

BRIT BALL

The Official Voice of the British Baseball Federation

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BRIT BALL

The Official Voice of the British Baseball Federation

Issue 36

85p

May 1996

BRIGHTON BUCCANEERS OPEN NEW FACILITY

Brighton Buccaneers Baseball Club officially open their new ground on Sunday 12 May. Chris Eubank will be there to throw out the first pitch.



The opening ceremony will start at 1.45pm and is followed by a single game between Brighton Buccaneers and Enfield Spartans. Match commentary will be courtesy of Gary O'Reilly of Sky Sports.

Steve Herbert and Ralph Rago will be there on behalf of the BBF to wish them every success in their new 'home'. There will be fun and games for the kids and a raffle during the day. Why not join them for a great day out.

The facility has been developed with the assistance of a grant from the Foundation for Sport and Arts.

"MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL ON CHANNEL 4"

A live Major League Baseball game was shown on Channel 4 as part of Night Sports on Wednesday 24 April at midnight. The game was between the Chicago White Sox and the Seattle Mariners. Channel 4 has committed to a second game on 22 May with a strong indication of a game on 15 May as well. Please continue to support baseball by watching the show and if you feel inclined call Mike Miller at Channel 4 on 0171 306 8736 and ask for more baseball.

"Major League Baseball on the Internet"

For all the latest in news and pictures dial in to <http://www.majorleaguebaseball@bat>.



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 ★



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ATTENTION

All BBF Senior and Junior teams
 Please read information
 on pages 12 and 13

ENQUIRIES

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GB SENIOR NATIONAL BASEBALL TEAM



The GB Senior team started their quest for the European 'B' Pool Championships on Saturday 3 February 1996. Five GB coaches and 35 candidates for the squad participated in the first practice held at our indoor facility in Birmingham.

The months of February and March were spent indoors on conditioning and working on the fundamentals of the game. We were able to practice outdoors on 30 March, even though it was a cold and blustery day. We spent the morning working on fundamentals. After lunch we scrimmaged. This gave the coaching staff an opportunity to evaluate the candidates under game-like conditions. Inclement weather on 13 April forced us back indoors.

Presently we have a squad of 29 players who are vying for the final 22 positions for the European Championships. The competition is quite keen for these places on the team.

We opened up the 1996 season at Nottingham on 20 April with a 23 to 13 win. The coaching staff were satisfied with the result, but we still have a way to go to become championship contenders.

Our second game was scheduled for 27 April against the Hounslow Rangers. Unfortunately the game was not played because of the lack of players on their part. This upset the GB coaching staff, because the team needs to play together every week to become familiar and confident in one another's ability to compete against the European teams.

There is no excuse for these games being cancelled because of the lack of players. The teams involved in these games know that these games are scheduled. Teams may 'borrow' players from other teams for Saturday GB games without having to transfer them through the registration process.

If British Baseball is going to be a force in the European Baseball Community, there must be a commitment to the game on all levels, from management to players.

Ralph Rago
Head Coach

BBF MARKETPLACE

The following items are available from the BBF to help develop your club.

Diamond Development - contains details of all bodies to whom you can apply for funding.

Diamond Construction - every possible dimension you could require for building and marking out your diamond.

Introduction to the Game - for beginners to baseball, it briefly explains the rules and what equipment is required.

History of the Game - a brief history of baseball in the UK, good for any youngsters doing a school project on baseball.

How to set up a Baseball Team - How do you go about starting your own team - ideas for fund-raising, recruiting players, details of fees, where the BBF spend the money etc.

Teeball - an instructional leaflet on the game of tee-ball. Ideal for passing on to your local school to encourage them to play the game.

Baseball Information Sheet - again another leaflet which is ideal for people new to the game, it explains what the BBF is and what we can provide.

Parent Information - a leaflet designed for you to hand out to your junior players parents. It explains baseball to them and gives details of how they should become involved in your club.

Baseball Qualifications - a booklet

which explains the aims and objectives of the coaching association and gives you details on how to attain level A, AA and AAA qualifications.

The Great Game of Baseball - an A2 poster explaining the game and its history. Ideal for displaying in your local library, sports centre and schools to encourage people to play.

The Sporting News Official Baseball Rules - 1995 Edition - SPECIAL PRICE - only £1 per copy - can your team afford to be without them.

BBF Scratch Cards - what easier way can there be for your team to raise funds. Available at a special price of 15p a card.

BBF Baseball Camp Handbook - This 45 page book is a must for anyone organising a baseball camp this summer. It's full of ideas for schedules, lesson plans, posters, advertising, competitions etc to make your camp a success plus examples of certificates and awards that can be made at the end of the camp. It's available at a cost of £3.50 per book.

The Sporting News Chronicles of Baseball - the story of America's National Pastime from 1900 to the present day. An A4 hardback book containing 700 historic photographs and 351 pages of great baseball events - £15 including postage and packing

Inflatable Baseball Bats - You've seen Atlanta Braves chop, now here's your chance to start a new trend and do the BBF Bash! These inflatables blow up to the same

length as a normal baseball bat - 32" and are approximately twice as thick. The barrel of the bat is coloured red, white and blue in a union jack design. A must for supporting the GB squad in the European Championships, and they're only £1 each

BBF Caps - Let people know that you belong to the British Baseball Federation. These caps are of an exceptional quality, embroidered with the BBF logo. They are available in either white with a blue peak or red with a royal blue peak. At a cost of £10 can you afford to be without one this summer?

