



# The Base Ball Player's Chronicle

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## Athletic vs. Atlantic, Money Ball - October 1866

By Eric Miklich

"The contest for the championship between the Athletic club [Philadelphia], of this city, and the Atlantic club, of Brooklyn, has been an absorbing topic of conversation for the last week, and if the weather holds fair, the meeting to-morrow will be the most exciting in the history of the game."(1) While there was some truth to this proclamation, The New York Times neglected to report on the most important feature of the match, the monetary aspect; which had become a priority. Since the Brooklyn vs. New York All-Star series held in Flushing, NY during the summer of 1858, three in all and the first to charge the spectators for admission, the public proved that they were willing to pay to watch important and high skill level baseball. That series led clubs to take strong measures to obtain the best players to produce the most return on their investment. The October 1866 series between the Athletics of Philadelphia and Atlantics was, to that point, the culmination of enticing players, arranging tours, promoting matches between top clubs and charging the public, all to maximize profit.

The Times was over promoting the match, which was to be held on October 1st in Philadelphia. The Atlantic Club, champions in 1864 and 1865, amassed a record of 47-0-1 during that period. In fact, dating back to the final three matches of the 1863 season through September 27, 1866, the Atlantic club produced a remarkable 56-2-1 record. However, with their two losses, both occurring in 1866 to the Irvington Club and then to the Eureka Club of Newark (both from New Jersey), their reign as champion was in jeopardy. Prior to the professional era, any club defeating the accepted champion, while they were considered champions (which at times was subjective), two out of three matches, allowed that club to carry the title of champion, until they were defeated two out of three matches.

The Athletics were far from a formidable opponent for the Atlantics. Although the Philadelphians produced their best season in 1865, 33-2, they were 0-4 against the Brooklynites since 1863 and had been outscored 112-68. The Athletics brought to life the true definition of a bully. They annihilated any club with less talent and struggled mightily against clubs equal to or better than they. Weak opponents appeared on their schedule almost six times more than competitive nines. Scheduling a multitude of inadequate opponents seemed to have mired their preparation for true competition. For instance, leading up to the match with the Atlantics on October 30 of 1865, the Athletics defeated three opponents, two on the same day, by scores of 101-8 and 162-14, then 104-7.(2) The Athletics proceeded to lose to the Atlantics on the 30th, 21-15. Sizable crowds and the promise of profit led the Athletics to arrange one-sided matches. The Athletics traveling show began in 1863 and they rarely appeared at an event that would not net them a return.

The Atlantics left Brooklyn on September 30 and arrived later that evening in Philadelphia. They were met by members of the Athletic club and taken to the American Hotel on Chestnut Street.(3) The Athletics could not have been happier to have the Long Islanders in town. "On the morning of the game, October 1, excited crowds gathered in the downtown streets. 8,000 tickets had been sold in advance at \$.25 apiece."(4) "Speculators had offered the Athletics as much as \$5 for reserved seats, anticipating that they could resell them at a profit, but the club refused to participate."(5) The normal price of the tickets was raised from \$.10 to "...keep the boys out, for our juveniles are so badly brought up that they are the foremost in creating disturbances at exciting ball matches."(6) Some reports stated that for elevated positions, chairs or bleachers, as high as \$5 was shelled out per seat. For perhaps the first time, score cards were handed out for the event. The machine printed, fold-over scorecards were 5 1/2 by 4 inches, had the date, opponents and location of the match on the cover and opened up revealing two surprisingly modern-looking charts to record the game.

Betting was extremely heavy and the hometown club was slightly favored. "It was estimated \$5,000 in bets was placed between nine and two o'clock the day of the first game, most of it with no odds."(7)

Philadelphia was not prepared for the eventual patron turnout on October 1st. Eight thousand spectators conglomerating for the match would have been a manageable crowd. Another 22,000 to 32,000 people showed up causing chaos inside and outside the grounds at Columbia Avenue and 15th Street, neutralizing the police presence. "The housetops for blocks around the playing grounds, trees, fences and other prominences were covered with a dense mass of human beings."(8) The accumulation of spectators proved to be an incredible number since the population of Philadelphia was less than 600,000 meaning that between 6% and 7.7%, save a small number of New Yorkers, of the citizens were overcome with baseball fever. Most of the crowd was forced to attempt to view the match from outside of the playing field.

