

## Outline of the Rules of Baseball

This outline of the game is necessarily brief but will enable the onlooker to follow the game in conjunction with the commentary.

A game normally consists of nine innings for each team, but can be terminated by mutual consent after five innings. An innings terminates when three men of the batting side are out.

The distribution of the fielding side is:

- |              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| 1. Pitcher.  | 6. Short Stop.   |
| 2. Catcher.  | 7. Left Field.   |
| 3. 1st Base. | 8. Centre Field. |
| 4. 2nd Base. | 9. Right Field.  |
| 5. 3rd Base. |                  |

When the pitcher is delivering the ball to the bat he must keep one foot in contact with the Pitcher's Plate. Pitching distance is 60-ft. 6-ins.

The Batsman is allowed four *Balls* or three *Strikes*.

A *Ball* is called when the pitched ball passes below the knee or above the shoulder or wide of the home plate, and is not swung at by the batter.

A *Strike* is called when the batter swings at the ball or it passes across the home plate below the shoulder or above the knee. If the batter hits the *third strike* foul, it does not count against him, and he is still on "strike two." The home plate is 17-ins. wide.

If pitcher sends down four *Balls* before three *Strikes* batsman is allowed first base.

Batsman becomes a baserunner when a *Fair Hit* is made or when he is allowed first base on balls. He *must* run when the ball lands fair.

A *Fair Hit* is one which settles or flies over fair ground, that is inside the foul lines (see diagram).

A baserunner is out at first base if the ball is held on base before he reaches it. At second and third bases and home plate, baserunner must be touched by ball which is held by fielder before he reaches the base—except when play is *Forced*, that is when baserunners are compelled to advance through batsman making a fair hit and becoming a runner; all that is then necessary is for a fielder to hold the ball and touch the base.

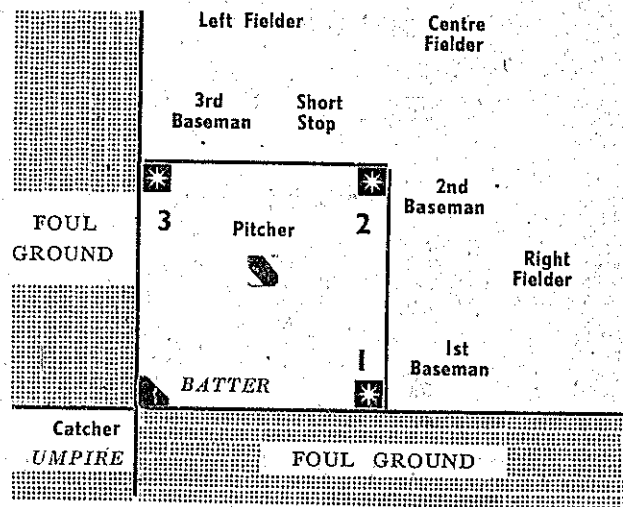
Two baserunners cannot occupy the same base at the same time.

The ball is dead and not in play if it goes foul, that is, outside the foul lines (see diagram); however, if it is caught, batsman is then declared out.

A *Run* is scored only when each individual batsman has made a complete circuit of the diamond, touching each base in regular order *before three men are out*.

A catch retires only the batter—not the whole side. A runner can advance from a base *after* a catch is made, but if he is off base before the catch is made he must return to that base before advancing.

Gloves are primarily worn to *protect* the hand, and not to *assist* in fielding the ball.



Benfleet Urban District Council in conjunction with  
The South Eastern Counties Baseball Association and  
Benfleet Greys Baseball Club

# BASEBALL MATCHES

on

SATURDAY 16th JUNE 1956

at

SOUTHEND STADIUM, Southend-on-Sea, Essex

(by kind permission of the Directors)

2.00 p.m. — Benfleet Greys v Essex All Stars

3.15 p.m. — South East England v United States Navy (London)

A commentary will be given by W. S. ("Slim") Beckwith

★ PROCEEDS TO THE NATIONAL PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION

Programme : : : Sixpence

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## BENFLEET GREYS

Position

## ESSEX ALL STARS

No. Pos.

