

Baseball

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Major League Baseball (MLB) is the top professional baseball league in the world. MLB has long been considered one of the “Big 4” professional leagues in the United States along with the National Football League (NFL), National Basketball Association (NBA), and National Hockey League (NHL). Twenty-nine teams are located in major cities throughout the United States, and one team is based in Toronto, Canada. The teams, consisting of players from many foreign countries, compete in either the National or American League. Each organization is responsible for its affiliate teams that operate in the minor leagues at the AAA, AA, A, and Rookie levels throughout North America.

MLB was established as the first major professional league in the United States in 1903, and for many years it was recognized as America’s most popular sport, often referred to as the national pastime. Over the years, however, many would say that the NFL surpassed MLB as the most popular professional sports league in America. MLB’s long and storied past has helped it maintain the interest of a solid fan base that continues to flock to games throughout the spring, summer, and fall. MLB has yet to earn popularity around the globe; however, it is making great efforts and progress to be well known and supported internationally. Since the players’ strike in 1994, MLB and the Major League Baseball Players Association (MLBPA) have avoided any work stoppages, which plagued MLB for the previous 20 years. This has helped the league to build and grow the popularity of the sport both in the United States and globally. Also, the MLB held the inaugural World Baseball Classic in 2006 in an attempt to promote the popularity of the game on a global scale.

Throughout MLB’s history, a very contentious relationship between owners and the MLBPA has caused many

disruptions that have altered the landscape of the game. The MLBPA, the first union for professional athletes in the United States, is known as one of the most powerful unions in sports. From MLB’s inception through the 1970s, the commissioner and owners had the upper hand over the players. However, in the 1980s and 1990s, divergent interests among the owners contributed to the commissioner’s lack of power during negotiations with players and the MLBPA.

The owners’ diverse interests also have exacerbated the financial gap in team values, which in turn have strongly influenced a club’s ability to field a competitive team. In 2007, *Forbes* magazine estimated that the Florida Marlins franchise was worth \$244 million and the New York Yankees were worth \$1.2 billion. This gap is, by far, the greatest financial disparity among the teams in any of the professional sports leagues in the United States.

Reports have indicated that MLB revenues overall are growing at a steady rate; it increased to \$6 billion in 2007, up from \$5.2 billion in 2006.¹ Nearly \$1 billion of this revenue is generated through the league’s various media rights deals with ESPN, Fox, TNT/TBS, DirecTV, XM Satellite Radio, ESPN Radio, and ESPN digital content. Key drivers of revenue growth include increasing rights fees, higher ticket prices, attendance increases, and anticipated future growth in online and international operations. In total, the league retains approximately \$450 million as earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization (EBITDA).²

Headquartered in New York City, the league office is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the league, as well as the league’s advertising/marketing, broadcasting, public relations, corporate sales, labor relations, special events, league and teams’ websites, and MLB Advanced Media (MLBAM). The international department, also located in the league headquarters, is striving to make MLB

more popular in areas such as Europe, Asia, Latin America, Africa, and other parts of the world. Recognizing that a large proportion of its players come from outside the United States, MLB continually attempts to cultivate the game through initiatives such as developing academies, establishing offices in Europe and South America, and operating the World Baseball Classic.

Based on the league's tax filings, there are 236 employees at the league office. Total compensation paid to these employees for the 12-month period ending October 31, 2006, was \$85.1 million. The league's commissioner, Bud Selig, was paid a reported \$15.06 million. The total payroll figure of \$85.1 million represents 69% of league office revenue, which is primarily funded through dues assessed to member teams.³

History of Major League Baseball⁴⁻⁶

1871

- A group of professional baseball teams formed the National Association of Professional Baseball Players.

1876

- The first professional game was played between the Boston Red Stockings and the Philadelphia Athletics in Philadelphia. The game drew 3,000 fans.
- The first major league, the National League (NL), was formed.

1877

- Morgan G. Buckley, who was the first elected president of the National Association, resigned and was replaced by William A. Hulbert, known as "the Czar of baseball." He reorganized the league, took power away from the teams, and consolidated it in the league office, which previously held little power.

1900

- The total of 12 teams was reduced to 8, eliminating Baltimore, Cleveland, Louisville, and Washington. The remaining 8 teams were the Brooklyn Superbas, New York Giants, St. Louis Cardinals, Cincinnati Reds, Chicago Orphans, Pittsburgh Pirates, Boston Beaneaters, and Philadelphia Phillies.
- Ban Johnson, a former sportswriter and entrepreneur, organized the American League (AL), which would compete with the NL. The AL consisted of the Baltimore Orioles, Philadelphia Athletics, Boston Americans, Washington Nationals, Cleveland Blues, Detroit Tigers, Milwaukee Brewers, and Chicago White Stockings. Three of the league's original clubs in Indianapolis, Minneapolis, and Buffalo were dropped (16 teams).

1902

- The Milwaukee Brewers became the St. Louis Browns, the Washington Nationals became the Washington Senators, and the Cleveland Blues became the Cleveland Bronchos.

1903

- The Baltimore Orioles became the New York Highlanders, the Boston Americans became the Boston Pilgrims, the Cleveland Bronchos became the Cleveland Naps, and the Chicago Orphans became the Chicago Cubs.
- On October 1, the first World Series began, to be decided in a best-of-nine-game series between the Boston Americans and the Pittsburgh Pirates.

1907

- The Boston Beaneaters became the Boston Doves.

1908

- The Boston Americans became the Boston Red Sox.

1909

- The Boston Doves became the Boston Rustlers.

1911

- The Boston Rustlers became the Boston Braves.

1913

- John K. Tener, former pitcher and governor of Pennsylvania, was elected president of the National League. He received a 4-year contract for \$25,000 annually (1913–1918).
- The New York Highlanders became the New York Yankees.

1914

- The Brooklyn Superbas became the Brooklyn Robins.

1915

- The Cleveland Naps became the Cleveland Indians.

1918

- John Tener resigned as president, and John Heydler, who worked in the league office since 1902, replaced him.
- The first shortened MLB season took place due to World War I.

1919

- The 1919 World Series was marred by the infamous Black Sox scandal. Eight players from the Chicago White Sox were accused of throwing the series against the Cincinnati Reds and were subsequently banned from baseball for life.

1921

- Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis was elected baseball's first commissioner. He exercised his authority frequently and to the fullest during his tenure (1921–1945).
- The first MLB game was aired on radio by KDKA in Pittsburgh, which broadcasted the World Series between the Giants and the Yankees.

1922

- In 1922, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that Major League Baseball was exempt from the provisions of the Sherman Antitrust Act because baseball was not interstate commerce and was the states' affair (*Federal Baseball Club v. National League*, 1922).
- Willie Kamm became the first minor league player with a contract purchased for over \$100,000.