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# Vintage Base Ball Association New Member Program

The Vintage Base Ball Association New Member Program was piloted in 2013 and 2014 and will continue to promote 19th century base ball and encourage new or existing clubs, who are not members, to join the VBBA in 2015 and beyond.

This program provides resources, direction, advice and equipment to those clubs interested in joining the VBBA.

## Support and Mentoring

Historical accuracy is an important goal for the members of the VBBA. The Association is fortunate to have knowledgeable historians and in some areas, experts on the various aspects of 19th century base ball. These resources are available in the form of individual, club, and organizational support. Depending on location, a personal visit, contacts via email and phone are provided. The duration of immediate mentoring will be determined by the progress and enthusiasm shown during communications. Continuing education regarding 19th century base ball will not cease, even after a club has begun to attain its goals.

## Equipment

A list of approved VBBA vendors will be provided. These vendors offer historically accurate bats, balls, bases and uniforms for matches ranging from 1859 – 1900. The new member club will purchase the products, and the VBBA will provide the club with a maximum of \$200 (\$100 annually) rebate to cover some of the cost of the products.

## The VBBA will provide the following items to New Member Clubs:

1. 1845 Knickerbocker Rules
2. 1860 Rules with Interpretations by the Rules and Customs Committee
3. 1860 Beadle's Dime Base Ball Player Book
4. Rules from the year the new club will be playing (if other than 1860)
5. The Umpire's Guide from Ed Elmore
6. Documented terms and the equivalent late 1850's – 1860's period substitutes

## Eligibility Rules for New Member Clubs:

1. The club must have at least nine (9) members.
2. The club must agree to support the purpose of the Association.
3. The club must present itself on the field of play in period appropriate attire.
4. The club must submit two years of VBBA dues, up front, totaling \$100.
5. The club must schedule a minimum of six (6) matches in each of the first two seasons and the results of the matches should be reported to the VBBA Secretary, via email provided at [www.vbba.org](http://www.vbba.org)

If you are interested in applying to the New Member Program, please contact VBBA President Dennis Wiegmann, at [dennispopswiegmann@yahoo.com](mailto:dennispopswiegmann@yahoo.com).

## Need some new Lumber?

Be Sure to Check out These VBBA Authorized Vendors...

- Bulldog Bat Co. ([bulldogbatsonline.com](http://bulldogbatsonline.com))
- Cass River Lumber Co. ([cassriverbats.com](http://cassriverbats.com))
- Cooperstown Bat Co. ([cooperstownbat.com](http://cooperstownbat.com))
- Detroit Bat Co. ([detroitbatco.com](http://detroitbatco.com))
- Old Dutch Classic Bats ([dutchbats.com](http://dutchbats.com))
- Phoenix Bat Co. ([phoenixbats.com](http://phoenixbats.com))
- Prowler Bat Co. ([prowlerbats.com](http://prowlerbats.com))
- Smacker Base Ball Bats ([smackerbats.com](http://smackerbats.com))

For more vendors, check out the Resources Tab on [vbba.org](http://vbba.org)



## (Continued from Page 1)

Those on the field were crammed together constantly jostling for a view. "A large police force was in attendance but owing to their want of discipline they created a great deal of confusion and did more harm than good."<sup>(9)</sup> It took a tremendous effort to clear the spectators encroaching on the playing area but eventually they were pushed back.

