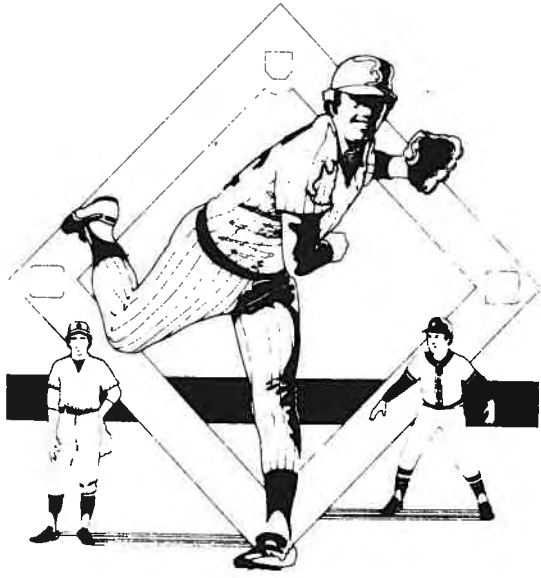
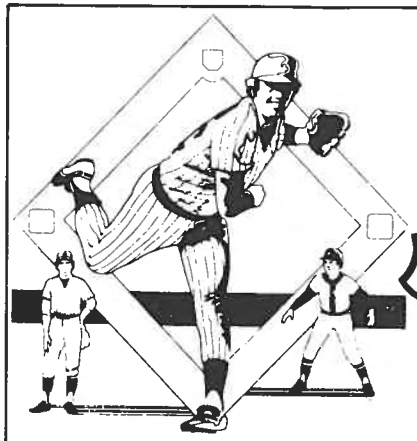
50p

PROGRAMME

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

UK v US
ALL STARS
August 21st 1982





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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the Chelsea Football Ground and to the baseball game between the U.K. All Stars and the U.S. Air Force All Stars.

To play baseball for Great Britain, the players must have British passports. This limitation does not apply to the U.K. All Stars so tonight you will see diverse nationalities in the diamond. Their common link is that they all play for British Clubs and are all excellent baseball players.

The U.S. All Stars are a team from the U.S. Airforce in Europe – all of whom will have been bred on baseball. We are looking forward, therefore, to a terrific game: and, we hope, to many more games at Chelsea from 1983.

Baseball and softball are two of the fastest growing sports in the U.K. and tonight we will see the game of baseball at its best. Should you wish to join or set up a team, information on the Federation and on the U.K. teams can be found in this programme.

I feel sure we are all going to enjoy a splendid evening.

D. Smallwood, President, BABSF

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HISTORY OF BASEBALL FROM GREAT BRITAIN TO AMERICA, AND BACK AGAIN

The first written work known to mention baseball is probably an English book on children's games published in 1744. "A Little Pretty Pocket Book." The title "Baseball" appears under a woodcut of young children playing the game, along with this short rhyme:

The ball once struck off,
Away flies the boy
To the next destined point,
And then home with joy.

In 1787, the book was printed in North America at Worcester, Massachusetts, for the entertainment of the American children, who may have already classed 'base' as one of their favourite games. And the rhyme would suggest a sport sufficiently established by 1744 to disprove General Abner Doubleday's claim to have invented the game at Cooperstown, New York, in 1839.

A further book published in 1833, "Festivals, Games, and Amusements", has a section dealing with the sports of New England, and states, "Young men are expert in a variety of games of ball such as cricket, base, etc."

The fact that the author, Horatio Smith, was an Englishman may have had something to do with him listing baseball after cricket, but it also proves the game was important enough for him to place it second. And considering Smith's statement we may conclude that baseball was played often enough for New Englanders to become expert by 1833.

It would be difficult for any one person to claim to have invented the game of baseball. It evolved, as it is still evolving, from eighteenth-century beginnings.

The country which sent 'stoolball', 'rounders', or 'base' – call it what you will – to America with the early colonists, had to wait until 1874 for the game to return to these shores as organised, professional baseball.