1930

- NBC broadcasted the first MLB game between the Brooklyn Robins and the Cincinnati Reds from Ebbets field.

1932

- The Brooklyn Robins became the Brooklyn Dodgers.

1933

- The first Major League All-Star Game was played on July 6, 1933, at Comiskey Park in Chicago.

1934

- John Heydler resigned as president of the National League, and was replaced by Ford Christopher Frick, a former baseball writer and head of the league's publicity bureau (1934–1951).

1939

- The Baseball Hall of Fame officially opened in Cooperstown, New York.

1942

- President Roosevelt sent Commissioner Landis "the Green Letter" in which he voiced his desire to keep baseball going for the betterment of the United States during World War II.

1943

- The Philadelphia Phillies became the Philadelphia Blue Jays.

1945

- A. B. "Happy" Chandler was elected baseball's second commissioner on April 24 by a unanimous vote of the 16 club owners. Commissioner Chandler began negotiating both sponsorship and television deals for MLB (1945–1951).

- The Philadelphia Blue Jays became the Philadelphia Phillies again.

1947

- Jackie Robinson became the first African American to play Major League Baseball when Branch Rickey, general manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers, signed Robinson to a deal.

1949

- Commissioner Chandler negotiated a 7-year, \$4,370,000 contract with the Gillette Safety Razor Company and the Mutual Broadcasting System for radio rights to the World Series, with the proceeds going directly into the pension fund.

1951

- Ford C. Frick, who had been serving as NL president, became the third commissioner of baseball when he was unanimously elected by the 16 club owners on September 20 (1951–1965).

1953

- The Boston Braves became the Milwaukee Braves, and Boston was left without a National League team.

1954

- The St. Louis Browns became the Baltimore Orioles.

1955

- The Philadelphia A's became the Kansas City A's.

1958

- The National League expanded west as the Brooklyn Dodgers became the Los Angeles Dodgers and the New York Giants became the San Francisco Giants.

1961

- The Washington (DC) Senators moved to Minnesota and became the Minnesota Twins.
- The Los Angeles Angels and a new Washington Senators were granted expansion franchises (18 teams).

1962

- The New York Mets and the Houston Colt .45s were granted expansion franchises (20 teams).

1965

- General William D. Eckert was elected baseball's fourth commissioner by a unanimous vote of the 20 major league club owners (1965–1968).
- According to a Harris survey, sports fans chose professional football (41%) as their favorite sport, for the first time overtaking baseball (38%).
- The first MLB First-Year Player Draft was held.

- The Houston Colt .45s became the Houston Astros and the Los Angeles Angels became the California Angels.

1966

- The MLBPA was created to represent MLB players in collective bargaining, as well as grievances and salary arbitration. Marvin Miller was elected as the first executive director of the MLBPA (1966–1983).
- The Los Angeles Dodgers played in the first international tour of baseball games in Japan.
- The Milwaukee Braves moved to Atlanta and became the Atlanta Braves.

1968

- The first collective bargaining agreement (CBA) was negotiated. The players won an increase in the minimum salary from \$7,000 to \$10,000, as well as larger expense allowances.
- The Kansas City A's became the Oakland Athletics.
- The National League completed its expansion to a 12-team league by granting expansion franchises to the Montreal Expos and San Diego Padres (22 teams).

1969

- Bowie K. Kuhn was elected baseball's fifth commissioner by a unanimous vote of the 24 club owners on February 4 (1969–1984).
- Each league, National and American, was separated into an East and West division.
- The Seattle Pilots and Kansas City Royals were granted expansion franchises (24 teams).

1970

- A 3-year CBA was negotiated, becoming the first time that owner-player disputes not involving the "integrity of baseball" could be arbitrated before an arbitration panel with a neutral chairman selected jointly by the players and owners.
- "Ten and 5" rights were agreed upon, which allowed a 10-year veteran who had been with the same team for at least 5 years to veto a trade.
- The Seattle Pilots moved to Milwaukee and became the Milwaukee Brewers.

1972

- The first player strike in baseball took place over the issue of increased player pensions, and lasted 13 days. One compromise was to raise the pension fund to \$500,000 per season. The games missed because of the strike were not made up and as a result the Detroit Tigers played one more game than the Boston Red Sox, who finished only one-half game behind Detroit in the AL standings.

- *Flood v. Kuhn*, a landmark case in MLB history, was decided. Outfielder Curt Flood challenged the legality of the reserve clause and the right of clubs to trade players. Ultimately, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the lower courts' decisions in favor of baseball, ruling that federal antitrust laws did not apply to baseball.
- The Washington Senators moved to Arlington, Texas, and became the Texas Rangers.

1973

- The designated hitter (DH) rule was introduced, allowing a player who is not playing in the field to bat instead of the pitcher. This rule applies only to the American League. National League pitchers still bat. During the World Series, the rules of the home team apply to the game.

1975

- In the landmark *Messersmith-McNally* arbitration decision, arbitrator Peter Seitz ruled that players were free to negotiate with any club after the option year of their contracts had been fulfilled. After several bargaining sessions, the players and owners agreed to the current system that allows players the right to free agency after 6 years in the majors. This marked the birth of free agency.

1977

- The Toronto Blue Jays and the Seattle Mariners were granted expansion franchises (26 teams).

1979

- Average player salaries exceeded \$100,000 per year for the first time (\$121,900).

1981

- A major strike took place, causing the cancellation of 712 games. The strike lasted from June 12 until July 31, 1981. The parties agreed on a form of indirect compensation: all clubs losing a Type A free agent could draft a replacement from the roster of any club eligible to sign Type A free agents, and such clubs were allowed to protect only about two dozen players in their entire organization. The parties also agreed to extend the CBA through 1984.
- Peter V. Ueberroth was elected baseball's sixth commissioner by a unanimous vote of the 26 club owners. During Ueberroth's tenure, MLB curbed costs and netted substantial profits from television and sponsorship deals (1984–1988).

1985

- Division playoffs went from best-of-five to best-of-seven.

1987

- Commissioner Ueberroth negotiated two landmark television deals—a 4-year, \$1.1-billion contract with CBS, and a 4-year \$400-million national cable deal with ESPN.
- Major League Baseball as an industry showed a net profit of \$21.3 million, its first profitable year since 1973.

1988

- A. Bartlett Giamatti, former National League president, was elected to a 5-year term as baseball's seventh commissioner by a unanimous vote of the 26 club owners (1988–1989).