At 2 p.m. the Athletics won the toss and elected to bat second. The Athletics, striking a fresh ball, scored twice on consecutive homeruns by pitcher Dick McBride and second baseman Al Reach, a former Eckford of Brooklyn player. Reach left for Philadelphia during the 1864 season and opened a sporting goods business. In the bottom of the first inning, the Athletics had Charlie Smith on third base and Joe Start on first base with one "hand" out when the excitement overtook the crowd. "Crane was next to bat, but before he had a chance to strike the game was stopped to allow the crowd to be cleared from left field."<sup>(10)</sup> Triggering the commotion was a scuffle between a fan and the police.<sup>(11)</sup> For about a half hour, efforts to push back the crowd failed. Because so many surrounded the field once they were herded back on one side they ballooned out on the other, causing the game to be called.<sup>(12)</sup> "Thereupon, there followed a scene of 'majestic confusion,' the crowd let loose literally, flowed into the field from all sides and covered the entire grounds."<sup>(13)</sup> The Times commented candidly on the authorities and their efforts. "The police were very inefficient, and seemed to be incapable of controlling the unruly mass."<sup>(14)</sup>

Initially club officials decided to play the match the following day; however, another meeting later that evening set the contest for October 15th in Brooklyn at the Capitoline Grounds in Bedford. The Times offered the following as to the reason for the disruption of the game. "The disorder and rowdiness manifested at the match today are deeply regretted by the members of the baseball fraternity. It was chiefly caused, it was supposed, by the heavy betting of certain parties,"<sup>(15)</sup> Because they could not control themselves, the rambunctious crowd killed their chances of seeing the match of the century. Profits were unaffected, as at least \$2,000 was collected on the day, an unheard of amount for a baseball game in 1866. The Athletics kept their skills sharp, staying in the Philadelphia area and played the Keystone Club of Philadelphia on October 2nd. They took on the Camden Club in New Jersey the following day and the Star Club of Brooklyn on the 11th, winning all matches with little trouble. The Athletics, choosing to conserve themselves, hosted the Eureka Club of Newark, New Jersey, on October 13th. Although the match lasted only four innings, due to the late arrival of the Philadelphia club and rain, the two hour and ten minute game ended in favor of the Eurekas, 16-5.<sup>(16)</sup> This was the same Eureka Club that also defeated the Athletics in 1866. Philadelphia did not compete in any other matches until the 15th and played only one other nine-inning match, against Camden Club, in Philadelphia, since September 19th. The Athletics, it would seem, were not properly preparing themselves to face the powerful Athletics.

The Athletic club arrived in Brooklyn in the evening of the 14th and retired to the Merchants' Hotel on Cortlandt Street. The following morning they were escorted to Bedford by a committee from the Athletics for the match.<sup>(17)</sup> October 15th proved to be an enormous event for Brooklyn. The weather was accommodating and produced a cool clear day with a brisk wind. "The club-houses and grand stands were decorated with National colors and everything wore a gala appearance," wrote the Times.<sup>(18)</sup> "Flags of all dimensions, and of every color and shape, floated from staffs: gaily dressed ladies and gents in flashy clothes heightened the general darkness of the masses; the trees in their autumnal garb, with their foliage refreshed by the rain and leaves besprinkled with diamond drops; little cottage and distant spires; all of these contributed to the background of the picture."<sup>(19)</sup> Capitoline Grounds, home of the Athletics in 1865, seemed better suited to crowd control than the grounds in Philadelphia. It was "bounded on three sides by board fences and on the fourth side by a high stretch of gate work running parallel with the road leading to the highway and the cars."<sup>(20)</sup> "Back of the catcher's position, and sufficiently out of the way, were rows of plank seats," described The Sun.<sup>(21)</sup> On "the north and south sides of the enclosures, and commanding a fine view of the playground, were erected two immense canopies, for accommodation for the female portion of the attendance."<sup>(22)</sup> No tickets were sold for this match, reported the New York Tribune. They also printed that the spectators should have their quarters ready, as no change would be made and that seven entrances would be manned by eighteen gatekeepers.<sup>(23)</sup> Proprietors Reuben S. Decker and Hamilton A. Weed, who opened Capitoline Grounds on May 5, 1864,<sup>(24)</sup> wanted to ensure that they collected from all those who entered their domain that historic day.