BBF Polo Shirts - Again an excellent way to promote the British Baseball Federation. These shirts are available in red, royal blue, white, grey or white with a blue collar. We have XL sizes in stock but S, M, or L may be ordered at an excellent price of £12 each.

Scoremaster Scorebooks - Let's make the statisticians lives easier and all use the same scorebook - the official scorebook of the BBF - available at a cost of £4.00.

BBF Line-up Pads - feel ashamed when you present the umpire with your line up on a scrap of paper you found in the bottom of your bag? Get yourself a line-up pad. Each pad contains twenty quadruple sets which will last you the season. At £4.25 a pad can you afford to be without?

BBF Pin Badges - Identifies you with the BBF - excellent as end of season gifts for players - these iron based three colour badges are a snip at 75p each.

If you require more information on any of the above please contact:
British Baseball Federation, 66 Belvedere Road, Hessele, North Humberside, HU13 9JJ
Tel: 01482 643551 Fax: 01482 640224

APRIL RESULTS

SENIOR LEAGUES

20 April

Nottingham Stealers 13 Great Britain 23
The Stealers jumped to a 3-0 lead in the first inning and extended it to 6-1 in the second however the GB Squad came back to win 23-13.

21 April

Premier Division - North

Hull Mets 9 Hull Royals 1

Menwith Hill Pirates 25 Leeds Owls 9

Birmingham Bandits 33 Liverpool Trojans 0
Martyn Dutton took the win striking out thirteen after the Bandits jumped to a 13-0 lead in the first inning. Ray Brownlie hit two home runs with Martyn Dutton, Jim Moran and Roger Plantier also homering.

Nottingham Stealers 23 Hull Warriors 13
Despite a home run from Russ Mercer the Warriors failed to overcome the Stealers with Matt Gaunt going 5 for 6 and Steve Smith taking the win.

Premier Division - South

Hounslow Rangers 13 Essex Arrows 1
James Marshall as acting manager might be challenging Bob Gray for his job after this good start to the 1996 campaign. Don Knight took the win striking out ten with Simon Bowden taking the loss.

London Warriors 15 Enfield Spartans 12
Darrin Ward took the win after coming on in relief for Alan Smith with Iain Lanario taking the loss. Ward helped his cause by hitting two home runs one in the first inning and one in the fifth with team mate Kevin Coldiron also homering in the fifth.

London Wolves 16 Hemel Red Sox 20
Despite three home runs from Adam Roberts the Wolves failed to win this hard fought game.

Northern Conference Division One

Stretford A's 4 Preston Bobcats 9
Danny Morris took the win.

Liverpool Tigers 0 Manchester Cougars 9

Sheffield Bladerunners 25 Newark Yankees 12
James Ellis took the win with Chris Barella taking the loss in an exciting game which Sheffield blew open in the fourth inning gaining fifteen runs. Rookie Dave Bristow hit two triples and four rbis whilst for Newark Dave Liwoshko hit a triple and two rbis.

Hessle Apaches 9 Darlington RFC Demons 0

West Midlands Razorbacks 15 Birmingham Brewers 25

Scotland

Dundee Dodgers ran out victors in the Runsport Tournament over the Tayside Cobras.

Southern Conference Division One

Tunbridge Wells Royals 8 Bournemouth B's 34
Ian Macleod took the win.

Burgess Hill Red Hats 7 Arun Panthers 28

City Slick Sidewinders 15 Milton Keynes Truckers 28

Stevenage Knights 2 Croydon Pirates 11

Southern Conference Division Two

Brentwood Stags 13 Guildford Mavericks 36

Tiptree Rays 13 Bracknell Blazers 31
Rob Rance took the win also hitting a home run.

Southern Conference Division Three

Bracknell Blazers 0 Cambridge Monarchs 19
Steve Gilbert took the win with Jamie Cooney taking the loss.

Bournemouth B2's 22 Waltham Abbey Arrows 6

Eastbourne Mariners 0 Fulham Flames 9

April 28th

Premier Division - North

Leeds Owls 4 Nottingham Stealers 15
Steve Smith took the win with Tony Ellis hitting a three run homer.

Hull Warriors 1 Hull Mets 16

Liverpool Trojans 2 Menwith Hill Pirates 17
Jerry Foreman took the win.

Liverpool Trojans 3 Menwith Hill Pirates 15

Hull Royals 1 Birmingham Bandits 5
Andy Wiltshire took the loss with Martyn Dutton taking the win for the Bandits.

Premier Division - South

Enfield Spartans 16 London Wolves 9

Hemel Red Sox 8 Brighton Buccaneers 16
Maurice Mirosolin hit a grand slam and a two run homer to notch up Brighton's first win of the season.

Hounslow Rangers 9 London Warriors 13
This game went to eleven innings with the game being tied in the ninth. Hounslow pulled off two double plays with the Warriors completing one. Darrin Ward took the win with Don Knight registering the loss.

Essex Arrows 13 Kitsons Cambridge Monarchs 17
Matt Gilbert took the win with brother Andy starting a double play from shortstop to third and Phillip Walmsley and Matt Gilbert combining for a double play at first. Ben Mills, Nabil Reihman both scored 3 runs, with Phil Walmsley, Andy Gilbert, Mark McCormick and Tom Guinan all scoring 2.

