

LONDON TWILIGHT BASEBALL LEAGUE
1976 SCHEDULE

GAME TIME 7 PM

Teams

Essex Green Sox Kensington Spirit of '76
U.S.Navy-London Surrey Braves

Friday July 30

Essex v. Surrey ⁷⁻¹³

Wednesday August 4

Kensington v. Navy ³⁻²

Friday August 6

Navy v. Essex ⁹⁻²

Wednesday August 11

Surrey v. Kensington ¹⁰⁻³

Friday August 13

Navy v. Surrey ⁷⁻⁸

Wednesday August 18

Essex v. Kensington ⁶⁻¹²

Friday August ~~20~~

Kensington v. Essex

Wednesday August 25

Surrey v. Navy

Friday August ~~27~~ 20

Kensington v. Surrey

Wednesday September 1

Essex v. Navy

Friday September 3

Navy v. Kensington

Wednesday September 8

Surrey v. Essex

(Home team is denoted first)

Friday September 10

All Star Celebrity &
Championship Game

Sunday September 26 (3 PM)

British Baseball Club
Championship Final

(Featuring the top two baseball
teams in the U.K., from the areas
of Merseyside, Hull, the Midlands
and the South of England.)

London Twilight Baseball League, J.Archer, President
55 Church Road, Cowley Middlesex

(Uxbridge 54476)

Please place my name on your baseball mailing list. _____
Please contact me about a role which I might play in
our baseball programme. _____

Name & Address _____

Phone _____

WELCOME!



Organized baseball in Great Britain dates back to 1874, when a touring American team ventured onto the hallowed grounds of the Marylebone Cricket Club at Lord's.

The first actual historical reference to the word "baseball" however, appears in a small work on children's games printed in England in 1734, "A Little Pretty Pocket Book", and shows a woodcut of a group of youngsters depicted playing "baseball".

It is thus generally agreed by most historians of the sport that either as a variation of "rounders" or "stoolball", the English settlers played the game in the American colonies long before the birth of General Abner Doubleday of Cooperstown, New York, the man whom most Americans know as "father of the game of baseball".

Today, baseball is played in more than forty countries around the world and the sport is warmly supported in Europe, especially in Italy and Holland (where the games are televised extensively).

In the United Kingdom, baseball has reached several peaks, especially at the turn of the century, in the late 1930's and in the mid-1950's, when there were probably several hundred teams operating in England, and around fifty teams in the Greater London area. Old timers and locals will remember the days when thousands of fans and supporters used to come out to cheer such fabled teams as the Mitcham Tigers, the Epsom Lions, the Hornsey Athletics and the Queens Park Aces. In fact, it is also said that the B.B.C. had even experimented with early television of some of the "fixtures".

At the present moment, there is a great new resurgence of interest in baseball again and there are leagues and teams not only in the London area, but also in Liverpool, Hull and Nottingham. Baseball, of course, has always been played at various levels at the numerous American military bases around the United Kingdom but almost exclusively for American servicemen and their dependents. The overwhelming majority of baseball players in our leagues are British, although a number of other countries (such as Canada, Belgium, New Zealand, and, of course, the United States) are also represented.

In London, the Southern Baseball League is responsible for some of the best baseball played in the United Kingdom. The eight teams which comprise the S.B.L. feature such respected names as Thames Board Mills (founded 1937), the Croydon Blue Jays (founded 1949), the Crawley Giants (founded 1961) and the Sutton Braves (founded 1965). The S.B.L. is also pleased to have recently welcomed the U.S. Navy team again (they first fielded an English league club in 1954) as well as relatively new additions such as the Golders' Green Sox, the Wokingham Monarchs and the "Spirit of '76".

Starting on Friday night, July 30th and continuing through to September, the London Twilight Baseball League (affiliated with the Southern Baseball League) will operate a summer programme in top notch baseball under the lights at beautiful Rosslyn Park in Rosehampton, SW 15. Games will be played on Wednesday and Fridays nights (Monday is a makeup date in case of rainouts) and will feature top teams made up mostly of Southern Baseball League players, with occasional guest players from the sporting and show business world.

The aim is to give the British sporting public a chance to see a good standard of baseball in the most congenial surroundings available.

We hope that you will enjoy this exciting game again in Britain and we are counting on your support for our future continued success.

J. Archer, President, L.T.B.L.