The spectators began arriving between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. for the scheduled two o'clock match. The 4,000 available seats were quickly filled and by 11 a.m., possibly as many as 20,000 had encircled the playing grounds. The stands set apart for the use of representatives from Philadelphia, which included delegates from almost every club, attracted more than 300 observers.<sup>(25)</sup> Exclusive seating was made available for the members of the Athletic club and their guests. The President of the Athletics, Colonel DeWitt Moore, was given a seat on the playing field.<sup>(26)</sup> "The ladies were out in large numbers, and the seats reserved for their especial use were filled to repletion."<sup>(27)</sup> The Brooklyn Daily Eagle detailed the positions taken by those not so fortunate to get close to the field. Trees on Fulton Avenue were filled with boys, resembling human produce, the roof-tops of houses within seeing distance of the field were littered with spectators and the north-western portion of the ground was overrun with carriages and the like.<sup>(28)</sup> "The vendors dispersed cider of adamant hardness, beer full of sediment, sandwiches gathered from 'unreliable sources' and 'jonitized' cakes, but no one seemed to mind and consumed these dubious refreshments with ardor."<sup>(29)</sup>

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## Still Not a VBBA Member?

The VBBA offers three different annual memberships as described below:

**Full Club Membership (\$50.00):** For clubs who play at least 6 matches per year.

**Associate Club Membership (\$35.00):** For clubs who are not interested in a full membership and/or do not play at least 6 matches per year.

**Individual Membership (\$10.00):** For individual ballists, civilian interpreters, base ball historians, or casual fans who wish to support the organization.

Dues are to be paid by December 1<sup>st</sup>, and are good for the next calendar year.

With your membership, you will receive our newsletter and an invitation to the annual conference. Full Club members are also entitled to two votes on association issues. Be sure to check out the website [www.vbba.org](http://www.vbba.org) for more valuable information as well as links to Full Club and Associate Club member's websites.

Be sure to check out [vbba.org](http://vbba.org) for more information, and a link to pay your dues via PayPal.

## From the President

Fellow VBBA Members,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for being members of the Vintage Base Ball Association. This organization is rooted in its history and mission of education of the great game that we all love. This mission and purpose of the Vintage Base Ball Association shall be to preserve, perpetuate and promote the game of base ball as it was played during the formative years in the nineteenth century and other historic eras. The VBBA has done a great job over the last few years of providing membership with educational information that not only, fulfills our mission of education, but provides the membership with what we believe to be the most historic information that has been found.

With that being said one of the areas that the VBBA is lacking in is volunteerism. We have so many great people, doing wonderful things for their own club, and it would be wonderful to have some of those same people providing support to the VBBA or joining the board, at some point.

Over the last two years, you have seen election slates that have officers and trustees going unopposed. One of the biggest reasons for this, is that there are not a lot of people rushing to join the board. As an organization, we can only get stronger with a strong membership willing to step up and join the cause.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to be the President of the VBBA, and I hope that throughout this next year, we will see the number of people willing to participate and volunteer, grow three-fold.

Here's hoping that your seasons are spirited and successful and that you enjoy the opportunities to meet new friends and reconnect with old ones.

Sincerely,  
Dennis Wiegmann  
VBBA, President

## Board Meeting News & Notes

### Summary of May Board Meeting:

Sunday, May 17, 2015 - 7:05 Eastern

Board Members Present:

Wiegmann, Schiappacasse, Brooks, Ernst, Miklich, DeGeatao, Skogren, Travers in attendance.