Northern Conference Division One

Barnsley Strikers 16 Hessle Apaches 6

Barnsley Strikers 32 Hessle Apaches 22

Cartmel Valley Lions 9 Stretford A's 0

Birmingham Brewers 29 Preston Bobcats 39

Scottish Conference Division One

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Tayside Cobras 22 Dundee Dodgers 12

Edinburgh Reivers 27 Glasgow Comets 18
Keith Graham took the win with David Powell taking the loss. Billy Jenkins hit a grand slam and went 4 for 6 with Robert Schanz going 4 for 5 for the Reivers as well.

Southern Conference Division One

Bournemouth B's 18 Stevenage Knights 5

Bournemouth B's 19 Stevenage Knights 5

Milton Keynes Truckers 18 Burgess Hill Red Hats 4
Dennis Douglas hit a home run with Shinoskie Oyanai taking the win striking out eight.

Arun Panthers 24 Tunbridge Wells Royals 11

Croydon Pirates 9 Hounslow Hawks 0

Southern Conference Division Two

Bracknell Blazers 20 Gillingham Dodgers 8
Rob Rance took the win with Jay Jacobs taking the loss.

Caterham A's 18 London Wolverines 7
Guildford Mavericks 8 Tiptree Rays 2

Brentwood Stags 6 Brighton Buccaneers 44
Southern Conference Division Three

Cambridge Monarchs 10 Bournemouth B2's 6
Stephen Gilbert took the win. Colin Huggan, Paul Zamacula and Trevor Simms all scored two runs. Making her debut in this game was Kay Simms. After the game Steve Gilbert commented that she played brilliantly and will play a major part in future games.

Fulham Flames 18 Waltham Abbey Arrows 4
Steve Jamett was the winning pitcher.

BBF / PONY YOUTH LEAGUES

20 April

BBF/PONY North East

Leeds Lugnuts 28 Hunslet Harriers 2

Hessle Apaches 27 Hull Mets 6
Lee Englestone took the win for the Apaches

Sheffield Pumas 5 Menwith Hill 35

BBF/PONY North West

Kirkby Braves 19 Preston Panthers 22

Cartmel Valley Lions 4 Trafford Saints 28

BBF/PONY South East

Arunchester Wildcats 0 Brighton Jaguars 9

Bournemouth B's 19 Leyton Wildcats 20

BBF/PONY South

Milton Keynes Braves 10 Cambridge Monarchs 7

Hemel Red Sox 23 South Buck Blue Jays 14
Olaf Body took the win for the Sox striking out five with Chris Wicker hitting a home run and then coming in as relief to strike out five.

Bracknell Blazers 9 Brentwood Bucks 0

April 27th

BBF/PONY North East

Menwith Hill Pirates 21 Hessle Apaches 7

Hunslet Harriers 8 Sheffield Pumas 31

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Hull Mets 16 Leeds Lugnuts 15

BBF/PONY North West

Bolton Knights 13 Kirkby Braves 1

Trafford Saints 28 Preston Panthers 1
Drew Latimer took the win throwing a no hitter with Paul Kendal going 5 for 5 with a three run homer.

BBF/PONY South East

Tonbridge Bobcats 20 Bournemouth B's 3
Aaron Cooper took the win in a game where both catchers played excellent defense. Bobcats Michael Bird homered.

Leyton Cardinals 9 Arunchester Wildcats 0

BBF/PONY South

South Bucks Blue Jays 30 Bracknell Blazers 9
Blazers Andrew Bowles went 3 for 4 with three runs whilst for the Blue Jays Aidan Campbell went 6 for 6 with Mike Tudge going 5 for 5. Peter Dolphin took the win.

Brentwood Bucks 0 Windsor 30

Cambridge Monarchs 4 Hemel Red Sox 17
Chris Wicker went 4 for 5 with a double.

BBF COACHING DIGEST

Stuck for ideas on how to get the best from your team; need a few coaching tips; need a few new drills to improve your team performance; got a great coaching idea that you want to share with everyone else?

If any of the above apply to you then you need to become a member of the BBF Coaching Association. For the nominal fee of £12 you will be registered as a coach, receive details of coaching courses in your area, be insured for all your coaching activities and for your own protection, receive a current Sporting News Rule Book and half yearly editions of the Coaching Digest, the forum for the exchange of the above information. For further information contact BBF Head Office on 01482 643551 or Ian Smyth on 0113 261 2571.



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Can we be of service to you soon?

And for all you other teams out there that have not had the FBI experience the season is not over for you yet. FBI are getting ready to have a mad, bad, end of season sale. All those established customers will get the details first, so if you are not on the hit list what are you waiting for.

Give us a call 0171 837 5100

First Base International, 113-117 Farringdon Road, London, EC1R 3DQ

HEY, BLUE!

Why be a Blue? Indeed, why should anyone want to expose themselves to the anger of fellow sportsmen and women by wanting to be an Umpire?

The answer is that there are a whole range of benefits you gain through umpire training. If you decided to go further and register as an umpire you gain even more.

