

# baseball facts and history

Baseball Facts and History: Exploring the Roots and Evolution of America's Pastime

**baseball facts and history** reveal a fascinating journey that dates back centuries, weaving together culture, competition, and community. Whether you're a die-hard fan, a curious newcomer, or someone interested in sports history, understanding baseball's origins and its incredible evolution offers a unique glimpse into one of the most beloved sports in the world.

## The Origins of Baseball: Where Did It All Begin?

While many people associate baseball with America, the story of the game's origin is a bit more complex and intriguing. Historians often trace baseball's roots to older bat-and-ball games played in Europe, such as rounders and cricket. These games were brought to North America by immigrants during the 18th and 19th centuries, gradually morphing into the sport we know today.

## The Knickerbocker Rules and the Birth of Modern Baseball

One of the pivotal moments in baseball history occurred in 1845 when Alexander Cartwright and the Knickerbocker Base Ball Club formalized a set of rules that laid the groundwork for modern baseball. These "Knickerbocker Rules" introduced important changes such as three-strikes rules, bases set 90 feet apart, and nine-player teams. This codification helped transform baseball from a casual pastime into an organized sport.

## Baseball's Spread Across America in the 19th Century

Throughout the late 1800s, baseball rapidly gained popularity across the United States. The establishment of professional teams and leagues, including the National League in 1876, helped solidify baseball's place in American culture. It became known as "America's pastime" partly because it was accessible to all social classes and regions, offering a unifying social experience.

# **Iconic Moments and Milestones in Baseball History**

Baseball history is peppered with unforgettable moments that have shaped the sport and captivated fans for generations. These milestones not only highlight the evolution of the game but also reflect broader social changes.

## **The First World Series: A New Era of Competition**

In 1903, the first official World Series was played between the Boston Americans and the Pittsburgh Pirates. This championship series created a thrilling climax to the baseball season and became an annual tradition that symbolizes the highest level of achievement in Major League Baseball (MLB).

## **Breaking the Color Barrier: Jackie Robinson's Legacy**

One of the most significant and inspiring chapters in baseball facts and history is Jackie Robinson's integration into MLB in 1947. Robinson became the first African American to play in the major leagues in the modern era, shattering the color barrier and paving the way for racial equality in sports. His courage and talent forever changed the landscape of baseball and American society.

## **Record-Breaking Feats and Legendary Players**

The sport has been home to many legendary players whose records and achievements still resonate today. Babe Ruth's towering home runs, Hank Aaron's pursuit of the home run record, and Nolan Ryan's strikeout dominance are just a few examples. These athletes not only defined their eras but also inspired countless fans and future players.

## **Understanding the Game: Key Rules and Gameplay Evolution**

Baseball's rules have evolved over time, reflecting changes in strategy, technology, and fan engagement. Learning the basics of the game enhances appreciation for its nuances and the skill involved.

## **Basic Gameplay and Positions**

At its core, baseball is a game between two teams of nine players each. The offensive team aims to score runs by hitting a pitched ball and running around four bases arranged in a diamond. The defensive team tries to prevent this by getting batters or runners out through catches, tag outs, or force outs.

## **Rule Changes That Shaped Modern Baseball**

Over the decades, adjustments like the introduction of the designated hitter in the American League in 1973, changes in pitching mound height, and instant replay reviews have kept the game fresh and balanced. These changes reflect baseball's ability to adapt while preserving its rich traditions.

## **The Cultural Impact of Baseball: More Than Just a Game**

Baseball is deeply woven into the American identity, influencing music, literature, and social movements. It serves as a backdrop for countless personal and collective stories that resonate beyond the diamond.

## **Baseball in American Literature and Film**

From novels like "The Natural" to movies like "Field of Dreams," baseball has inspired creative works that explore themes of hope, struggle, and redemption. These stories often capture the emotional connection fans feel toward the game, highlighting its role as a metaphor for life.

## **Baseball and Community: Local Teams and Youth Programs**

Local baseball leagues and youth programs play an essential role in communities, providing opportunities for social interaction, physical activity, and skill development. These grassroots efforts keep the sport alive and thriving, nurturing the next generation of players and fans.

# Interesting Baseball Facts That Might Surprise You

Baseball's long history is full of quirky and lesser-known facts that add to its charm and mystique.