Bert Beavis		Alan Aley	Esso Tigers
Mike Birchley		Jack Day	Esso Tigers
Bob Buckle		John Dockrill	Esso Tigers
Vern Campbell		Harry Hill	Dagenham
Alan Dowley		Den Martin	Esso Tigers
Tom Egan		Arthur North	Esso Tigers
Ross Graham		Bruce Rummery	Esso Tigers
George Hine		Don Sinclair	Essex Nat'ls
Bob Horne		Tony Smith	Essex Nat'ls
Cyril Jackson		Terry White	Thames B.M.
John Leach			
Dave Mathieson			
Bruce Rennie			
Ron Turner			

Manager ..... Vern Campbell      Manager ..... Harry Knapp      Fords

Innings : 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Total

Essex All Stars

Benfleet Greys

### Baseball in England

It has probably surprised many of those present today to know that baseball is an English summer sport as well as being the national game of the United States of America. Nevertheless, the game has been continuously played in England since the formation of a national association in the early 1930's, and even before that time there were many clubs being at various times in the present century; indeed tradition has it that baseball actually originated in England.

However, whatever may be the past history of the game the fact remains that there are at present about sixty teams in England. Thirteen of these are under the jurisdiction of the South Eastern Counties Association and South Eastern League, and they cover the counties of Essex, Middlesex and Surrey. The full list is:

Benfleet Greys	Esso Tigers (Purfleet)	Leatherhead Maple Leaf
Briggs Brigands (Dagenham)	Ford Sports (Dagenham)	Queens Park Aces (W.9)
Dagenham Royals	Hornsey Athletics	Thames Board Mills (Purfleet)
Epsom Lions	Kodak (Harrow)	United States Navy (London)
Essex Nationals (Dagenham)		

In addition to the League tournament of two Divisions there are several cup competitions which make up a full programme of matches from mid-April to the end of September.

Several other representative games take place during the season, among these being a match against the Western Counties in July.

Further information may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary of the Association, Mr. F. Helliard, 36 Derby Avenue, Upminster, Essex.

## SOUTH EAST ENGLAND

No. Pos.

Jock Baillie	Fords
Les Banks	Fords
Geo. Cameron	Leatherhead
Bill Dawber	Thames B.M.
Alan Dowley	Benfleet
Arthur Feasey	Kodak
Ron Field	Kodak
John Hewie	Briggs
Harry Hill	Dagenham
Ron King	Fords
Don Sinclair	Essex Nat'ls
Don Tinton	Essex Nat'ls
Barry Whiting	Leatherhead
Bill Willson	Dagenham

Manager ..... Jack Helliard      Dagenham

Coach ..... Harry Knapp      Fords

## UNITED STATES NAVY (London)

No.

Position

15	Lawrence Carroll	Pitcher
9	David Cavanaugh	Centre Field
31	William Chetaitis	Pitcher
28	Richard Hawthorne	Left Field
29	John Hervey	Catcher
13	Thomas Lauer	Third Base
	Francis McGlynn	First Base
27	Roy Messer	Outfield
17	Emmett Osborn	Right Field
23	James Rapson	Pitcher
26	Tony Salerno	Infielder
7	Paul Sanzo	Short Stop
18	James Smith	Second Base
1	Reynolds Sprague	First Base
20	J. E. Gallagher	Coach
	J. Adamson	Coach

Innings : 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Total

South East England

United States Navy (London)

### This Afternoon's Matches

This afternoon's matches provide our spectators with a double interest.

In the first game the local Benfleet club takes on an all-Essex combination of comparatively equal strength. The majority of the Essex team are young players who have taken up the game in the past two or three seasons, whilst the Greys are English players under the management of Canadian Vern Campbell.

The second game brings into opposition the United States Navy (London) and a side under the title of South East England. Although the latter contains a couple of Canadians and a South African, the accent is on home-produced talent, and it is hoped that this will show that English baseball can match its American counterpart.

Most baseball in England is played on Sunday afternoons, as the calls of work make it sometimes difficult for clubs to field teams on Saturdays. This has made team selection for today's games rather more difficult than usual, but thanks to adequate "deputies" being available we know you will see some enjoyable baseball here today.

Thanks are due to the following for their assistance in the staging of this afternoon's matches:

THE DIRECTORS OF SOUTHBEND STADIUM for their generosity in placing the Stadium at the disposal of the organisation, free of any charges.

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