Firstly, the game needs good officials. As a player you must be aware of how frustrating it is to play a game with no umpire, or one who is inadequately trained. Knowledgeable, enthusiastic players and coaches make excellent umpires, if trained properly, and you can make a very positive contribution to the sport by involving yourself in this way. You don't attract the anger of teams - you gain their gratitude and respect.

Secondly, the training can give you a clear lead over your playing competition. The courses which the BBF run give you a solid grounding in the rules of the game, insights into complex plays and a good game sense - What's going on and why. This can really help you when you're playing or coaching - you'll be a lot more knowledgeable and confident.

Thirdly, that confidence is a personal benefit as well as a sporting benefit. It isn't always easy to be so visible in front of a large group of people and have to make so many decisions quickly and incisively. You then have to stick with those decisions even if someone objects - and sometimes

they do!

Umpire training takes away the panic, gives you the opportunity to develop a calm, controlled approach under pressure, and actually helps improve your own personal skills.

It's also great fun! Most umpires, and all good umpires, enjoy the game and get a great satisfaction out of continued involvement with and contribution to the sport. No better way to spend a summer's evening or weekend.

You don't have to be a registered umpire to be a good umpire - although we are keen to encourage more people to register as it benefits us both. However, you should ensure that your training is BBF led. We train our own instructors, all experienced 'Blues' themselves, and use a range of teaching aids to ensure we're up to date and effective. Our courses can be run in your local area and the following are available.

4 hours

Rules and basic plate and field positions

1 day

As above, plus field work (pitching machine and field mechanics)

2 day

As above, plus 2-man mechanics, situations and quiz. If location and dates are suitable a scrimmage game can also be arranged for practice.

A small fee is charged per participant to cover the travelling costs of the course leader.

If you want to develop your umpiring skills beyond your own league then BBF registration is for you. We also run an accreditation system which



maintains standards which teams can rely on.

We provide you with opportunities for games and tournaments at an appropriate level on preferred days, times and locations. You receive payments for your efforts to defray the cost of travel / uniform etc.

You receive a current rule book every year and an umpire's manual and once you have attended a course a BBF umpires patch for your uniform sleeve.

The opportunities for you to progress as an umpire are great. The ultimate aim in this country is to be included on the CEB list and travel throughout Europe umpiring games - all expenses paid!

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Yester-years Baseball is a new feature, which will provide an opportunity for our players of the past to recount their playing days. The information will also prove valuable historical information on our sport.

the road.

Apart from a few bruises they made their way to the ground only to lose the game against the Nottingham Dodgers.

How unlucky can you get?!

I know it's true because I was there!

Benny Benson

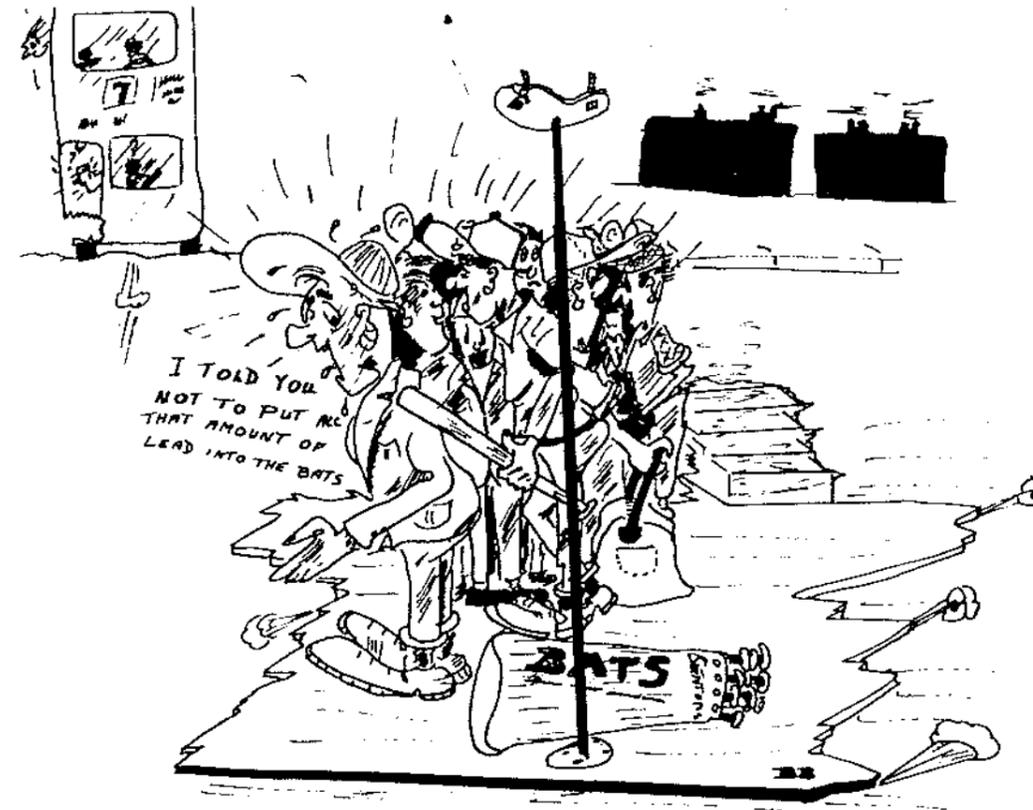
So come on all you Old Timers, let's hear some on your memories.