- The longest professional baseball game lasted 33 innings and was played in 1981 between the Pawtucket Red Sox and Rochester Red Wings.
- "Take me out to the ballgame" was written in 1908 and has become an unofficial anthem for baseball fans worldwide.
- The baseball used in MLB games is hand-stitched and takes about an hour to make.
- In early baseball history, pitchers threw underhand until overhand pitching was legalized in the 1880s.
- The Chicago Cubs famously endured a 108-year World Series championship drought before winning again in 2016.

These tidbits illustrate baseball's rich tapestry and the unique traditions that make it beloved across generations.

## Baseball Today: The Game's Ongoing Evolution

Modern baseball continues to evolve with advancements in analytics, technology, and global influence. Sabermetrics, the use of statistical analysis to evaluate players and strategies, has revolutionized how teams build rosters and approach games. Technology like instant replay and advanced training methods keep the sport competitive and engaging.

Moreover, baseball's international reach has expanded tremendously. Players from countries like Japan, the Dominican Republic, Venezuela, and South Korea have become stars, bringing global attention and diversity to the MLB.

Baseball's rich history and evolving present combine to make it a sport that honors its past while embracing innovation. Whether it's the crack of the bat or the roar of the crowd, baseball remains a timeless symbol of passion, perseverance, and community spirit.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## When and where was baseball first invented?

Baseball is believed to have been invented in the United States in the early 19th century, with the first recorded game taking place in 1846 in Hoboken, New Jersey.

## Who is known as the 'Father of Baseball'?

Abner Doubleday was long credited as the 'Father of Baseball,' but historians now recognize Alexander Cartwright for formalizing the modern rules of the game.

## What is the significance of the 1903 World Series?

The 1903 World Series was the first modern World Series played between the American League and National League champions, establishing the annual championship tradition.

## Who holds the record for the most career home runs in Major League Baseball?

Barry Bonds holds the MLB record for the most career home runs with 762.

## What is the origin of the term 'strikeout' in baseball?

The term 'strikeout' originated in the 19th century and refers to a batter accumulating three strikes during an at-bat, resulting in an out.

## How did Jackie Robinson impact baseball history?

Jackie Robinson broke Major League Baseball's color barrier in 1947, becoming the first African American player in the modern era and paving the way for integration.

## What are the dimensions of a standard baseball field?

A standard baseball field has 90 feet between bases, with the pitcher's mound 60 feet 6 inches from home plate; outfield dimensions vary by ballpark.

## When was the designated hitter rule introduced in

## **baseball?**

The designated hitter (DH) rule was introduced in the American League in 1973 to allow a player to bat in place of the pitcher.

## **Who was the first player to reach 3,000 hits in MLB history?**

Cap Anson was the first player to reach 3,000 career hits in Major League Baseball.

## **What is the significance of the 1919 Black Sox Scandal?**

The 1919 Black Sox Scandal involved eight Chicago White Sox players accused of intentionally losing the World Series in exchange for money from gamblers, leading to major reforms in baseball governance.

## **Additional Resources**

Baseball Facts and History: An In-Depth Exploration of America's Pastime

**baseball facts and history** reveal a sport deeply embedded in American culture, evolving through centuries from informal bat-and-ball games to the highly organized professional leagues known today. The history of baseball is as rich and varied as its gameplay, marked by significant milestones, legendary figures, and cultural shifts. Understanding these elements offers insight not only into the sport itself but also into broader social and economic developments in the United States and beyond.

## **The Origins and Evolution of Baseball**

The origins of baseball have long been subject to debate among historians and enthusiasts, with various claims tracing the sport's roots back to older bat-and-ball games played in England, such as rounders and cricket. However, the modern form of baseball is generally credited to the United States in the 19th century. One pivotal figure often mentioned is Alexander Cartwright, who in 1845 formalized a set of rules for a game played in New York, which laid the groundwork for contemporary baseball.

While the myth that Abner Doubleday invented baseball in Cooperstown, New York, in 1839 persists, most scholars acknowledge that the sport's development was gradual, influenced by multiple regional variations. The first recorded baseball game under Cartwright's rules took place in 1846, highlighting a transition from informal recreational play to organized competition.

# The Rise of Professional Baseball

By the late 1800s, baseball transitioned from amateur clubs to professional teams, culminating in the establishment of the National League (NL) in 1876. This marked a key moment in the sport's history, introducing a structured league system that would become a model for professional sports organizations worldwide. The American League (AL) followed in 1901, and the two leagues eventually agreed to cooperate, leading to the creation of the World Series in 1903.