1989

- A. Bartlett Giamatti died of a heart attack. Deputy Commissioner Francis T. Vincent, Jr. was elected baseball's eighth commissioner in a unanimous vote of major league owners (1989–1992).

1990

- A lockout postponing the start of spring training was initiated by the owners. A settlement was reached on March 18, 32 days after the scheduled start of the spring training schedule. Due to the lockout, opening day was delayed 1 week to provide adequate time for spring training, but the settlement ensured that a full slate of 162 regular season games could be played.

1991

- Commissioner Vincent declared that the American League would receive \$42 million of the National League's \$190 million in expansion revenue and that the AL would provide players in the NL expansion draft. This marked the first time in expansion history that leagues were required to share revenue or provide players for the other league's expansion draft. Expansion franchises were granted to Colorado and Florida to begin play in 1993.

1992

- Commissioner Vincent resigned. Allan H. "Bud" Selig, owner of the Milwaukee Brewers, was named chairman of the Major League Executive Council, and acting commissioner (1992–1998).
- Oriole Park at Camden Yards opened in Baltimore, Maryland. Oriole Park was the first retro ballpark to be built, and the model that many teams used when they were designing their new stadiums, such as the Cleveland Indians' Jacobs Field.

1993

- The Colorado Rockies and Florida Marlins began play as expansion franchises, the first expansion in MLB since 1977 (28 teams).

1994

- A strike by the players beginning on July 28 wiped out the World Series and lasted for a total of 234 days.⁷ A new CBA would not be agreed upon until 1996. The 1995 season was played under the terms of the old CBA.
- Both the American and National Leagues set up three divisions—East, Central, and West. The winners, plus a fourth team, called a wild card, qualified for the postseason playoffs.

1996

- The first MLB regular season game to take place outside of the United States and Canada is played in Monterrey, Mexico, between the New York Mets and the San Diego Padres.

1997

- For the first time in MLB history, teams from the American League and National League competed in regular season, head-to-head competition. The first interleague game was on June 12 as the Texas Rangers hosted the San Francisco Giants at The Ballpark in Arlington.
- The California Angels became the Anaheim Angels.

1998

- Bud Selig was elected the ninth commissioner of baseball by a vote of the 30 MLB club owners. Previously he had served as acting commissioner and was owner of the Milwaukee Brewers (1998–present).
- The Arizona Diamondbacks and Tampa Bay Devil Rays were granted expansion franchises (30 teams).
- The Milwaukee Brewers switched from AL Central to NL Central; the Detroit Tigers switched from AL East to AL Central.

1999

- Umpire Frank Pulli became the first to use a TV replay to reverse a call in a game, taking away a Marlins home run versus the Cardinals, although at the time there was no rule allowing the use of instant replay in Major League Baseball.

2000

- The first MLB regular season game in Asia took place on April 1, in Tokyo, Japan, in a game between the Chicago Cubs and the New York Mets. About 55,000 fans were in attendance at the game, which was held in the Tokyo Dome.

2001

- MLB and Fox agreed on a television deal worth \$2.5 billion through the 2006 season.

2002

- A new 4-year CBA (2002–2006) was negotiated with provisions for a luxury tax to be placed on player payrolls exceeding prescribed thresholds, increased revenue sharing among the 30 teams, drug testing for illegal steroids, increased minimum player salaries, and new limitations on team debt. Drug testing for illegal steroids were included by having random testing in 2003, and if over 5% tested positive, drug testing would continue. Penalties for testing positive included mandatory treatment and ranged from a 30-day suspension to a 2-year suspension.
- MLB and XM Satellite Radio agreed to a deal worth approximately \$650 million over the course of 11 years, allowing XM to broadcast games beginning with the 2005 season.
- MLB.com streamed the first Major League game between the Texas Rangers and the New York Yankees on the Internet via its Gameday Video service.

2004

- MLB and ESPN signed a 6-year, \$66-million deal to broadcast Sunday Night Baseball games and various games throughout the season, as well as all of the post-season games through the 2010 season.

2005

- The U.S. Congress heard testimony about the use of performance-enhancing drugs in Major League Baseball, forcing MLB and the union to agree on a much stricter policy that permits off-season testing and a 10-day suspension for first-time abusers.⁸
- MLB and General Motors agreed on terms making Chevrolet the “Official Vehicle of Major League Baseball.” As part of this agreement, Chevrolet was the presenting sponsor of two of the game’s most prestigious awards, the Ted Williams All-Star Game Most Valuable Player Award and the World Series Most Valuable Player Award.
- MLB signed an 8-year, \$2.37-billion agreement that granted ESPN the right to televise up to 80 MLB regular season games per season across the ESPN networks through 2013.
- The Montreal Expos moved to Washington, DC, and became the Washington Nationals. The Anaheim Angels became the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim.

2006

- The inaugural World Baseball Classic was played in March and featured many of the best players in the world competing for their home countries. Japan won the inaugural World Baseball Classic. The championship

game was played at PETCO Park in San Diego, California, in front of a sold-out crowd of 42,696. The total tournament attendance was 737,112.

- MLB and MLBPA announced a 5-year labor contract that will run through the 2011 season. Highlights of the contract included continued revenue sharing, competitive balance tax, and a continuation of the existing drug policy.

2007

- MLB signed 7-year television contracts with Fox and TNT/TBS for \$1.8 billion and \$1.05 billion, respectively.
- MLB set an all-time attendance record in 2007 with a season attendance totaling 79,502,524.

2008

- The Los Angeles Dodgers and the San Diego Padres played the first MLB-sanctioned game in China. The game was played in the 12,000-seat Wukesong Baseball Field in Beijing.

2009

- MLB launched the MLB Network, a specialty cable channel dedicated to MLB programming.

Structure of Major League Baseball**League Alignment**

- 30 total teams (**Table 19-1**)
- 2 leagues: National League (16 teams) and American League (14 teams)
 - 3 divisions in each league: West, Central, and East

Competition Format

- Head-to-head contests between teams; unbalanced schedule
- End-of-year playoffs to determine World Series Champion

Schedule

- Game days
 - Games are played throughout the week. Most weekday games are played at night; however, there are exceptions. Weekend games are played either during the day or at night.
 - 3- to 4-game series are played each time teams face an opponent (e.g., games on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday all against the same opponent).
- Preseason (March–April): 30–32 exhibition games are played per team. Most teams play their preseason games at a spring training facility in one of two leagues: the Cactus League in Arizona or the Grapefruit League in Florida.