Handwritten notes will suffice for us to produce a story.

June 1953 the number seven bus was about to pull into its stop, possibly some twenty five yards or so away, when fourteen young baseball players suddenly realised this was their stop coming up, so a mad dash to get off seemed to be the order of the day.

Now you can visualise the scene. Fourteen young enthusiastic ball players all crowding on to this small platform with all their equipment - bats, bags etc.

All of a sudden a loud crack was heard and the whole platform sagged and dropped to the ground with a thud, leaving the players stranded in



YESTER-YEARS BASEBALL

1996 GAME PROCEDURE

There appears to be some confusion as to who is responsible for what prior to and on game days. Hopefully the following will clarify the situation.

PLAYER REGISTRATION

To be eligible to play for your team on a Saturday / Sunday a player must be on your team roster. To ensure that he/she is all the relevant information, ie name, address, date of birth, nationality must be received by BBF Head Office on the Wednesday prior to the game. If it is received after this date we cannot guarantee that your roster is returned to you in time. Faxed copies of rosters and cheques will not be accepted.

If a junior player (under 16) wishes to play senior baseball they must pay the £12 under 18 fee. If they are already registered as a junior having paid the £3 registration they are only required to pay the difference, ie £9. Providing you have placed their names on both your senior and junior roster and you have a letter of consent from their parents they are eligible to play for both teams.

PRE-GAME

Please take note of BBF Bye-laws section 4, and in particular 4.13 - "The home team manager shall contact his opponent and the umpire not less than 72 hours before the game to confirm readiness to complete the fixture....." The home team are also responsible for sending directions to their ground to both the visiting team and the umpire.

POST GAME

Premier Division Teams

Results and commentaries should be telephoned to BBF Head Office by 7.00pm on the evening of the game. You should also inform us if your fixture has been postponed for any reason, ie due to bad weather. It is the responsibility of the home team manager to call the results through (Ref BBF Bye-Law 4.21 (7 December 1995)).

This deadline is given to ensure that we meet the national newspapers deadlines, to enable results to appear in Monday morning's papers.

The information you leave will also be used for the BBF Hotline and for publication in the following month's edition of Brit-Ball.

All Other Teams (Senior and Youth)

Results and commentaries should be telephoned to BBF Head Office by 6.00pm on the Monday evening following the game on the Saturday / Sunday. You should also inform us if your fixture has been postponed for any reason, ie due to bad weather. It is the responsibility of the home team manager to call the results through (Ref BBF Bye-Law 4.21 (7 December 1995)).

This is to ensure that the BBF Hotline can be updated on a Monday evening, and results faxed to local press. If you would like the results to be faxed to your local media, please provide us with the name of the publication / radio or TV station, a contact name and their fax number and we will do the rest for you.

The information you leave will also be used for publication in the following month's edition of Brit-Ball.

BBF Hotline

This will be updated as follows:

- ◆ Monday evening to include results from the previous weekend
- ◆ Thursday evening to include the fixtures for the following weekend.

Information Required

When calling Head Office to leave your results, you should give the following information:

- ◆ Result of the game, stating the home team first
- ◆ Winning and losing pitchers
- ◆ Names of any players performing particularly outstanding plays, eg home run, double plays.

As it is the responsibility of the home team manager to call the results through, commentary should be on behalf of both teams.

Failure to leave your results will result in your team being issued with a £10 fine, each week the results are not given.

Don't forget that the Hotline and Brit-Ball can also be used to publicise information of any tournaments or events that you are hosting or attending free of charge. Just call Head Office and leave the details.

ON THE MOVE.....

Please note the following changes to your 1996 BBF Handbook:

Scottish Scorers Commissioner

Telephone number for Liz Graham is 0131 228 6192

Cambridge Monarchs and Cambridge Monarchs B

New ground address is:
RAF Feltwell,

Nottingham Stealers

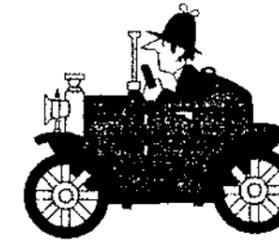
New address for 1st contact, Ben Stanley, is:
8 Bayswater Road, Kimberley, Nottingham, NG16 2TP

Tel: 0115 938 3580

Birmingham Brewers

2nd contact is now:

Adam Neville, 3 Hazelwell Road, Stirchley, Birmingham, West Midlands, B30 2PG
Tel: Home 0121 689 2249
Work 0121 634 4480



Manchester Cougars

1st contact is now:

Mike Leach, 14 Wardle Close, Radcliffe, Manchester
Tel: 0151 724 9924

2nd contact is now:

David Garrett, 87 Fartown Green Road, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, HD2 1AF
Tel: 01484 510836

The fixture lists for the Southern Conference Division Two and Northern Conference Division One have changed due to a late entry and withdrawal of teams. If you would like new copies to replace those in your 1996 handbook, please contact BBF Head Office.

Please note that the following teams will no longer be competing in the 1996 league schedules:

Nottingham Stealers II
Darlington RFC Demons
RAF Molesworth
Arun Wildcats
The Pack

barnett®

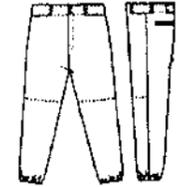
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- Classic jersey -
- 100% polyester
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- Ref: 025031
- Price: £ 18



- Double-knit pants -
- 100% polyester
- double belt loop
- pocket behind
- formon new length
- Size: S - XXL
- Ref: 025039
- Price: £ 18
- Belt: 20 pens.