The expansion of professional baseball during this period also reflects broader societal changes, including urbanization and the rise of mass entertainment. Baseball stadiums became communal gathering places, and players began to achieve celebrity status. Notably, the integration of baseball, which occurred decades later, mirrored significant civil rights advancements in American society.

## Key Baseball Facts and Historical Milestones

Understanding baseball's history involves recognizing several important facts and milestones that shaped the sport's trajectory. Below are some of the most significant:

- **The Dead-ball Era (1900–1920):** Characterized by low-scoring games and an emphasis on strategy, bunting, and stolen bases rather than home runs.
- **The Live-ball Era (1920 onwards):** Marked by an increase in offensive output and the emergence of power hitters like Babe Ruth, who revolutionized the game with his home run hitting prowess.
- **Integration of Baseball (1947):** Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier by joining the Brooklyn Dodgers, a pivotal moment in both sports and American civil rights history.
- **Expansion and Globalization:** Beginning in the 1960s, Major League Baseball (MLB) expanded into new markets, including Canada, and began attracting international talent, particularly from Latin America and Asia.

These milestones not only demonstrate the evolution of gameplay and league structure but also highlight baseball's role as a reflection of changing social dynamics.

# Influential Players and Their Impact

The history of baseball is punctuated by iconic players whose achievements and personalities helped define the sport. Babe Ruth, known as “The Sultan of Swat,” transformed baseball into a power-hitting spectacle, while players like Ty Cobb set early standards for competitive excellence with their aggressive playing styles.

Jackie Robinson’s career transcended sports, as his resilience and talent challenged racial segregation, paving the way for generations of African American athletes. More recent legends such as Hank Aaron, who broke Babe Ruth’s home run record, and Derek Jeter, a symbol of consistency and leadership, continue to shape baseball’s narrative.

# Baseball’s Cultural Significance and Economic Impact

Baseball is often called “America’s pastime” not merely for its popularity but for its deep cultural resonance. The sport has inspired countless works of art, literature, and film, capturing themes of perseverance, teamwork, and the American dream. Its seasonal rhythm—spring training, summer games, and the fall playoffs—has become part of the national fabric.

Economically, baseball generates billions of dollars annually through ticket sales, broadcasting rights, merchandise, and sponsorships. Major League Baseball operates as a major driver of local economies, particularly in cities with large stadiums and dedicated fan bases. However, the sport also faces challenges such as fluctuating attendance, competition from other entertainment forms, and labor disputes that have at times disrupted seasons.

# Technological Advances and Baseball Analytics

In recent decades, baseball has embraced technology and data analytics to enhance both player performance and fan engagement. The advent of sabermetrics, a statistical approach to evaluating players and strategies, has revolutionized team management and scouting. Concepts like WAR (Wins Above Replacement) and launch angle analysis have shifted how teams build rosters and approach gameplay.

Additionally, advances in broadcasting technology, including high-definition and virtual reality, have transformed the viewing experience. Fans now access games via multiple platforms, increasing the sport’s global reach and accessibility.

# Comparisons with Other Bat-and-Ball Sports

While baseball shares similarities with games like cricket and softball, key differences shape its unique identity. Baseball's innings structure, pitching style, and field dimensions distinguish it from cricket's overs and continuous play. Softball, often considered a derivative of baseball, features a smaller field and underhand pitching, catering to different skill sets and competitive environments.

These distinctions affect gameplay pace, strategy, and cultural associations. Baseball's emphasis on individual matchups between pitcher and batter, combined with team coordination, creates a dynamic that balances personal skill with collective effort.

## Challenges and the Future of Baseball

Despite its storied past and enduring popularity, baseball faces contemporary challenges that may influence its future direction. Attendance at ballparks has seen fluctuations, partly due to changing consumer preferences and competition from faster-paced sports like basketball and football. The length of games and pace of play have been cited as barriers to attracting younger audiences.

In response, MLB has experimented with rule changes such as pitch clocks, limiting mound visits, and modifying extra-inning procedures to enhance game flow. Furthermore, ongoing efforts to diversify the player base and globalize the sport aim to sustain baseball's relevance in a competitive entertainment landscape.