Two American touring teams staged a series of exhibition games at such venues as Kennington Oval, and Lords Cricket Ground, as well as displaying their versatility by playing cricket matches against English teams.

Many attempts have been made over the years to popularise baseball in Great Britain, with bids to bring professional games to the public. One of the most successful of these bids being in the late thirties, when it looked as though the sport was poised to make a major breakthrough, with large crowds and good national press coverage. Highlights of the era must include the National Baseball Cup Final of 1937, when a crowd of 11,000 watched Hull beat Romford Wasps (London) 5–1 at Craven Park Rugby Ground, Hull – the jubilant home spectators breaking down the barriers and invading the diamond. A further highlight must be England winning the World Champions title in 1938.

From the thirties, with the Hull District League alone boasting over 50 amateur teams, the fortunes of the game dropped after six years of war, with troubles further complicated by a shortage of equipment, and the hostility at that time of other established summer sports.

Baseball struggled to gain support through the fifties and the sixties, but the seventies saw an awakening interest from the public, and active schools and youth programmes established to feed the senior teams with new players. The launching of national coaching scheme in 1981, with assistance from the Sports Council, should now increase the number of people qualified to teach the sport in schools and youth organisations.

Baseball is played in more than fifty countries throughout the world, and is poised to become an Olympic Sport. In the 1984 Olympic Games to be held at Los Angeles in the U.S.A., the sport is included as a demonstration sport, with a four country tournament organised to run during the Games.

America with two professional leagues is still the top baseball playing nation, with high standards of play and strong finance. However, a strong challenger is Japan.

Cuba leads the world in amateur baseball, with Italy and Holland by far the two strongest countries in Europe.

Finally a word about softball, it being a very similar game to baseball in many ways. It is played on quite a large scale in Great Britain in schools and colleges, but up to recently has not been organised into leagues, or competitions. Softball is being played by more and more men and women throughout the world, but with the European countries placing the greater emphasis on ladies softball. It is a 'fun game', and is the most popular team game played in the U.S.A.

Baseball and softball are like good food and good wine – they compliment one another. And whether people play the two games, or watch as spectators, the aim is to derive healthy enjoyment.

M.R.

A US airman ducking from a high fastball, during last year's USAF vs Great Britain battle.

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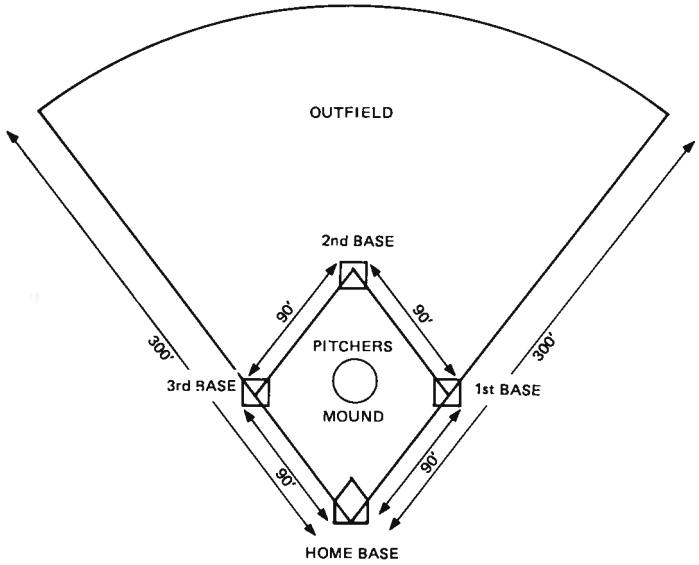
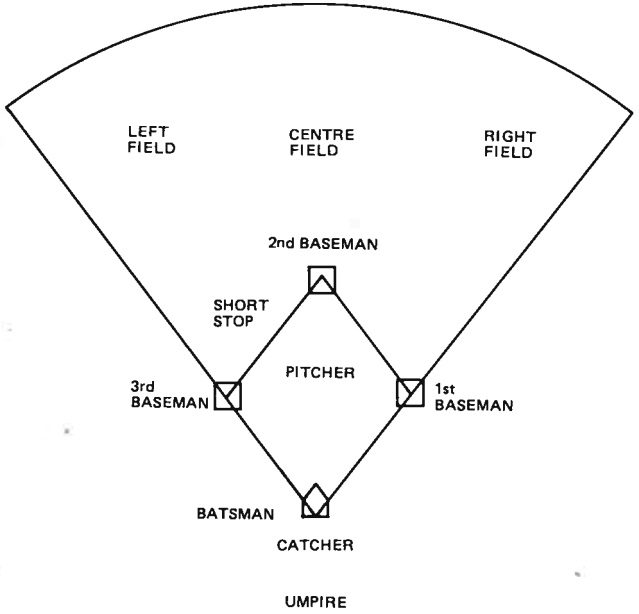
THE BASEBALL FIELD