- There was one amendment to the Secretary's Report. The name West Chester was corrected.
- The Treasurer's Report was expansive and far ranging. Various transitional issues were discussed. An updated membership benefits document was discussed. The document will be put on the new website, sent to member teams, Dave Brooks will add information regarding Liability Insurance.
- A decision to use Pay Pal was expanded upon and an Amazon Smile account was discussed and agreed to.
- One note was offered from the Rules and Customs Committee. Teams and organizations are urged to update their websites to reflect the latest research by the committee regarding correct, and period appropriate, language.
- Five new clubs have been approved to receive New Member Club status and benefits.
- Work is being done to develop a group of "New Member Program Approved Venders" A mechanism will be set up so that New clubs, and existing clubs, might be able to get a specific percentage discount from approved vendors.
- There have been relatively few problems in setting up the new website. The website developer is nearly done with the site. Erik Sjogren will take over from the developer once it is complete. Team contact persons will have information on the map, along with location of the home field. It is anticipated that contact persons will be able to add scores of individual matches.
- The discussion regarding the 501c3 status continued.
- Positive progress is being made on the development of the 2016 National VBBA Conference. Gary Schiappacasse gave an extended overview of planning. It sounds as if a very strong conference is being developed.
- In terms of new business, it was indicated that a number of clubs are waiting for the Benefits Guide to be finished and distributed. There was a question regarding the exact meaning of one of the bylaws. Regarding what teams a new club might play to be in compliance with bylaws was discussed. Also, discussion followed regarding what extent new clubs needed to be period appropriate to be considered in compliance with the bylaws.

### Summary of July 26 Board Meeting:

- The Secretary's report was deferred until the Secretary signed on. The minutes were summarized by Helen DeGeatano, seconded by Dave Brooks. Membership approved the minutes.
- The Treasurer's report had been submitted prior to the meeting by Dave Brooks. The report was moved by Helen DeGeatano, Seconded by Lefty Trudeau. Report was approved by the board.
- There was an extensive discussion regarding the 501c3 status. After meeting with an attorney, Dave Brooks, Dennis Wiegmann and Gary Schiappacasse, there seem to be three options. Gary Schiappacasse outlined the options to be:
- VBBA pay the cost to set up the umbrella 501c3 and keep the records for member clubs. The second being necessary only if a club's annual income is over \$5,000, according to Helen DeGeatano. The second option is for the VBBA to do nothing. The third option is for member clubs to go on line to register and pay a nominal fee, based on an attorney's advice.
- This effort is to make the VBBA more attractive to clubs according to Eric Sjogren. Dave Brooks pointed out that the national organization having this umbrella did not mean member clubs were mandated to take up this status.
- Brian Travers agreed with Lefty Trudeau that the national organization could offer a financial subsidy to teams wishing to be covered by this umbrella, but are currently limited in funds.
- Eric Sjogren offered to design a survey on the issue, to be share at the next Board Meeting.
- There was a discussion of the new member program, it was decided to continue the program.
- There was some discussion regarding the website update, but the issue was generally tabled until President Wiegmann was again present. The Newsletter update was also tabled.
- There was a fairly extensive discussion regarding marketing efforts. Much of the discussion centered around formulating responses to why clubs should join; as well as the development and deployment of the new VBBA table runners and rack cards.
- Planning for the 2016 National Conference continues. A number of great presentations are planned on diverse set of topics. It is sounding like it will be a great event.

## Volunteers Needed

The Vintage Base Ball Association is looking for volunteers to participate with the:

- Side Line Interpreter Committee
- Marketing Committee

For more information on how you can join contact: Side Line Interpreter Committee, Jim Kinnach Marketing Committee, Charles Trudeau or Bruce Leith Through the Committees Page on VBBA.org



## Game Results

Be sure to check out the Game Results section on VBBA.org

Enter your results & see how some of your rival clubs are doing this season.

