|
| Ian Parker (Trojans) | 2 |
| 13 players tied on 1 | |

| Home Runs | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Sean Czolins (Red Sox) | 2 |
| Duncan Cameron (Red Sox) | 2 |
| Jerry Foreman (Pirates) | 2 |

| RBIs | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Gavin Keffert (Buccaneers) | 13 |
| Ray Brownlie (Mets) | 10 |
| Kevin Coldiron (London Warriors) | 9 |

| Stolen Bases | |
|----------------------------|----|
| Louis Cammarosano (Arrows) | 10 |
| Lee Mayfield (Rangers) | 10 |
| Paolo Tubito (Arrows) | 8 |

| Innings Pitched | |
|------------------------------|------|
| Julian Fountain (Spartans) | 30 |
| Alan Smith (London Warriors) | 27.1 |
| Martin Godsall (Trojans) | 23.2 |

| Base On Balls | |
|-------------------------------|----|
| Mark Beresford (Red Sox) | 22 |
| Darren Butler (Hull Warriors) | 18 |
| Gavin Marshall (Mets) | 16 |

| Strikeouts | |
|--------------------------|----|
| Martin Godsall (Trojans) | 30 |
| Don Knight (Rangers) | 25 |
| Simon Bowden (Arrows) | 24 |

| Wins | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Julian Fountain (Spartans) | 3 - 0 |
| Don Knight (Rangers) | 3 - 0 |
| Gavin Marshall (Mets) | 3 - 1 |
| Martin Godsall (Trojans) | 3 - 1 |

| ERA (min. 20 innings) | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Julian Fountain (Spartans) | 0.60 |
| Paul Raybould (Arrows) | 3.38 |
| Martin Godsall (Trojans) | 3.42 |

Hessle Apaches Junior Tournament

The 2nd Annual Hessle Junior Baseball Tournament will be held on Saturday 8th July 9.30am - 4.30pm at Sydney Smith School, First Lane, Anlaby, Hull.

The tournament will be split into two age groups, with 6-10 year olds competing in a teeball tournament and 11-16 year olds competing in a baseball tournament. Entry fee is £10 per team (cheques made payable to Hessle Apaches). Closing date for entries is Friday 30 June. Any clubs interested in taking part should contact Kevin Macadam, 66 Belvedere Road, Hessle, North Humberside, HU13 9JJ, Tel: 01482 643551.

first Base International



Coaching Tips with Grant Harrison Brought to you by FBI

Stay Cool - Hit with Pride !!!

Batting is 90% emotional and mental, and 10% physical. But that 10% makes a huge difference. When you are confident you walk tall, stand firm or have pride - you are confident. Batting is confidence! Give your batting a turbo boost by remaining firm. Hitting with power requires solid contact with the ball. To consistently hit with power requires discipline. You must control your natural impulse to try to hit, to make it happen and to rush forward with the upper half of your body. You can't hit what you can't see - so track the ball to the bat keeping both eyes level. Always be in a strong position to hit by centring the weight of your head and trunk above your hips. Using your upper body in this way will quicken your swing and encourage you to take your hands to the ball so that you will be able to hit more easily to all fields. You can practice swinging daily and check your reflection in a mirror or window. You can also check your shadow when you stand with your back to the sun.



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