The integration of technology, evolving fan engagement strategies, and a commitment to preserving baseball's traditions will likely shape how the sport continues to evolve in the 21st century.

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Baseball's rich tapestry of history, culture, and innovation underscores its status as more than just a game. Its facts and history intertwine with broader narratives of social change, technological progress, and economic development, making it a compelling subject for both enthusiasts and scholars alike. As the sport continues to adapt, its legacy remains a testament to the enduring appeal of a game that has captured hearts for generations.

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sport can begin to compare to the rich history and statistical record of baseball. It is part of what makes the game so alluring. In "Moments in Baseball History," Mark R. Brewer examines twenty-two memorable games and the player at the center of that game. It should prove a feast for baseball fans.

**baseball facts and history: USA Facts & Trivia: 1000 Intriguing Insights into America's History and Culture** Lauren Soto, Discover a treasure trove of 1000 fascinating facts and trivia that will ignite your curiosity and deepen your understanding of the United States. From its captivating history to its diverse culture, this comprehensive guide unveils the hidden gems that shape the American experience. This book delves into the nation's past, present, and future, revealing little-known stories, surprising statistics, and thought-provoking anecdotes. Explore the birth of the nation, the triumphs and trials of its people, and the evolution of American identity. Learn about the iconic landmarks, cultural milestones, and quirky customs that make America such an exceptional place. Beyond its historical significance, this book also celebrates the vibrant tapestry of American culture. From music and art to sports and cuisine, discover the diverse expressions that define the American spirit. With every page, you'll gain a new perspective on the nation's aspirations, achievements, and enduring legacy. Whether you're a trivia enthusiast, a history buff, or simply curious about the land of the free and the home of the brave, USA Facts & Trivia promises an engaging and enriching journey that will expand your knowledge and ignite your passion for America.

**baseball facts and history: Baseball's Origin Story** Matt Chandler, 2025 Follow the sport of baseball from its early days until today. Learn how the sport has changed along the way and who has changed it.

**baseball facts and history: Baseball's Creation Myth** Brian Martin, 2013-05-28 The story about baseball's being invented in Cooperstown, New York, in 1839 by Abner Doubleday served to prove that the U.S. national pastime was an American game, not derived from the English children's game of rounders as had been believed. The tale, embraced by Americans, has long been proven false but to this day, Cooperstown is celebrated as the birthplace of baseball. The story has captured the hearts of millions. But who spun that tale and why? This book provides a surprising answer about the origins of America's most durable myth. It seems that Abner Graves, who espoused Cooperstown as the birthplace of the game, likely was inspired by another story about an early game of baseball. The stories were remarkably similar, as were the men who told them. For the first time, this book links the stories and lives of Graves, a mining engineer, and Adam Ford, a medical doctor, both residents of Denver, Colorado. While the actual origins of the game of baseball remain subject to debate and study, new light is shed on the source of baseball's durable creation myth.

**baseball facts and history: The 50 Greatest Athletes in Boston Sports History** Martin Gitlin, 2025-05-06 Boston fans are passionate about sports and are proud of their players and teams, all of which have enjoyed tremendous success through the years. In *The 50 Greatest Athletes in Boston Sports History*, Martin Gitlin ranks the top 50 superstars in the city's rich sports history with legends like Tom Brady, Bill Russell, Bobby Orr, Ted Williams, and Larry Bird. Reaching beyond Red Sox, Patriots, Celtics, and Bruins heroes, it ranks many stars who emerged from the Boston area such as Rocky Marciano, Pat Bradley, Marvin Hagler, and Rebecca Lobo as well. *The 50 Greatest Athletes in Boston Sports History* details their contributions to championships, records broken, sheer athletic brilliance, leadership traits, big events in which the athletes rose to the occasion, and overall impact on the Boston sports scene.

**baseball facts and history: Abner Doubleday and Baseball's Beginning** Nel Yomtov, 2021 Step up to the plate and separate fact from fiction in baseball's origins! Did Abner Doubleday really create America's favorite pastime, or does this story strike out? Learn all you can about baseball's beginnings with infographics, primary sources, and expertly leveled text--

**baseball facts and history: Super Baseball Infographics** Eric Braun, 2015-01-01 Keeping track of all the fascinating baseball facts and statistics can make your head spin faster than a curveball. You hear about blazing speeds (the average Major League fastball is 92 miles per hour),

huge numbers (Barry Bonds hit 762 home runs), and powerful dynasties (the New York Yankees have won the World Series 27 times). Engaging infographics relate facts and key concepts about baseball, from how pitchers throw a curve ball to the crucial timing of a home run. Detailed data art allows readers to visualize important baseball concepts and explore notable aspects of America's Favorite Pastime. The vibrant infographics on each spread appeal to struggling readers and help them analyze and interpret baseball information and statistics.