FIELDERS' POSITIONS



BASEBALL - SIMPLIFIED

The game of baseball is played between 2 teams of 9 on-field players. Substitutes are allowed in every position.

One side bats for an "innings" against their opponents who field. At the end of each "innings" the positions are reversed.

Baseball last for 9 "innings" per side — the side scoring the most runs being the winner.

To score a run, the batsman must either hit the ball out of the ground or hit the ball into a safe area which will allow him to run to first base, then second, then third then to home base. Only when he reaches the home base is the run completed.

A batsman *must run* if he hits the ball within the playing area: his first objective being to reach first base. Thereafter, he tries to progress through the bases to complete a run: and must run if the next batsman hits the ball.

A batsman is out when

a) he is caught
b) he does not safely reach a base
c) he misses three "fair" balls known as "strikes"
d) he is tagged i.e. touched by a fielder with the ball before he reaches a base.

When a batsman leaves the home base either to reach first base or bacause he is "out", another batsman takes his place. The batting side is allowed only three batters to be "out" in each innings. An innings, therefore, is over once three batters are "out".

If the batsman receives four "unfair" pitches known as "balls", he automatically goes to first base and a new batsman takes his place.

The area of play is within the boundaries made from the home plate through the 1st and 3rd bases (see diagram).

The fielding side contains 9 players.

The objective is to dismiss the batsmen for the least runs possible.

The pitcher is the player who "pitches" the ball (often at speeds of 90 mph) at the batsman. For a ball to be "fair", it must pass over the area of the home plate and be at a height which is playable by the batsman.

If the batsman misses a "fair" ball, it is called a "strike" — advantage to the pitcher. If the pitch is "unfair", it is called a "ball" — advantage to the batsman.

Each batsman is allowed to survive 2 "strikes". (He is out on the 3rd). Each pitcher is allowed to pitch 3 "balls". (On the 4th, he concedes to the batsman.)

The number of "balls" versus "strikes" will be clearly semaphored at the ground.

If a batsman hits the ball and it travels backwards or outside the field of play, it is a foul and he loses a "strike". However, if he has lost 2 "strikes" the foul balls are not counted till he is either "out" or runs to one of the bases.

On the bases, the fielders must touch the base with a foot or the batsman with the ball for him to be out.

If the batter hits a "fly" ball — this is a ball high in the air, the batsman on the field bases cannot run until the ball lands or is caught.

With this basic description of the game, we feel sure that you will have enough background to enjoy this fast and exciting sport. Further information can be obtained from your local baseball club or from the baseball federation.