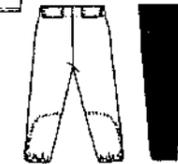


UNIFORMS children

- «V» jersey -
- 50% polyester
- 50% cotton
- Colour: as you wish
- Size: S - XXL
- Ref: 025053
- Price: £ 11



- Double belt loop pants -
- Mate and training
- Colour: as you wish
- Size: S - XXL
- Ref: 025025
- Price: £ 11
- Belt: 20 pens



BALLS pro

- FL1 -
- The professional's matchball
- Full grain leather
- Double turned up seam
- Inside: 100% pure white wool
- Double latex heart, 9in-5oz
- In accordance with international norms
- Ref: 018001
- Price per dozen: £ 50



- OL1 -
- The «Official League» matchball
- Genuine leather
- Double seam turned up seam
- Inside: 50% pure white wool, 50% grey wool
- Double latex heart, 9in-5oz
- In accordance with international norms
- Ref: 018002
- Price per dozen: £ 41
- If you buy 5 dozens, get 1 dozen free



BALLS training

- LL1 -
- The leather training ball
- Double seam
- Inside: cork, bark and rubber
- 9in-5oz
- In accordance with international norms
- Ref: 018003
- Price per dozen: £ 29
- If you buy 5 dozens, get 1 dozen free



- TL1 -
- The vinyl ball
- Double seam
- Inside: cork, bark and rubber
- 9in-5oz
- In accordance with international norms
- Ref: 018005
- Price per dozen: £ 15
- If you buy 5 dozens, get 1 dozen free



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Contains all the contact details and fixtures for the 1996 season. An excellent buy for any intrepid baseball fan.

To reserve your copy (to be published mid March) please return the form below along with a cheque for £4.00 made payable to the British Baseball Federation.

Please ensure I receive a copy of the 1996 British Baseball Federation Handbook. I enclose my cheque for £4 (cheques made payable to the British Baseball Federation).

Name: _____

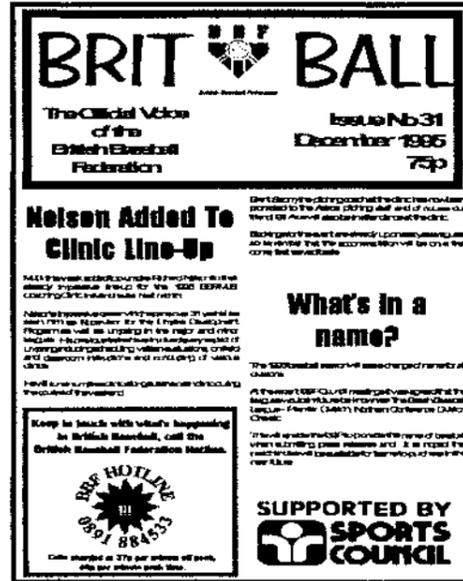
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Postcode: _____

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North Humberside, HU13 9JJ

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Address: _____

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North Humberside, HU13 9JJ

JOHN SMEATON SPORTS CENTRE 4TH ANNUAL BURGER KING YOUTH BASEBALL FESTIVAL

The above event will be held on Saturday 1 June at John Smeaton Sports Centre, Smeaton Approach, Leeds LS15 8TA, from 9.30am until 5.00pm, and is open to all youth teams on a first come first served basis. There will be a maximum of 9 baseball team and 9 tee-ball team places in the tournament

The day will consist of games for both youth and tee-ball teams, with age groupings being the same as the BBF / PONY League (baseball 12-16 years and tee-ball up to 11 years). Each team should bring with them a plate umpire.

The tournament rules and directions to the venue will be sent out on receipt of the entry form.

A trophy will be awarded to the winners with souvenirs for all participants.

An entry fee of £10 per team is payable. Cheques should be made payable to Leeds City Council.

If you require any further information please contact Ian Smyth on 0113 260 1853 or 0113 261 2571. Closing date for entries is Saturday 17 May 1996.

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3rd - 11th August 1996 Hull



JOHN SMEATON SPORTS CENTRE 4TH ANNUAL BURGER KING YOUTH BASEBALL FESTIVAL

We wish to enter the following teams into the above festival (please state team names and approximate number of players per team)

Youth Baseball: _____ No: _____

_____ No: _____

Teeball: _____ No: _____

_____ No: _____

Umpire(s) name: _____

Team Contact: (Name, address and telephone number)

This form and the appropriate fee should be returned to
17 The Quarry, Alwoodley, Leeds, LS17 7NH



Dear Brit-Ball

I am writing to suggest some radical ideas to overcome the problems that hamper the development of British baseball: namely the disbanding of teams due to player shortages and subsequent loss of grounds or the need of teams to take time out from league play in

order to recruit more players.