**baseball facts and history: The Baseball Ultimate Trivia Book** Vincent Spada, 2025-04-01 Put your baseball expertise to the test with over 600 trivia questions, accompanied by entertaining illustrations capturing your favorite baseball moments throughout history. Quiz yourself or compete with your friends! With challenging questions from baseball history, The Baseball Ultimate Trivia Book is the perfect way to show off your knowledge and prove your superfan status. Arranged by MLB team, with additional quizzes at the end covering baseball history, stats, and more, this delightful book allows you to relive your favorite baseball moments whenever the mood strikes. Covering legendary players like Babe Ruth, Mickey Mantle, Willie Mays, and more, The Baseball Ultimate Trivia Book brings the field to your home with copious facts on your favorite games, players, their lives on and off the field, and so much more. Perfect for your coffee table or as a gift, to enjoy solo or in a group, this beautifully designed book includes: Famous firsts for almost every aspect of baseball history Rookie sensations and first-year wonders Celebrated pitchers and their remarkable accomplishments on the mound Notable players and teams who left their mark in the record books Baseball's all-time greats enshrined in Cooperstown Whether you're just getting into baseball or you've been a baseball fanatic for years, The Baseball Ultimate Trivia Book will uplift and amuse you with its quizzes, interesting facts, captivating illustrations, and exclusive content. So test your baseball knowledge and become the ultimate superfan!

**baseball facts and history: A History of Cuban Baseball, 1864-2006** Peter C. Bjarkman, 2014-06-17 When Cuba met Japan in the finals of Major League Baseball's 2006 World Baseball Classic (WBC), many among the international audience were shocked that a purported "amateur" team could challenge for the sport's first true world championship. But those who had paid attention to international tournaments were hardly surprised by Cuba's strong showing against all-star teams of Puerto Rican, Dominican, Venezuelan, and U.S. major leaguers. The undisputed champions of global baseball, Cuba had reigned supreme for better than a half-century at the avowed American national game. In this groundbreaking volume, Peter Bjarkman traces the full arc of island baseball history, from the pioneering era of integrated play in the winter leagues, across the many triumphs of the post-revolution decades, and up through Cuba's initial WBC triumphs.

**baseball facts and history: Que's Official Internet Yellow Pages** Joe Kraynak, 2005 Information online is not stored or organized in any logical fashion, but this reference attempts to organize and catalog a small portion of the Web in a single resource of the best sites in each category.

**baseball facts and history: Global Sports** Frank P. Jozsa, 2009 --Book Jacket.

**baseball facts and history: American History through American Sports** Bob Batchelor, Danielle Sarver Coombs, 2012-12-18 Filled with insightful analysis and compelling arguments, this book considers the influence of sports on popular culture and spotlights the fascinating ways in which sports culture and American culture intersect. This collection blends historical and popular culture perspectives in its analysis of the development of sports and sports figures throughout American history. American History through American Sports: From Colonial Lacrosse to Extreme Sports is unique in that it focuses on how each sport has transformed and influenced society at large, demonstrating how sports and popular culture are intrinsically entwined and the ways they both reflect larger societal transformations. The essays in the book are wide-ranging, covering topics of interest for sports fans who enjoy the NFL and NASCAR as well as those who like tennis and watching the Olympics. Many topics feature information about specific sports icons and favorite heroes. Additionally, many of the topics' treatments prompt engagement by purposely challenging the reader to either agree or disagree with the author's analysis.