Table 19-1 MLB Teams (2008–2009)

American League		National League	
East Division		East Division	
Team	Location	Team	Location
Baltimore Orioles	Baltimore, MD	Atlanta Braves	Atlanta, GA
Boston Red Sox	Boston, MA	Florida Marlins	Miami Gardens, FL
New York Yankees	Bronx, NY	New York Mets	Flushing, NY
Tampa Bay Rays	St. Petersburg, FL	Philadelphia Phillies	Philadelphia, PA
Toronto Blue Jays	Toronto, Ontario	Washington Nationals	Washington, DC
Central Division		Central Division	
Team	Location	Team	Location
Chicago White Sox	Chicago, IL	Chicago Cubs	Chicago, IL
Cleveland Indians	Cleveland, OH	Cincinnati Reds	Cincinnati, OH
Detroit Tigers	Detroit, MI	Houston Astros	Houston, TX
Kansas City Royals	Kansas City, MO	Milwaukee Brewers	Milwaukee, WI
Minnesota Twins	Minneapolis, MN	Pittsburgh Pirates	Pittsburgh, PA
West Division		West Division	
Team	Location	Team	Location
Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim	Anaheim, CA	Arizona Diamondbacks	Phoenix, AZ
Oakland Athletics	Oakland, CA	Colorado Rockies	Denver, CO
Seattle Mariners	Seattle, WA	Los Angeles Dodgers	Los Angeles, CA
Texas Rangers	Arlington, TX	San Diego Padres	San Diego, CA
		San Francisco Giants	San Francisco, CA

- Regular season (April–October): 162 games (81 home, 81 away)
 - National League: 70–80 divisional games, 15–18 against American League
 - American League: 57–72 divisional games, 15–18 against National League
- Playoffs (October)
 - 3 rounds: League Division Series, League Championship Series, World Series
 - 8 teams: 3 division winners and 1 wild card team from each league
 - Teams play each other according to best record (team with best record plays team with worst record); however, teams in the same division cannot play each other in the first round
 - League Division Series (American and National)
 - Best of 5 series.
 - The team with the better record receives home field advantage, unless it is a wild card team.
 - League Championship Series (American and National)
 - Winners of the League Division Series play each other to determine League Champion.
 - Best of 7 series.
- World Series (American vs. National)
 - The winners of each League Championship Series play each other to determine the World Series.
 - Best of 7 series.
 - The DH rule is in effect only for games are played in American League parks.
- All-Star Game (July)
 - This mid-season game pits the American League All-Stars against the National League All-Stars.
 - The league that wins the All-Star Game earns home field advantage for the World Series.
 - The site changes annually, as determined by the commissioner.
 - 2007: AT&T Park in San Francisco
 - 2008: Yankee Stadium in New York City
 - 2009: Busch Stadium in St. Louis

Money Matters for Major League Baseball

Sources of Revenue

- In 2007, overall revenues for MLB were a record \$6.075 billion.⁹

- Television broadcast revenues
 - Fox and MLB have a 7-year, \$2.1-billion television rights deal that started with the 2007 season.⁹
 - ESPN and MLB have an 8-year, \$2.37-billion television rights deal that started during the 2006 season.
 - TBS and MLB have a 7-year, \$490-million television rights deal that started in the 2008 season.
 - MLB TV broadcasts 2,300 games a season to subscribers. The subscription fee for a full season is \$49.95.
 - MLB signed a 7-year, \$175-million deal with DirecTV and a 7-year, \$385-million deal with a group of cable companies to air out-of-market games on the dish company.
- Other media
 - ESPN Radio has a 5-year, \$55-million deal through 2010 with MLB to broadcast games nationally.
 - XM Satellite Radio has an 11-year, \$650-million deal through 2015 with MLB to broadcast games to subscribers of XM Satellite Radio.
 - MLB Advanced Media (MLBAM) runs the MLB website, and each individual team website. Through these websites viewers are able to read news, purchase tickets, watch live feeds, listen to radio broadcasts, and watch highlights from games. In 2007, MLBAM generated more than \$450 million in revenue.¹⁰
- Gate receipts
 - The average attendance during the 2007 regular season was 32,785 fans with an average ticket cost of \$22.69.
- Sponsorship
 - MLB has 18 official sponsors including mortgage companies, beverage distributors, hotel companies, and satellite radio. Sponsors pay MLB an annual fee to become a recognized partner and for other related services.
- Merchandising and licensing
 - Rawlings is the official supplier of baseballs and gloves for MLB.
 - New Era is the official supplier of hats for MLB.
 - Louisville Slugger is the official supplier of bats for MLB.
 - Majestic Athletics is the official jersey supplier of MLB.

MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL¹¹

Minor League Baseball (MiLB), formerly referred to as the National Association, is composed of 222 teams in 17 leagues located throughout North America. The umbrella organization, MiLB, consists of the teams that are affiliated with Major League Baseball organizations.

Professional teams that are not affiliated with MLB organizations are called Independent League teams, and are not considered members of Minor League Baseball. There are currently 10 Independent Leagues, the largest and most successful of these leagues are the Atlantic, Central, Frontier, Northeast, and Northern Leagues.

Minor League Baseball teams are, for the most part, independently owned and operated. However, the players are controlled and paid by their parent MLB organization. Minor League Baseball has been a central component to the development of young players throughout the history of baseball.

For many years, the term *farm system* characterized the minor leagues because players were grown or developed to become major leaguers. During the 1930s, Branch Rickey made the phrase famous when he took full advantage of the idea of affiliate teams. When Branch Rickey was general manager of the St. Louis Cardinals, they had over 30 affiliates across the nation in order to provide a supply of talent for the major league club. Today, major league organizations typically have six or seven minor league affiliates that are classified by the level of play. These categories are, from lowest to highest, Rookie, Short-Season A, Low A, A, High A, AA, and AAA. Major league clubs also send minor leaguers to off-season leagues like the Puerto Rican League, Mexican League, or Dominican League; however, these teams are not affiliated directly with MLB teams. Minor league affiliates all are governed under the National Association Agreement of Professional Baseball, which is a document that includes the by-laws between Minor League Baseball (National Association) and its member leagues.



Mike Tamburro, president of the Pawtucket Red Sox (a AAA team in the International League), catches a game from the stands. Tamburro was named International League Executive of the Year in 1984.

The president of Minor League Baseball works in conjunction with a 17-member board of directors (one club owner from each league).

Minor league teams are financially independent from their parent major league organizations; therefore, it is very important that minor league clubs generate enough revenue to cover expenses, and hopefully, make a profit. As player salaries are paid for by the MLB organization, teams have far fewer expenses than other sport teams. Depending on the level of play (A or AAA), teams are located in rural towns (Hickory, NC: Low A) or small to mid-size cities (Rochester, NY: AAA) with stadium capacity anywhere from 5,000 to 25,000. Community support and involvement with the team is critical to the team's health and longevity. Whether a team schedules "Rock and Roll Night" or "Bobblehead Day," minor league clubs have always relied on promotions and in-game entertainment to supplement the game and attract attendance to their ballparks.