Could temporary mergers between two neighbouring clubs facing difficulties provide an answer? Each team could continue to train at its home-field, with home league games being split between both venues on an alternating basis. Managing and coaching games could be done to an agreed formula with expenses being divided pro rata. Could a Bristol / Gloster or Droitwich / Tamworth or Essex Eagles / Waltham Forest or even a Tonbridge link with new team Lewisham have helped these clubs maintain league status this season? Remember such "marriages of convenience" could easily be followed by a "quickie divorce" in the winter if the teams had signed enough new players to go it alone. On the other hand perhaps they could start a joint reserve squad with each team able to call up "their" players for first team duty if needed.

Another possibility is that clubs unable to run a reserve or youth team share a back-up team as outlines above.

Does anyone have any comments about these ideas being practical or viable? Could they help to safeguard teams and grounds in times of crisis and help to stabilise the league structure? Or is there some drawback I have overlooked?

Yours faithfully

Will Cosgrave

Dear Sir

Our Club Nettuno Yankee Baseball will organize in Nettuno from August 5th to August 11th, 1996 an International Juvenile Tournament (boys: age 10-12).

The club will provide the food and accommodation for a team composed by 14 athletes and 2 managers at the following school:

"Andrea Sacchi",
Via Capitan Canducci, 18,
00048 Nettuno

In the above school there is the baseball field of our club.

Please let us know if one of your clubs could participate in the above mentioned tournament.

Yours sincerely

Rodolfo Conversi
Piazza G La Pira 22
00048 Nettuno
Italy
Tel: 06 985 1651 or 06 968 301
Fax: 06 969 2323



Saturday 13 April the GB Junior squad travelled to TASIS, an American school in Thorpe, Surrey to play their first games of the season. In a double header, Great Britain emerged victorious in both games, winning the first 14-2, and the second 9-2.



Steve Hibbert (Enfield Spartans) pitched the first game, giving up three hits, while striking out four batters. Hibbert, Pee Wee Pearson, (Leeds Owls), Steve Pollard (Hounslow Rangers) and Andrew Gilbert (Cambridge Monarchs) each got a hit and scored twice. On defence Dean Tugwell (Brighton Buccaneers) and Phil Walmsley (Cambridge Monarchs) were outstanding.

Game 2 was decided by the different standards of pitching. Andrew Gilbert pitched three shut out innings, striking out five, giving no walks and allowing only one hit. The game was closed by Pee Wee Pearson, who allowed two runs to score. Unfortunately for TASIS, their pitchers combined to give 12 walks, conceding 9 runs.

Overall it was a good start to the season for the juniors, with veteran players producing the goods, while the rookies already have started to contribute.

Jan Smyth

DIAMOND DILEMMA

(Devised by Will Cosgrave)

Four baseball teams share the diamond below. Use each letter once only to spell the nick-names of the teams:

```

      A
    A B C
  D D E E E
E G G L M N O
  O R R S S
    S S T
      V
    
```

ENTRIES ENIGMA

(Devised by Will Cosgrave)

In the Baseball Land Knockout Cup six second round winners qualify to join two exempted top teams in the quarter finals. Most teams start in

PUZZLE CORNER

the first round, but there are three preliminary round winners who qualify for the twelve match first round.

QUESTION: How many team entries are there altogether in the Knockout Cup??

Answers to last month's puzzles are as follows:

SCRAMBLED SYLLABLES

Advance	Appeal	Assist
Batter	Bottom	Bulpen
Control	Dugout	Error
Inning	Inside	Leadoff
Overrun	Relay	Rubber
Sinker	Slider	Stopper

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HESSLE APACHES 2nd ANNUAL YOUTH BASEBALL TOURNAMENT

The above event will be held on Saturday 25 May at Sydney Smith School, First Lane, Anlaby, from 9.30am until 5.00pm, and is open to all youth teams.

The day will consist of tournaments for both youth and tee-ball teams, with age groupings being the same as the BBF / PONY League. Each team should bring with them a plate umpire.

The tournament rules and directions to the venue will be sent out on receipt of the entry form.

A trophy will be awarded to the winners with souvenirs for all participants.

An entry fee of £10 per team is payable. Cheques should be made payable to Hessele Apaches Baseball Club.

If you require any further information please contact Wendy Macadam on 01482 643551. Closing date for entries is Saturday 18 May.

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HESSLE APACHES 2ND ANNUAL YOUTH BASEBALL TOURNAMENT

We wish to enter the following teams into the Hessele Apaches Tournament (please state team names and approximate number of players per team)

Youth Baseball: _____ No: _____

_____ No: _____

Teeball: _____ No: _____

_____ No: _____

Umpire(s) name: _____

Team Contact: (Name, address and telephone number)

This form and the appropriate fee should be returned to
66 Belvedere Road, Hessele, North Humberside, HU13 9JJ

1996 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS SCHEDULE

GROUP 1 Croatia, Great Britain, Austria, Slovakia, Bulgaria
GROUP 2 Lithuania, Czechia, Poland, Norway, Ireland, Yugoslavia