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BASEBALL TERMINOLOGY

Baseball diamond:	The area made up by the four bases
Bases:	The four points in the field which must be passed to achieve a run
Ball:	An unfair pitch – advantage to the batsman
Balk:	Illegal play by the pitcher – advantage to the batsman
Bleachers:	Open stands – usually the cheaper seats
Bunt:	A dead hit of no distance
Bull pen:	Practice area for substitute pitchers
Curved ball:	An in or out swinger
Double:	Batsman runs through 1st to 2nd base
Double play:	Fielders dismiss 2 running batsmen (runners) in one play
Drop ball:	A pitch which drops down at the end of flight
Foul ball:	A ball hit outside the area of play
Full count:	3 "balls" and 2 "strikes" completed
Fly ball:	A ball hit high in the air
Grand slam:	All 4 batsmen on the bases run in for 4 runs from 1 hit
Grounder:	A ball hit along the ground
Home run:	From one hit, the batsman runs through all 4 bases
Innings:	9 per side per game. 3 "outs" ends an innings
Knuckle ball:	A non-spinning floating pitch
Line drive:	A ball hit at chest height
Mitt:	Strong gloves worn by the catcher and 1st baseman
"Out":	The end of a batsman's attempt to make runs
Pace ball:	A disguised pitch
Pitch:	The throw of the ball by the pitcher
Runner:	A running batsman
Sacrifice:	Lose own innings to allow another batsman to get home
Steal a base:	Getting to the next base without a hit being made
Strike:	A fair pitch missed by the batsman
Seventh stretch:	An interval after the 7th innings
Tagged:	Touching a runner with the ball before he reaches a base. The batsman is out
Triple:	Batsman runs through 1st, 2nd and 3rd base
Triple play:	Fielders dismiss 3 batsmen in one play

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FACTS ABOUT BASEBALL

— from a publication produced by the Italian Baseball Federation

Baseball is included as a demonstration sport at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics. The ambition of all AINBA member countries is for the inclusion of Baseball into the Official Programme starting with the 1988 Olympic Games onwards.

. . . . . .

Baseball is played by 136,522,311 amateur baseball players all over the world and is increasing each year.

Baseball is played in 65 nations of the world.

Baseball is played on the 5 continents.

AINBA (World Amateur Baseball) has been officially recognised by the International Olympic Committee since 1978 (Athens).

From 1938 to 1980, 26 World Championships have been played. (England winning the first in 1938).

Baseball is included in the official programmes of the Pan-American Games, Central-American and Caribean Games, Pan-Asian Games, was represented in the Universiads, and last year (1981), AINBA staged the fifth intercontinental cup competitions.

AINBA has staged eleven World Junior Championships and five World Youth Championships.

. . . . . .

A baseball weighs five and one quarter ounces and is made from yarn wound very tightly and then covered with horse hide, stretched on the outside.

On a full size diamond the pitching distance is 60 feet 6 inches, the distance between bases is 90 feet.

TODAY'S GAME OFFICIALS

R. Marshall	National Team Manager
F. Causer	Equipment Manager
B. Holland	Official Scorer
A.E. Foster	Chief Umpire
E. Gerard-Thesingh	Base Umpire

Commentary by: PAUL GAMBACCINI and COLIN MAITLAND

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THE UK ALL STARS

The team will be selected from:—

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	Plays for the Regents Park Eagles		
ALAN BLOOMFIELD	2nd Base	British	Student
	Plays for the Sutton Braves		
TONY BREEN	Infielder	British	
	Plays for the Liverpool Trojans		
RICH CLEARY	Centrefield	American	Commodity Traveller
	Plays for the London Warriors		
JOHN HARRINGTON	Leftfield	British	
	Plays for the Croydon Bluejays		
KEVIN HILLS	3rd Base	British	
	Plays for the Crawley Giants		
DENNIS KING	Infielder	British	
	Plays for the Liverpool Tigers		
HUGHIE KING	Infielder	British	
	Plays for the Liverpool Tigers		
OSCAR MASSAHINO	Pitcher	Phillipino	Nurse
	Plays for the London Warriors		
BARRY MARSHALL	Outfielder	British	Printer
	Plays for the Hull Giants		
FRANK PARKER	Infielder	British	Pro. Rugby League Player
	Plays for the Hull Aces		
LEE PIERCE	Short Stop	American	Publisher
	Plays for the London Warriors		
PHIL ROSSITER	3rd Base	American	Student
	Plays for the London Warriors		
RICK SOAMES	Rightfield	British	
	Plays for the Crawley Giants		
KEVIN SYLVESTER	Pitcher	American	Oil Executive
	Plays for the Croydon Bluejays		
BRAD THOMPSON	Catcher	American	Publisher
	Plays for the London Warriors		
VINCE WARNER	Infielder	British	
	Plays for the Essex Raiders		
ED WILEY	1st Base	American	Actor
	Plays for the London Warriors		