**baseball facts and history: Sports, Exercise, and Fitness** Mary Beth Allen, 2005-03-30 For

reference librarians and researchers seeking information on sports and fitness, this guide is an important first stop. For collection development specialists, it is an invaluable selection guide. Allen describes and evaluates over 1,000 information sources on the complete spectrum of sports: from basketball, football, and hockey to figure skating, table tennis, and weight training. Focusing on English-language works published between 1990 and the present, the guide thoroughly covers traditional reference sources, such as encyclopedias and bibliographies, along with instructional sources in print formats, online databases, and Web sites. To enable users in search of information on specific sports or fitness activities, chapters are organized thematically, according to broad-type aquatic sports, nautical sports, precision and accuracy, racket sports, ice and snow sports, ball sports, cycling, and so on, with subcategories for such individual sports as soccer, golf, and yoga. Within these categories, works are further organized by type: reference, instructional, and Web sites.

**baseball facts and history:** Catalog of Copyright Entries, Third Series Library of Congress. Copyright Office, 1948

**baseball facts and history:** *The 2006 Yankees* Scott Trocchia, 2009-10 The New York Yankees are a dynasty, but since the end of the 2001 season, the franchise has slowly lost its power to win or even get to the World Series consistently. This story specifically examines the Yankees 2006 season, one in which the individual players did not form a cohesive team. Through a player by player analysis, the author proves that individual strengths and weaknesses turned into a team meltdown. Could any player on the 2006 roster save his team from shooting itself in the foot?

**baseball facts and history:** **Big League Trivia** Madison McEntire, 2006-02-23 Big League Trivia - Facts, Figures, Oddities, and Coincidences from our National Pastime is a unique trivia book divided into twenty-four chapters dealing with various areas of the great game of major league baseball. Chapters include: All-Star Game, Award Winners, Ballparks, Coincidences, Debuts, Family, Golden Oldies, Home Run Feats, League Leaders, Managers, Milestones, Moment of Glory, No-Hitters, Oddities, One and Only, Opening Day, Pitching Feats, Runs Batted In, So Close, Teams, Triples, Two of a Kind and World Series and Playoffs. Rather than using a simple question-and-answer format, the material in Big League Trivia is presented in sentence form varying in length from a single line to an entire paragraph to give more detailed information on various items from major league baseball. The items covered in Big League Trivia span from the beginning of the modern baseball era in 1900 through the 2005 season and include everything from the most famous moments in baseball history to unusual coincidences and quirky statistical oddities that only baseball can produce.

**baseball facts and history:** Milwaukee Braves William Povletich, 2012-08-22 During their thirteen years in Wisconsin, the Milwaukee Braves never endured a losing season, won two National League pennants, and in 1957 brought Milwaukee its only World Series championship. With a lineup featuring future Hall of Famers Henry Aaron, Warren Spahn, Eddie Matthews, Red Schoendienst, and Phil Niekro, the team immediately brought Milwaukee Big League credentials, won the hearts of fans, and shattered attendance records. The Braves' success in Milwaukee prompted baseball to redefine itself as a big business—resulting in franchises relocating west, multi-league expansion, and teams leveraging cities for civically funded stadiums. But the Braves' instant success and accolades made their rapid fall from grace after winning the 1957 world championship all the more stunning, as declining attendance led the team to Atlanta in one of the ugliest divorces between a city and baseball franchise in sports history. Featuring more than 100 captivating photos, many published here for the first time, Milwaukee Braves preserves the Braves' legacy for the team's many fans and introduces new generations to a fascinating chapter in sports history.

**baseball facts and history:** *Spitting on Diamonds* Clyde H. Hogg, 2005 Biography of early twentieth-century baseball pitcher, Bradley Hogg--Provided by publisher.

**baseball facts and history:** Baseball, Inc. Frank P. Jozsa, Jr., 2006-02-17 During the second half of the twentieth century, Major League Baseball and its affiliated minor leagues evolved from local and regional entities governing the play of America's favorite pastime to national business

organizations. The relocation of teams, league expansion, the advent of free agency and an influx of international players has made baseball big business, on an increasingly global scale. Focusing on the last fifty years, this work examines the past and present commercial elements of organized baseball, emphasizing the dual roles--competitive sport and profitable business--which the sport must now fulfill. Twenty-five essays cover five areas integral to the economic side of baseball: business and finance, human resources, international relations, management and leadership and sports marketing. Detailed discussions of the redistribution of revenues, the history of player unionization, aggressive global marketing, strategies of franchise owners and an evaluation of fan costs, among other topics introduce the reader to the important issues and specific challenges professional baseball faces in an increasingly crowded--yet geographically expansive--sports marketplace. The work is also indexed.

**baseball facts and history: Sports web encyclopaedia** C. Ashok, 2005

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