Start Time 10.00hrs	15.30hrs
Saturday 3 August	
Hull North	Yugoslavia V Poland
Hessele Slovakia V Croatia	Great Britain V Bulgaria
Hull East Norway V Lithuania	Czech Republic V Ireland
Start Time 11.30hrs	15.30 hrs
Sunday 4 August	
Hull North Lithuania V Yugoslavia	Bulgaria V Slovakia
Hessele Poland V Ireland	Czech Republic V Norway
Hull East	Great Britain V Austria
Monday 5 August	
Hull North Austria V Slovakia	Poland V Czech Republic
Hessele Bulgaria V Croatia	
Hull East Ireland V Lithuania	Yugoslavia V Norway
Tuesday 6 August	
Hull North	Lithuania V Poland
Hessele Norway V Ireland	Czech Republic V Yugoslavia
Hull East Bulgaria V Austria	Croatia V Great Britain
Wednesday 7 August	
Hull North	Ireland V Yugoslavia
Hessele Poland V Norway	Great Britain V Slovakia
Hull East Austria V Croatia	Lithuania V Czech Republic
Thursday 8 August REST DAY	
Friday 9 August	
Hull North	5th Group 1 V 5th Group 2
Hessele 4th Group 1 V 4th Group 2	1st Group 1 (Game A) V 2nd Group 2
Hull East 3rd Group 1 V 3rd Group 2	1st Group 2 (Game B) V 2nd Group 1
Saturday 10 August	
Hull East Loser of Game A V Loser of Game B	Winner of Game A V Winner of Game B
Sunday 11 August REST DAY	

Tickets for the above are now on sale at a cost of £1 per day or £5 for the full week (7 days). To order please complete your details below:

I would like to order tickets for the following days (please tick):
 Saturday Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Friday Saturday

I enclose my cheque / postal order made payable to the British Baseball Federation for £ _____

Name: _____ Tel No: _____

Address: _____
 Please return this form to 66 Belvedere Road, Hessele, North Humberside, HU13 9JJ

Over the past few weeks many of you have requested details of places to stay for the duration of the European Championships. Ceri Morgan of Dragon Tours has negotiated an extremely good deal with Hull University in their Halls of Residence. At £28 per night including meals, you won't find anywhere else much cheaper. If you would like to book, please complete and return the booking form below with your cheque, direct to Dragon Tours.

If you are going to be in Hull for the week, why not join the organising committee. We're sure there will be some way in which you can assist, and you will still be able to watch the games. Let us know if you are available.

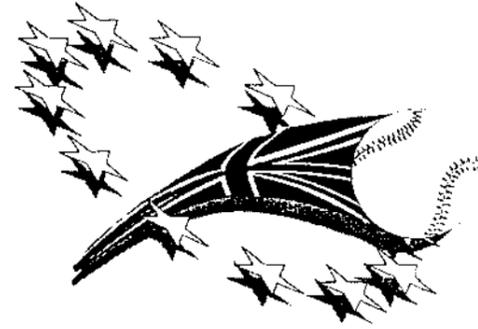
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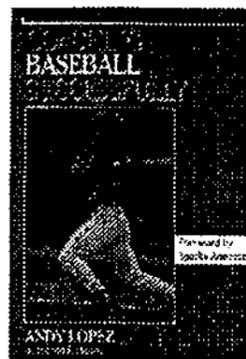


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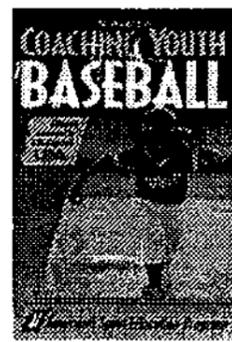


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SCRAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN

A sideways glance at the story so far....

Being appointed Scotland Manager was a privilege that I didn't really expect to have. I didn't want to give up playing to manage a team. I wanted to be part of the team on the diamond that would beat England for the first time ... and on English soil. But there was something missing. I felt that the Scotland team had no direction. We would select arguably the best players available through a series of trials, play the International and then, er ... well that's it really. See you next year lads, if I'm still in favour.

I wanted this year to be different. I didn't see the need for trials, we only have four teams after all, so why not make a preliminary selection of players and play a few games against better opposition. This way I could see who was hitting and who wasn't, I only had last year's stats to go by and a lot can happen between seasons. Then if any other players looked good throughout the rest of the season they could also make the team.

The first game was really an introduction for everyone to everyone else. It was the Scotland Select verses the best of the rest. The score of this game wasn't important as it was only to be an indication of how people were playing ('though the Scotland team did win). And I wasn't going to drop anyone after just this one game.

The next game was against the Hessle Apaches. This was really the game that changed the shape of the team. We built up a substantial lead in the first inning, so that possibly took the pressure off us a little sooner

than I hoped, though it did give me a chance to see the batters up against pitchers that they hadn't faced before.

The final score was Scotland 32 Hessle 10. This was despite Kevin Macadam's attempts to get the Scotland team blitzed the night before the game, then taking them to the local warzone for a pizza. I have to say big thanks to Frank Parker for his version of umpiring during the game.

Next for Team Scotland will be the GB under 19's. Venue to be announced, on Saturday 29 June. The Scotland team playing that game will almost certainly make up the squad for the England game. It is already shaping up and by the time the International comes along we will have played more English teams than ever before as a national squad and we will be well into our regular season.

I want people to be proud to play for Scotland and not look upon it as an intrusion into their league team's practice time. I have organised sponsorship from COORS, who have kindly supplied us with jackets and there will be, hopefully if all goes to plan, more to follow. I would have liked to get enough sponsorship so that people don't have to pay for transport out of their own pocket. It is possibly too much to do in one season but if Scotland can beat England then that would help us towards complete sponsorship. We have to give the sponsors something back.

Keith Graham



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