SATURDAY AUGUST 21st 1982

THE UK ALL STARS

Position

Pitcher

Catcher

1st Base

2nd Base

3rd Base

Short Stop

Centre Field

Left Field

Right Field

Substitute

Substitute

Substitute

THE US AIRFORCE ALL STARS

Position

Pitcher

Catcher

1st Base

2nd Base

3rd Base

Short Stop

Centre Field

Left Field

Right Field

Substitute

Substitute

Substitute

BOX SCORES

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9					TOTAL
UK ALL STARS														
US ALL STARS														

THE US AIRFORCE ALL STARS

The team will be chosen from the following players.
All are serving with the U.S. Airforce Europe.

DENNIS BIRD	Pitcher from St. Pauls — Minnesota
RON BLITZ	Pitcher from De Moisnes — Iowa
JO COLELLO	Pitcher from Pearl City — Iowa
PAUL COUCH	Catcher from Somerset — Kentucky
JOSE FLORES	2nd Base from El Paso — Texas
DENNIS HOLLAND	Infielder from Madison — Kansas
ERIC JENSON	Outfielder from Haverhill — Massachusetts
MYRON JOHNSON	Outfielder from Fort Lauderdale — Florida
HERMAN JONES	Catcher from Chicago — Illinois
MARVIN JOWERS	Infielder from Thomasville — Alabama
ROBERT KUNDINGER	Short Stop from Chaseville — Maine
ROGER LONGWELL	1st Base from Encon Village — West Virginia
DON MABRY	Outfielder from Rocky Mountain — North Carolina
JO O'NEIL	3rd Base from Bricktown — New Jersey
ROSS PERKINS	Outfielder from Haverhill — Massachusetts
JIM YOUNG	Outfielder from Spencer — Ohio

. . . . . .

CAL BATES	Head Coach
D.C. COLLINS	Assistant Coach

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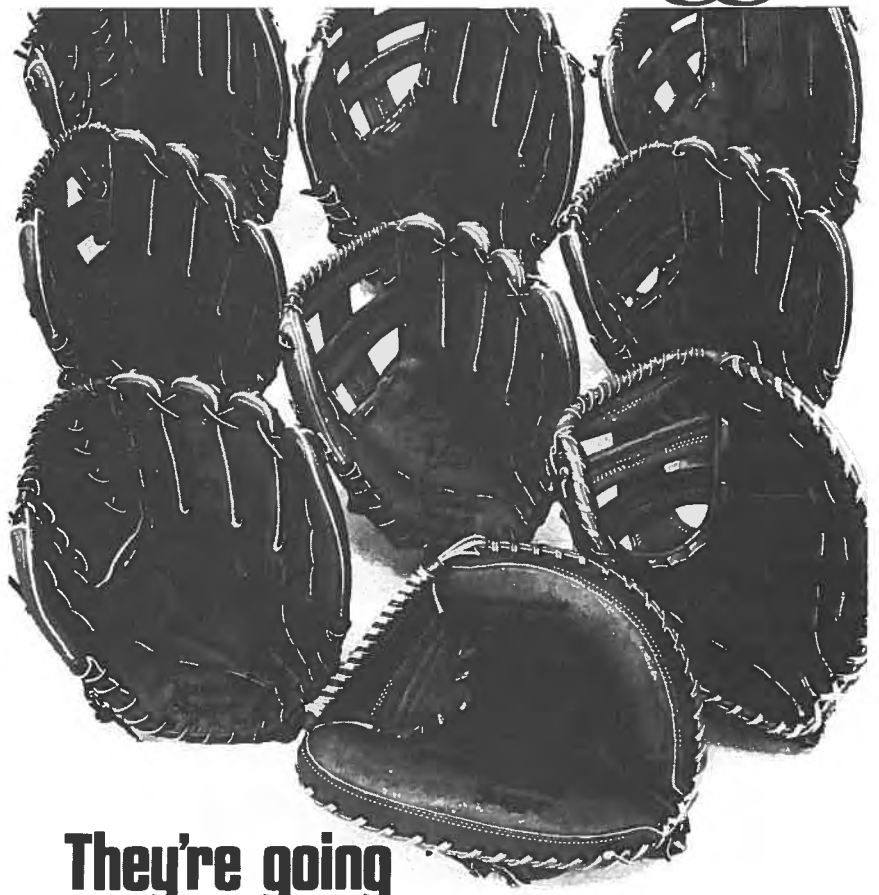