Team values have increased significantly during the last 30 years, with AAA teams now worth in the \$8 million range, and an AA team is worth over \$7.2 million. Each team usually employs a general manager to oversee the entire operation, which is mainly business related, and includes community relations, marketing, facility management, ticketing, media relations, concessions, and merchandising. The higher level teams typically will employ more people so each person handles a specific task, while smaller, lower level teams may utilize fewer people to manage multiple tasks. Unlike the major leagues, minor league general managers (GMs) do not make personnel decisions, and therefore must rely on what the parent club provides for players. Minor league general managers are usually business oriented and entrepreneurial in nature and strive to create the most entertaining atmosphere possible, regardless of how well or badly the team performs.

History of Minor League Baseball

1901

- The National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues (NAPBL, or NA) was organized when presidents of seven minor leagues met in Chicago and established rules of operation that have generally remained through the history of minor league baseball.
- Patrick Powers was elected first president of the NA (1901–1909).

1902

- The NA, national in scope, began play with 14 leagues and 96 teams.

1910

- Michael Sexton was elected president of the NA after Powers resigned (1910–1932).

1914

- Membership in the NA grew to 41 leagues in a period of prosperity and stability.

1918

- Due to a loss of manpower caused by World War I and the rival Federal League, only nine leagues remained in the NA.

1921

- An agreement was signed that allowed a major league team to own minor league teams. Branch Rickey of the St. Louis Cardinals used this to establish the farm system, controlling players in the minor leagues and developing them for his MLB team.

1930

- The first night baseball game under permanent lights was played in Des Moines, Iowa, and attracted 12,000 fans for a team that averaged 600 at the time. The idea spread quickly through the minors and saved them during the Great Depression.

1931

- The NA established a promotional department to organize new leagues and aid the existing leagues and a press bureau to serve as a clearinghouse for information and player records.

1932

- Frank Shaughnessy, president of the International League, invented the playoff system to keep more teams in the race and sustain fan interest. This was done by having the first place team play the fourth place team, and the second and third place teams face each other. The two winners would play each other for the league championship.

1933

- William Bramham, who had practiced law and previously served as Chairman of the NA executive committee, was elected NA president during the Great Depression (1933–1946).

1944

- With players gone to serve in World War II and travel limitations in effect, only 10 minor leagues remained in operation.

1946

- Jackie Robinson made his debut in minor league baseball with Montreal of the International League. The next season, Branch Rickey made Robinson the first African American to play in the major leagues when he signed a contract with the Brooklyn Dodgers.

1947

- George Trautman, who had been executive vice president of the Detroit Tigers, was elected president of the NA (1947–1963).

1949

- A regular season attendance record of 39.7 million was set.

1951

- Emmett Ashford became the first African American umpire in the minor leagues, working in the Southwestern International League.

1964

- Phil Piton, who served as a top aide to Baseball Commissioner Kennesaw Mountain Landis, was elected president of the NA (1964–1971).

1972

- Hank Peters, who served with the St. Louis Browns (1946–1953) and later served as farm director for Kansas City, Cincinnati, and Cleveland, was elected president of the NA (1972–1975).

1976

- Bobby Bragan, who had been a player and manager at both the major league and minor league levels, a major league coach, a front office executive with two major league teams, and served 7 years as president of the Texas League, was elected president of the NA (1976–1978).

1979

- Johnny Johnson, who spent 24 years with the New York Yankees, was elected president of the NA (1979–1988).

1982

- The largest crowd in minor league history, 65,666, watched an American Association game at Denver's Mile High Stadium.

1987

- More than 20 million fans attended games, a figure not matched since 1953.

1988

- Sal Artiaga, who had been a manager at the NA level, was elected president of the NA (1988–1991).

1991

- The Buffalo Bisons of the American Association attracted 1,240,951 fans during the season to set the all-time record for minor league baseball.
- Baseball's Facilities Standards went into effect, setting minimum standards for minor league ballparks and

touching off the biggest building boom in history. From 1991 to 2008, more than half the teams in the minors moved to stadiums built or completely renovated since these standards went into effect.

1992

- Mike Moore, previous co-owner and operator of an NA team and chief administrative officer of the NA, was elected president of the NA (1992–present).

1997

- All major league player development contracts became guaranteed for the 160 affiliated minor league teams through the life of the contract due to significant changes to the collective bargaining agreement between MLB and minor league baseball. The contract terms of this agreement were set to last 10 years.¹²

1998

- Triple-A baseball realigned from three leagues into two and established the Triple-A World Series, which was played in Las Vegas until 2000.
- The Professional Baseball Umpire Corporation was formed to operate and maintain the umpire program for the 16 domestic leagues, under terms of the historic 10-year Professional Baseball Agreement (PBA) that was negotiated with Major League Baseball.

1999

- The North American Professional Baseball League (NAPBL) formally changed its name to Minor League Baseball and started licensing itself with the Minor League Baseball brand, a name many both inside and outside the organization had been using for years.

2004

- The all-time season attendance record of 39,640,443, set in 1949, was broken when 39,887,755 fans attended regular season games.

2006

- The all-time season attendance record, which had been set 2 years before, was broken when 41,710,357 fans attended regular season games.
- The members of the National Association of Minor League umpires went on strike from April 6 until June 12. On June 12, the umpires settled for a \$100 per month raise and an increase in per diem expenses totaling \$90 per month.

2008

- MLB instituted a new rule that all first- and third-base coaches have to wear helmets. The rule came in the wake of the death of Mike Coolbaugh, a Rockies Double-A first-base coach, who was struck by a line drive and killed during a July 2007 game.

