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The Origins of Baseball.

By Catherine Kenyeres

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No one knows for sure where baseball exacted originated. However, most baseball buffs will concur that the sport is based on the English game of rounders. In the United States, baseball became popular in the early 1800's, originally known as townball.

At a later date, the sport was renamed baseball.

Throughout this period of time, smaller communities formed teams, while larger cities formed leagues. There is some question as to who was the original founder of the rules of baseball. Some contend that Alexander Cartwright in 1845 published a list of rules, which are still in place today. However, others contend that it was Abner Doubleday who invented the game. However, most baseball historians believe Alexander Cartwright indeed originated baseball.

The first ever-recorded baseball duel was played in 1846 between Alexander Cartwright's Knickerbockers who play against the New York Baseball Club. The Knickerbockers lost the game at the Elysian Fields, in Hoboken, New Jersey. In 1857, a meeting has held and over 25 amateur teams from the Northeast clamored together to hash out rules among other things.

The next year, the National Association of BaseBall Players was formed and the teams, needing financial assistance to support the league, intermittently charged the fans an admission fee.

The 1860's brought about the Civil War and the interest in baseball, understandably, diminished. After the war, baseball's popularity began to grown better than ever. The league's growth resulted in fans being charged a regular admission fee to watch games. The fees were needed to support the league and the ongoing traveling. Winning became important. Although the league was comprised of amateurs, sponsors occasionally paid the players secretly so that the amateur players wouldn't leave the team. The idea of paid players eventually became the norm. Today, baseball is one of North America's favorite sports.

Catherine Kenyeres is a freelance writer and publisher for <http://www.best-4u-tickets.com>. Catherine has written numerous articles for the sports enthusiast.

Important Aspects Of A Baseball Coach

By Sintilia Miecevole

Being a baseball coach can be very rewarding. It is a big responsibility, though. You are basically the 'leader' of your team, and how you act will directly affect how the assistant coaches and the players act. There are some tips you can follow to make yourself a better baseball coach. These tips are:

1. Give everyone on your baseball team a responsibility. Make each and every person on the team feel if they don't do something, it won't get done! Any accomplishments made by a member of the team are shared by the whole team. (It is important to give recognition to individuals, though.)
2. Help everyone on your baseball team make good, informed decisions. As the baseball coach, you need to guide and teach the players to make the good decisions you want them to make. Don't bully the baseball team to do what you want them to do, just encourage them to do what is best.
3. Always treat your baseball team like they are winners! If your baseball players feel like winners, they will be more likely to win.
4. Let everyone on your baseball team know you care. Be interested in every individual baseball player. Encourage them and show them your support. Look at your behavior around your baseball team and evaluate it carefully.
5. Help your baseball team understand the meaning of playing with good sportsmanship! Good sportsmanship is just as important as winning. Make sure your baseball players understand the meaning of fair play from the moment you become their baseball coach.
6. Make sure you motivate and reward your baseball team players. Just knowing the basic skills and strategies of baseball won't necessarily make you a very good baseball coach. Being a baseball coach is truly more than just teaching these things. A really good coach can motivate a baseball team to do its best! Good baseball coaches understand and can empathize with the players' feelings of joy, anger, anxiety, frustration, and pride.
7. Don't make your baseball practices boring or repetitious. Shake up practices by playing games and teaching new techniques and plays. Since only 9 players can play at a time, make sure to keep the rest of the baseball team feeling useful by having them keep score or charting pitching and offence. Make sure to keep each baseball player feeling they have an important role in winning.
8. Make sure you have a plan for your baseball team. Just like a teacher needs to plan for the school year, a baseball coach needs a plan for the season. Having no plan is a sure road to failure.
9. Give your baseball team enough time to review things they have learned. Whether at the end of a practice or the end of a game, give your players time to review what has been learned and what could be improved upon. Keep the review as positive in tone as possible.
10. Make sure you communicate with your baseball team. If you cannot get across to your baseball

team what you want, how will they know what to do?

Sintilia Miecevole, host of

provides you with baseball information from

games, cards and equipment to teams, gloves, pictures and more. Be sure to visit

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