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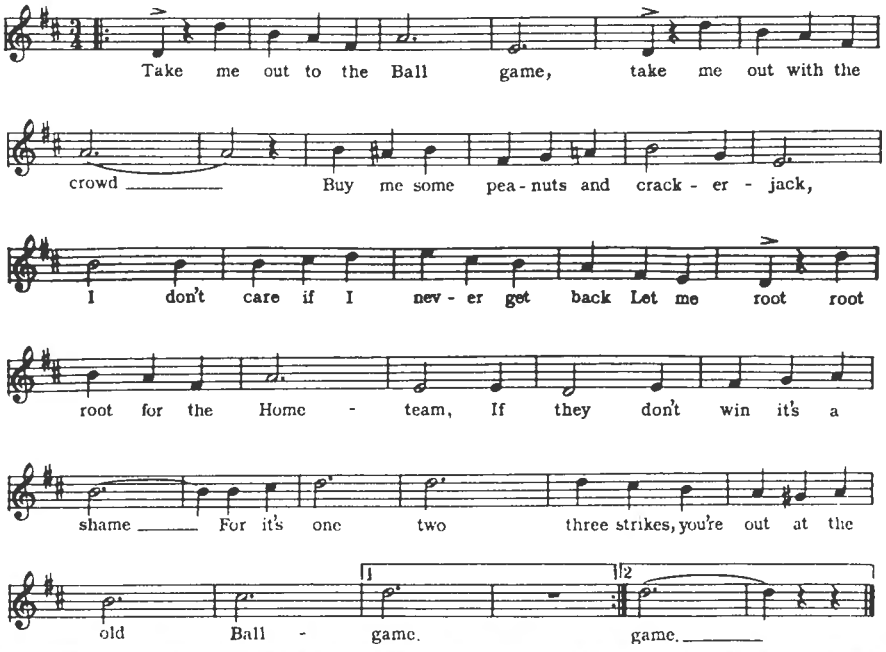

Great Britian versus the United States Air Force at Hull, 1981 seasons (GB fielding).

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1893 Thespians (London) 33 — Darlington St. Augustine's 6
1894 Thespians (London) 38 — Stockton-on-Tees 14
1895 Derby 20 — Fuller's (London) 16
1896 Wallsend-on-Tyne 16 — Remington's (London) 10
1897 Derby 30 — Middlesbrough 7
1899 Derby 14 — Nottingham Forest 3
1900 Nottingham Forest 17 — Derby 16

BRITISH BASEBALL ASSOCIATION (1)

1906 Tottenham Hotspur 16 — Nondescripts 5
1907 Clapton Orient 8 — Fulham 7
1908 Tottenham Hotspur 6 — Leyton 5
1909 Clapton Orient 6 — Leyton 4

NATIONAL BASEBALL ASSOCIATION (2)