Structure of Minor League Baseball

- 17 leagues
- AAA (144-game schedule)
 - International League (Table 19-2)
 - Pacific League (Table 19-3)
- AA (142-game schedule)
 - Eastern League (Table 19-4)
 - Southern League (Table 19-5)
 - Texas League (Table 19-6)
- High A (140-game schedule)
 - California League (Table 19-7)
 - Carolina League (Table 19-8)
 - Florida State League (Table 19-9)
- A (140-game schedule)
 - Midwest League (Table 19-10)
 - South Atlantic League (Table 19-11)
- Low A (55–80-game schedule)
 - Short season
 - New York-Penn League (Table 19-12)
 - Northwest League (Table 19-13)
- Rookie
 - Appalachian League (Table 19-14)
 - Arizona League (Table 19-15)
 - Gulf Coast League (Table 19-16)
 - Pioneer League (Table 19-17)
 - Venezuela Summer League

Table 19-2 International League Teams (AAA Level)

North Division	
Team	Location
Buffalo Bisons	Buffalo, NY
Lehigh Valley IronPigs	Allentown, PA
Pawtucket Red Sox	Pawtucket, RI
Rochester Red Wings	Rochester, NY
Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Yankees	Scranton, PA
Syracuse Chiefs	Syracuse, NY
West Division	
Team	Location
Columbus Clippers	Columbus, OH
Indianapolis Indians	Indianapolis, IN
Louisville Bats	Louisville, KY
Toledo Mud Hens	Toledo, OH
South Division	
Team	Location
Charlotte Knights	Fort Mill, SC
Durham Bulls	Durham, NC
Norfolk Tides	Norfolk, VA
Richmond Braves	Richmond, VA

Money Matters for Minor League Baseball

Sources of Revenue range depending on level of play and size of stadium.

- Gate receipts
- Sponsorships/advertising
 - Corporate
 - Local
- Licensing/merchandising: Revenues for 2005 reached an estimated \$41.7 million.

Table 19-3 Pacific Coast League Teams (AAA Level)

American Conference		Pacific Conference	
North Division		North Division	
Team	Location	Team	Location
Iowa Cubs	Des Moines, IA	Colorado Springs Sky Sox	Colorado Springs, CO
Memphis Redbirds	Memphis, TN	Portland Beavers	Portland, OR
Nashville Sounds	Nashville, TN	Salt Lake Stingers	Salt Lake City, UT
Omaha Royals	Omaha, NE	Tacoma Rainiers	Tacoma, WA
South Division		South Division	
Team	Location	Team	Location
Albuquerque Isotopes	Albuquerque, NM	Fresno Grizzlies	Fresno, CA
New Orleans Zephyrs	Metairie, LA	Las Vegas 51s	Las Vegas, NV
Oklahoma Red Hawks	Oklahoma City, OK	Sacramento River Cats	West Sacramento, CA
Round Rock Express	Round Rock, TX	Tucson Sidewinders	Tucson, AZ

Table 19-4 Eastern League Teams (AA Level)

North Division	
Team	Location
Binghamton Mets	Binghamton, NY
Connecticut Defenders	Norwich, CT
New Britain Rock Cats	New Britain, CT
New Hampshire Fisher Cats	Manchester, NH
Portland Sea Dogs	Portland, ME
Trenton Thunder	Trenton, NJ
South Division	
Team	Location
Akron Aeros	Akron, OH
Altoona Curve	Altoona, PA
Bowie Baysox	Bowie, MD
Erie SeaWolves	Erie, PA
Harrisburg Senators	Harrisburg, PA
Reading Phillies	Reading, PA

Table 19-6 Texas League Teams (AA Level)

North Division	
Team	Location
Arkansas Travelers	Little Rock, AR
Northwest Arkansas Naturals	Springdale, AR
Springfield Cardinals	Springfield, MO
Tulsa Drillers	Tulsa, OK
South Division	
Team	Location
Corpus Christi Hooks	Corpus Christi, TX
Frisco RoughRiders	Frisco, TX
Midland RockHounds	Midland, TX
San Antonio Missions	San Antonio, TX

Table 19-8 Carolina League Teams (High A Level)

Northern Division	
Team	Location
Frederick Keys	Frederick, MD
Lynchburg Hillcats	Lynchburg, VA
Potomac Nationals	Woodbridge, VA
Wilmington Blue Rocks	Wilmington, DE
Southern Division	
Team	Location
Kinston Indians	Kinston, NC
Myrtle Beach Pelicans	Myrtle Beach, SC
Salem Avalanche	Salem, VA
Winston-Salem Warthogs	Winston-Salem, NC

Table 19-5 Southern League Teams (AA Level)

South Division	
Team	Location
Birmingham Barons	Birmingham, AL
Jacksonville Suns	Jacksonville, FL
Mississippi Braves	Pearl, MS
Mobile BayBears	Mobile, AL
Montgomery Biscuits	Montgomery, AL
North Division	
Team	Location
Carolina Mudcats	Zebulon, NC
Chattanooga Lookouts	Chattanooga, TN
Huntsville Stars	Huntsville, AL
Tennessee Smokies	Kodak, TN
West Tenn Diamond Jaxx	Jackson, TN

Table 19-7 California League Teams (High A Level)

North Division	
Team	Location
Bakersfield Blaze	Bakersfield, CA
Modesto Nuts	Modesto, CA
San Jose Giants	San Jose, CA
Stockton Ports	Stockton, CA
Visalia Oaks	Visalia, CA
South Division	
Team	Location
High Desert Mavericks	Adelanto, CA
Inland Empire 66ers	San Bernardino, CA
Lake Elsinore Storm	Lake Elsinore, CA
Lancaster JetHawks	Lancaster, CA
Rancho Cucamonga Quakes	Rancho Cucamonga, CA

Table 19-9 Florida State League Teams (High A Level)

East Division	
Team	Location
Brevard County Manatees	Melbourne, FL
Daytona Cubs	Daytona Beach, FL
Jupiter Hammerheads	Jupiter, FL
Palm Beach Cardinals	Jupiter, FL
St. Lucie Mets	Port St. Lucie, FL
Vero Beach Devil Rays	Vero Beach, FL
West Division	
Team	Location
Clearwater Threshers	Clearwater, FL
Dunedin Blue Jays	Dunedin, FL
Fort Myers Miracle	Fort Myers, FL
Lakeland Flying Tigers	Lakeland, FL
Sarasota Reds	Sarasota, FL
Tampa Yankees	Tampa, FL

Table 19-10 Midwest League Teams (High A Level)

Eastern Division	
Team	Location
Dayton Dragons	Dayton, OH
Fort Wayne Wizards	Fort Wayne, IN
Lansing Lugnuts	Lansing, MI
South Bend Silver Hawks	South Bend, IN
Great Lakes Loons	Midland, MI
West Michigan Whitecaps	Comstock Park, MI
Western Division	
Team	Location
Beloit Snappers	Beloit, WI
Burlington Bees	Burlington, IA
Cedar Rapids Kernels	Cedar Rapids, IA
Clinton LumberKings	Clinton, IA
Kane County Cougars	Geneva, IL
Peoria Chiefs	Peoria, IL
Quad Cities River Bandits	Davenport, IA
Wisconsin Timber Rattlers	Appleton, WI

Table 19-12 New York-Penn League Teams (Low A Level)

