

The specific aims of this proposal are as follows:

1.) Portrayal and education of the original method with which base ball was played in ___(year)_____

- Base Ball developed from early ball and bat games with very loose rules where the shape of the field, number of bases and even number of players varied greatly.
- Base Ball as we know it today began in New York City with the writing of more formal rules by the Knickerbocker Club of New York City. These rules contained many of the rules that exist still today including a distance of 90 feet between bases, three outs per inning and more.
- In 1857 the first National Association was formed, known as The National Association of Base Ball Players. One of the rules of this association was that the game was to be played by amateurs and that no player was to ever be paid.
- In early baseball a runner was considered out if put out before touching a base or if the ball was caught either in the air or on one bound. In 1865 this rule was changed in that a ball in fair territory must be caught in the air whereas balls caught on a bound in foul territory would continue to be an out.
- In the era that we are portraying, the game was for exercise and to be played in a gentlemanly fashion. Fair play and comradery was the rule of the day.
- The home club treated the visitors as honored guest including providing a meal after the match was complete.

2.) Portrayal of 19th life in our own community.

- "The Club" will portray a Base Ball club of the area as they would have existed in _ (year) _____.
- The team will play by the rules of _ (1866) _____ to coincide with the _____ (year of the area/historical society you will be working with) _____ "The Club", in addition to portraying the game of Base Ball how it was played in that year, will also incorporate into their interpretations local history of the people who lived in__ (area/city of the historical society) _____.
- "The Club's" uniform not only will portray the proper attire of the local inhabitants but will also tie into the lifestyle and ancestry of the first settlers of what _____ would _____ become_____(city _____ you _____ are representing)_____.
- Museum members can also be taught the rules of the game and dress in period clothing to become sideline interpreters. This will help the spectators feel like

they are immersed in the experience. These members can also speak about the history of the area which will bring increased opportunities to increase membership.

- Museum members are also if desired able to become players for the club or can be trained to be umpires.
- Through a joint effort by "The Club" and Museum Members we will educate people not only on the early days of the game of Base Ball but on the early history of our home.

3.) Promoting the local history to the people of____ (area you represent) _____.

- "The Club" will participate in the annual parade to promote the club and museum by marching in the parade and handing out promotional materials.
- "The Club" will participate in the annual community events to build a strong sense of community.
- "The Club" will participate as requested in special events held by the Museum.
- "The Club" will participate as requested in other special events held by the Museum, and if requested, the city at large.
- "The Club" at away games will carry promotional materials and membership information for the Museum.

4.) The Vintage Base Ball Association

- The purpose of the association is to preserve and promote the game of Base Ball as it was played in its formative years.
- The member clubs are bound to present the game in accordance with the rules of the era and to display the highest standards of sportsmanship and gentlemanly behavior.
- With full membership in the association the club is provided with liability insurance.
- "The Club", with full membership, is provided with access to the full resources of the association including rules and information of other member clubs which will aid in scheduling matches.
- The association also offers individual memberships that members of the Historical Museum can purchase. These memberships also give access to the rules and other resources.