1934 Hatfield (Liverpool) 13 — Albion (Liverpool) 12
1935 New London 7 — Rochdale Greys 1
1936 White City (London) 9 — Catford Saints 5
1937 Hull 5 — Romford Wasps 1
1938 Rochdale Greys 1 — Oldham Greyhounds 0
1939 Halifax 9 — Rochdale Greys 5

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1948 Liverpool Robins 13 — Thames Board Mills (Purfleet) 0
1949 Hornsey Red Sox 10 — Liverpool Cubs 5
1950 Burtonwood USAF Bees 23 — Hornsey Red Sox 2
1951 Burtonwood USAF Bees 9 — Ruislip USAF Rockets 2

BRITISH BASEBALL FEDERATION

1959 Thames Board Mills (Purfleet) 12 — East Hull Aces 4
1960 Thames Board Mills (Purfleet) 6 — Liverpool Tigers 1
1962 Liverpool Tigers 8 — East Hull Aces 3
1963 East Hull Aces 8 — Garrington's (Bromsgrove) 6

BRITISH BASEBALL ASSOCIATION (2)

1965 Kingston Aces (Hull) 4 — Stretford Saints (Manchester) 2

NATIONAL BASEBALL LEAGUE (UK)

1966 Stretford Saints (Manchester) 3 — Liverpool Aces 1
1967 Liverpool Mormon Yankees 4 — Beckenham Bluejays 2
1968 Hull Aces 4 — Hull Royals 1
1969 Watford Sun-Rockets 8 — Liverpool Trojans 7 (11 innings)
1970 Hull Royals 3 — Hull Aces 1

BRITISH AMATEUR BASEBALL FEDERATION

1973 Burtonwood Yanks 23 — Hull Aces 2
1974 Nottingham Lions 5 — Hull Royals 3
1975 Liverpool NALGO Tigers 5 — Nottingham Lions 3
1976 Liverpool Trojans 5 — Kensington Spirit of '76 (London) 4
1977 Golders Green Sox 9 — Hull Aces 5

BRITISH AMATEUR BASEBALL & SOFTBALL FEDERATION

1978 Liverpool Trojans 14 — Crawley Giants 12
1979 Golders Green Sox 9 — Hull Aces 7 (11 innings)
1980 Liverpool Trojans 12 — Hull Aces 1
1981 London Warriors 23 — Hull Aces 3

Warrior pitcher Mike Ocon en route to hurling a five-hitter and victory over the Hull Aces in last year's final, with London winning 23 - to - 3. Ocon also hit three home-runs with Murray Phillips and Lee Pierce each hitting solo shots. The Warriors collected 27 hits.

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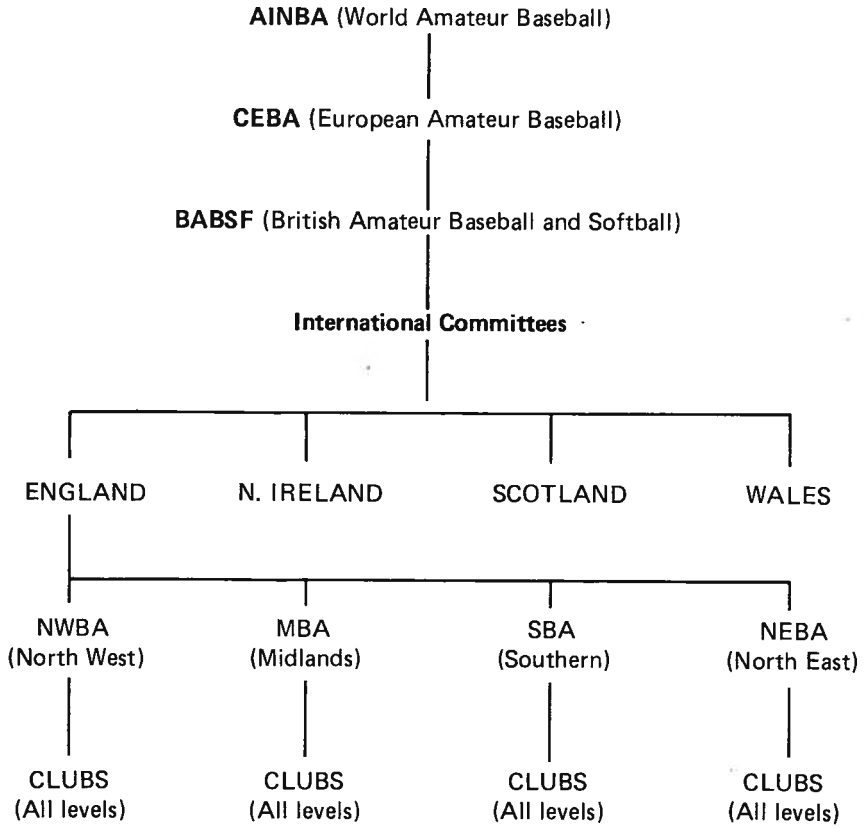
STRUCTURE OF WORLD BASEBALL FEDERATION