McNamara Division	
Team	Location
Aberdeen IronBirds	Lutherville, MD
Brooklyn Cyclones	Brooklyn, NY
Hudson Valley Renegades	Wappinger Falls, NY
Staten Island Yankees	Staten Island, NY
Pickney Division	
Team	Location
Auburn Doubledays	Auburn, NY
Batavia Muckdogs	Batavia, NY
Jamestown Jammers	Jamestown, NY
Mahoning Valley Scrappers	Niles, OH
State College Spikes	University Park, PA
Williamsport Cross Cutters	Williamsport, PA
Stedler Division	
Team	Location
Lowell Spinners	Lowell, MA
Oneonta Tigers	Oneonta, NY
Tri-City ValleyCats	Troy, NY
Vermont Lake Monsters	Winooski, VT

Table 19-11 South Atlantic League Teams (High A Level)

Northern Division	
Team	Location
Delmarva Shorebirds	Salisbury, MD
Greensboro Grasshoppers	Greensboro, NC
Hagerstown Suns	Hagerstown, MD
Hickory Crawdads	Hickory, NC
Lake County Captains	Eastlake, OH
Lakewood BlueClaws	Lakewood, NJ
Lexington Legends	Lexington, KY
West Virginia Power	Charleston, WV
Southern Division	
Team	Location
Asheville Tourists	Asheville, NC
Augusta GreenJackets	Augusta, GA
Charleston RiverDogs	Charleston, SC
Columbus Catfish	Columbus, GA
Greenville Drive	Greenville, SC
Kannapolis Intimidators	Kannapolis, NC
Rome Braves	Rome, GA
Savannah Sand Gnats	Savannah, GA

Table 19-13 Northwest League Teams (Low A Level)

East Division	
Team	Location
Boise Hawks	Boise, ID
Spokane Indians	Spokane, WA
Tri-City Dust Devils	Kennewick, WA
Yakima Bears	Yakima, WA
West Division	
Team	Location
Eugene Emeralds	Eugene, OR
Everett AquaSox	Everett, WA
Salem-Keizer Volcanoes	Keizer, OR
Vancouver Canadians	Vancouver, British Columbia

Table 19-14 Appalachian League Teams (Rookie Level)

East Division	
Team	Location
Bluefield Orioles	Bluefield, WV
Burlington Royals	Burlington, NC
Danville Braves	Danville, VA
Princeton Devil Rays	Princeton, WV
West Division	
Team	Location
Bristol Sox	Bristol, VA
Elizabethton Twins	Elizabethton, TN
Johnson City Cardinals	Johnson City, TN
Kingsport Mets	Kingsport, TN
Pulaski Blue Jays	Pulaski, VA

Table 19-15 Arizona League Teams (Rookie Level)

Team	Location
Arizona League Angels	Tempe, AZ
Arizona League Athletics	Phoenix, AZ
Arizona League Cubs	Mesa, AZ
Arizona League Giants	Scottsdale, AZ
Arizona League Mariners	Peoria, AZ
Arizona League Padres	Peoria, AZ
Arizona League Royals	Surprise, AZ
Arizona League Rangers	Surprise, AZ

Table 19-17 Pioneer League Teams (Rookie Level)

Northern Division	
Team	Location
Billings Mustangs	Billings, MT
Great Falls Voyagers	Great Falls, MT
Helena Brewers	Helena, MT
Missoula Osprey	Missoula, MT
Southern Division	
Team	Location
Casper Ghosts	Casper, WY
Idaho Falls Chukars	Idaho Falls, ID
Ogden Raptors	Ogden, UT
Orem Owlz	Orem, UT

Overview of the World Baseball Classic

The World Baseball Classic (WBC) is a World Cup–style competition between 16 countries. It started in 2006 and is scheduled to be held every 3 years. Established by MLB and the MLBPA, the WBC is designed to increase worldwide exposure of the game of baseball, increase global interest, and introduce new fans and players to the game. The tournament is sanctioned by the International Baseball Federation (IBAF) and is run in conjunction with Nippon Professional Baseball (NPB), the Korea Baseball Organization, their respective professional player associations, and other professional leagues from around the world. Each national federation is responsible for selecting the players that will represent their country. In 2006, nearly 60% of the players participating in the WBC played in Major League Baseball. The 16 teams compete in a bracket-style format in four groups, with the top two teams from each group moving on to the next round, similar to the World Cup soccer format. There are two rounds of pool competition and then a semi-final round and championship game between the remaining two teams. In 2006, WBC games were played in Japan, Puerto Rico, and the United States, with Japan defeating Cuba in the championship game 10–6 in San Diego.

Table 19-16 Gulf Coast League Teams (Rookie Level)

East Division	
Team	Location
GCL Cardinals	Jupiter, FL
GCL Dodgers	Vero Beach, FL
GCL Marlins	Jupiter, FL
GCL Mets	Port St. Lucie, FL
GCL Nationals	Melbourne, FL
North Division	
Team	Location
GCL Braves	Kissimmee, FL
GCL Blue Jays	Dunedin, FL
GCL Indians	Winter Haven, FL
GCL Phillies	Clearwater, FL
GCL Tigers	Lakeland, FL
GCL Yankees	Tampa, FL
South Division	
Team	Location
GCL Orioles	Sarasota, FL
GCL Pirates	Bradenton, FL
GCL Reds	Sarasota, FL
GCL Red Sox	Fort Myers, FL
GCL Twins	Fort Myers, FL

The inaugural WBC was played in March 2006 and was a success at many levels. The total attendance was 737,112 with tournament profits estimated to be \$10–\$15 million. The profits were distributed to the participating countries with a stipulation that at least half of the money go towards the country's baseball federation. For the United States, MLB and the MLBPA split the other half of the profits. However, the tournament had several issues and concerns that will be addressed in the planning of the next WBC in 2009, such as the scheduling of the event during spring training; the tie breaker format, which could end the game with a tie; the questionable umpiring; and poor attendance in Japan.

Structure for the 2006 World Baseball Classic

Competition Format

- See **Table 19-18** for the 2009 roster.
- Round 1 features four pools of four teams each.
 - Every team will compete against each team in its assigned pool.
 - The top two teams by record will advance to the next round.

Table 19-18 WBC Teams (2009)

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
China	Australia	Canada	Dominican Republic
Chinese Taipei	Cuba	Italy	The Netherlands
Japan	Mexico	United States	Panama
Korea	South Africa	Venezuela	Puerto Rico

- Round 2 features two pools of four teams each.
 - Every team will compete against each team in its assigned pool.
 - The top two teams by record will advance to the semi-final round.
- Semi-final round
 - The winners of the semi-final games will compete in the final game.
- A total of 39 games were played.