Baseball's governing body is the World Amateur Baseball Federation based in the United States. British Baseball is part of the European section of the Federation and its function is to ensure that the regulations of the Federation are carried out.

Within its area of responsibility is the organisation of the British leagues, the training of officials and the running of the British team in preparation for the goal of Olympic participation.

The structure of the Federation is set out herewith:—



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BRITONS . . . . . IN BASEBALL?

To Britons, baseball's Big Leagues are strictly an American preserve. To play for the Yankees, the Tigers, the Dodgers or the Braves you need to be a gen-u-wine, apple-pie, flag-toting American Boy. Or at least from the American hemisphere, for nowadays there seem to be almost as many Mexicans, Venezuelans, Cubans and Canadians as there are players from the 50 States.

But Britons in the big time? Surely not.

Ah, but you're wrong. There have been a few ... very few ... Britons who actually made it to the Majors and a quick 'phone call to Stan Isle of baseball's Bible – The Sporting News – provided the proof.

Ironically enough, the first recorded instance of a British-born player making it to the Majors was that of Harry J. Smith, who came from the cricketing climes of Yorkshire. Harry joined the Philadelphia Athletics in 1900 as a catcher and was to play for the Pirates and Boston Braves too, before he retired with a .255 batting average. He also managed the Athletics for a time, so was obviously no slouch.

In 1908 along came another Yorkshireman, Walter Carlisle of Yeadon. Walter was an outfielder and his career was to be the shortest of any big-league Briton: just three games with the Boston Red Sox! Still, he died in Hollywood so perhaps baseball led on to better things.

The 1909 season saw another British player take the field and this one was no 3-game wonder. Jimmy 'Pepper' Austin was from Swansea – all 5'7 of him – and he was destined to play 18 seasons in the American League with the Yankees and St. Louis Browns as a 3rd baseman. He finished in 1929 with a career .246 batting average.

In 1923 it was the turn of Liverpool's Benny Bengough, who once again divided his career between the Yankees and Browns, though this time as a Catcher. Benny played for ten years in the Majors, compiled a .317 career average and appeared in two World Series. He died in 1968.

But when it came to the World Series, in fact every aspect of baseball, the out-and-out winner was Bobby Thomson. Born in Edinburgh, Thomson is one of the most famous players of all time. He played in the Majors for 15 years – with the New York Giants, the Milwaukee Braves, the Chicago Cubs, the Red Sox and Baltimore; his career average was .270; he had 8 seasons with 20 or more home runs, 264 in all; he appeared in 3 All-Star games and in 1951 he won the World Series for the Giants by hitting a home run with 1 out in the bottom of the ninth inning .... in the final game. The papers called it "the shot heard round the World" and it assured Bobby Thomson of baseball fame.

So, there you are, only a few Britons have made it to the dizzy heights of baseball's Big Time, but who knows, there could be a young player on the field or in the stands tonight may be the next British player to earn the title 'Star' in the Major Leagues.

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