Schedule

- Games were played at the following sites in 2006:
 - Round 1
 - Tokyo Dome: Tokyo, Japan
 - Hiram Bithorn Stadium: San Juan, Puerto Rico
 - The Ballpark at Disney's Wide World of Sports Complex: Orlando, Florida
 - Chase Field: Phoenix, Arizona
 - Scottsdale Stadium: Scottsdale, Arizona
 - Round 2
 - Hiram Bithorn Stadium: San Juan, Puerto Rico
 - Angel Stadium: Anaheim, California
 - Semi-finals and final round
 - PETCO Park: San Diego, California

Money Matters for the World Baseball Classic

Sources of Revenues

- Gate receipts
 - 737,112 fans attended WBC games, with prices ranging from \$15 to \$60 per ticket.
- Television broadcasting
 - ESPN, ESPN2, and ESPN Deportes aired all 39 games in 2006.
- Radio
 - XM had rights to all 39 games in 2006.

- Sponsorship
 - The WBC negotiated corporate sponsorship deals with a list of 26 global and regional companies. There were four U.S. companies: Anheuser-Busch, Gatorade, MasterCard, and MBNA. Some of the other participating sponsors included Konami, Asahi, Sun-Com, Banco Mercantil, and Presidente.
- Merchandise/licensing:
 - Rawlings was the official supplier of baseballs and gloves.
 - New Era was the official supplier of hats.
 - Louisville Slugger was the official supplier of bats.
 - Majestic Athletics was the official jersey supplier.

Expenses

- Operating costs were split by MLB and the MLBPA.

INDEPENDENT LEAGUES¹³

The Independent Leagues are the professional baseball teams and leagues that do not have an affiliation with Minor League Baseball or Major League Baseball. There are a total of 10 Independent Leagues (American Association, Atlantic, Canadian-American [Can-Am], Continental, Frontier, Golden Baseball, New York State, Northern, South Coast, and United)—see **Tables 19-19 through 19-28**. The level of play is comparable to the A to AA level for Minor League Baseball. Most teams are independently owned and operated and strive to provide fans affordable family entertainment in selected cities.

Many of the players are former minor leaguers trying to earn a spot with an MLB organization, and some players merely want to continue their careers part-time as a professional baseball player. Some players are still looking to earn a spot with an affiliated minor league team and are continuing to develop.

Job opportunities with Independent League teams are similar to those with affiliated minor leagues; however because most teams' budgets are much smaller than affiliated minor leagues there are fewer opportunities, on average. Job responsibilities include sales/marketing, promotions, game day operations, facility management, concessions, and administration.

Table 19-19 Atlantic League Teams

Liberty Division	
Team	Location
Bridgeport Bluefish	Bridgeport, CT
Camden Riversharks	Camden, NJ
Long Island Ducks	Central Islip, NY
Southern Maryland Blue Crabs	Waldorf, MD
American Division	
Team	Location
Lancaster Barnstormers	Lancaster, PA
Newark Bears	Newark, NJ
Somerset Patriots	Bridgewater, NJ
York Revolution	York, PA

Table 19-21 Canadian American League Teams

Team	Location
Atlantic City Surf	Atlantic City, NJ
Brockton Rox	Brockton, MA
Nashua Pride	Nashua, NH
New Jersey Jackals	Little Falls, NJ
Ottawa Rapids	Ottawa, Ontario
Quebec Les Capitales	Quebec City, Quebec
Sussex Skyhawks	Augusta, NJ
Worcester Tornadoes	Worcester, MA

Table 19-23 Frontier League Teams

East Division	
Team	Location
Chillicothe Paints	Chillicothe, OH
Florence Freedom	Florence, KY
Kalamazoo Kings	Kalamazoo, MI
Midwest Sliders	Waterford, MI
Traverse City Beach Bums	Traverse City, MI
Washington Wild Things	Washington, PA
West Division	
Team	Location
Evansville Otters	Evansville, IN
Gateway Grizzlies	Sauget, IL
River City Rascals	O'Fallon, MO
Rockford RiverHawks	Rockford, IL
Southern Illinois Miners	Marion, IL
Windy City ThunderBolts	Crestwood, IL

Table 19-25 New York State League Teams

Team	Location
Herkimer Trailbusters	Herkimer, NY
Oneida Barge Bucs	Oneida, NY
Rome Coppers	Rome, NY
Utica Brewmasters	Utica, NY

Table 19-20 American Association Teams

North Division	
Team	Location
Lincoln Saltdogs	Lincoln, NE
Sioux City Explorers	Sioux City, IA
Sioux Falls Canaries	Sioux Falls, SD
St. Paul Saints	St. Paul, MN
Wichita Wingnuts	Wichita, KS
South Division	
Team	Location
El Paso Diablos	El Paso, TX
Fort Worth Cats	Fort Worth, TX
Grand Prairie AirHogs	Grand Prairie, TX
Pensacola Pelicans	Gulf Breeze, FL
Shreveport Sports	Shreveport, LA

Table 19-22 Continental Baseball League Teams

Team	Location
Bay Area Torros	League City, TX
Corpus Christi Beach Dogs	Corpus Christi, TX
Tarrant County Blue Thunder	Tarrant County, TX
Texarkana Gunslingers	Texarkana, TX

Table 19-24 Golden Baseball League Teams

North Division	
Team	Location
Calgary Vipers	Calgary, Alberta
Chico Outlaws	Chico, CA
Edmonton Cracker Cats	Edmonton, Alberta
Reno SilverSox	Reno, NV
South Division	
Team	Location
Long Beach Armada	Long Beach, CA
Orange County Flyers	Fullerton, CA
St. George Roadrunners	St. George, UT
Yuma Scorpions	Yuma, AZ

Table 19-26 Northern League Teams

Team	Location
Fargo-Moorehead Redhawks	Fargo, ND
Gary Southshore Railcats	Gary, IN
Joliet Jackhammers	Joliet, IL
Kansas City T-Bones	Kansas City, KS
Schaumburg Flyers	Schaumburg, IL
Winnipeg Goldeyes	Winnipeg, Manitoba

Table 19-27 South Coast League Teams

Team	Location
Aiken Foxhounds	Aiken, SC
Anderson Joes	Anderson, SC
Bradenton Juice	Bradenton, FL
Charlotte County Red Fish	Port Charlotte, FL
Macon Music	Macon GA
South Georgia Peanuts	Albany, GA

Table 19-28 United League Teams

Team	Location
Alexandria Aces	Alexandria, LA
Amarillo Dillas	Amarillo, TX
Edinburg Coyotes	Edinburg, TX
Laredo Broncos	Laredo, TX
Harlingen WhiteWings	Harlingen, TX
San Angelo Colts	San Angelo, TX

Endnotes

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