## 2016 VBBA Convention

Hosted by

**The Chicago Salmon Base Ball Club**

April 15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016

The Historic Methodist Campground

1900 E Algonquin Rd

Des Plaines, IL

Check out VBBA.org for more details and registration

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"There was one glaring fault in the press accommodations," printed the Tribune, "special representatives of leading papers being excluded, and peculiar favoritisms extended to those persons who claim to be the only base ball reporters. This was not from any lack of seats, as some twelve or fifteen burly policemen occupied the seats which should have been reserved for special reporters."(30)

Employing those burly policemen was paramount in retaining order, which was Brooklyn's priority. Inspector John S. Folk insured that the debacle in Philadelphia would not be repeated. He and 152 Captains, Sergeants, Officers and patrolmen from 10 precincts arrived at 11 a.m. on the grounds to maintain order.(31) Even though the spectators completely encircled the field, not one incident on the day was reported. Between 15,000 and 20,000 attended the match, estimated the New York newspapers

At 1:20 p.m. the players appeared on the field and began to warm up. The Athletics were dressed in white caps, white flannel shirts and dark blue pants. The Athletics donned white caps, white flannel shirts and light blue pants. The Athletics were at full strength and only left fielder Charles Gaskill, who was ill, was missing from the Athletics regular line-up. The umpire chosen for the championship match was George Flanly of the Excelsior club who began the contest promptly at 1:55 p.m. The Athletics won the toss and sent the Athletics to bat.

Through four innings the Atlantic club held a 9-8 lead. In the Athletics half of the fifth inning, Athletics first baseman Nate Berkenstock lost a nail "on one of his fingers on his right hand"(32), putting out Atlantic's third baseman Charlie Smith on a throw from shortstop Issac Wilkins. After the wound was attended to by doctors Gavin and Bomeisler,(33) Berkenstock was forced to switch positions with right fielder Dan Klienfelder. The next batter, second baseman Fred Crane, hit a ground ball to Wilkins, who threw to Klienfelder, who proceeded to drop the ball, allowing Crane his first. This error allowed Fred Chapman to score giving the Athletics an 11-8 advantage. Although the Athletics tied the match in their half of the fifth inning, the Brooklyn club scored 16 runs over the last four innings to the Athletics six and won the match easily, 27-17. Once the game ended, "the friends of the Athletics, rushed pell mell from the embankment surrounding the playing ground, seized upon the victorious nine, and, in the exuberance of their joy, bore them in triumph to the rooms of the club, located upon the ground."(34) The site of thousands of spectators engulfing the field must have been an unforgettable image.

The match alone failed to achieve the status of one of the greatest played in baseball's infancy. The affair was, without question, the greatest day of baseball in North America to date. No game had attracted so many to Capitoline Grounds, required as large a police presence and produced the amount of attendance revenue, estimated at over \$1,000. Proceeds collected by the vendors, although impossible to estimate, added to the profits on the day. Previous championship matches in Brooklyn featuring the Athletics, Eckfords of Brooklyn or Mutuals of New York were never attended by more than about 11,000 spectators. Minimally, the October 1st and 15th matches produced \$3,000 for the clubs to share. With the possibility of two more matches, billed as determining the champion of America; money would eventually cause the breakdown of relations between the two clubs. In preparation for the match in Philadelphia, the Athletics defeated the Mutuals on October 18th, by the score of 34-24, while the Athletics only practiced amongst themselves. Based on their poor performance, a competitive match could only help prepare them for the 22nd; however, none took place.

The Athletics did take strong measures to ensure that the home match with the Athletics on October 22 would be free of distractions. They made certain that it was known, immediately after the match in Bedford, that Philadelphia police would be represented generously to maintain order, which was reported in the New York newspapers. The Athletics had a fence erected, surrounded the field at Columbia Avenue and 15th Street, at the cost \$1,500. They reduced the number of spectators allowed to attend to a relatively minuscule 4,000. The host club also paid for the Athletics to travel to Philadelphia for their second meeting. To make certain that a substantial profit was made and perhaps to cover the costs of the new fence and the expenses of the Athletics, the Athletics charged \$1 per ticket to the match. This was an extraordinary amount for baseball in 1866. The Athletics charged \$.25 on October 1st, which was two and a half times the normal fee. Admission for the second match for the championship of America was now four times the first contest. The tickets were only available at the Athletics' lefty-second baseman, Al Reach, sporting goods emporium at 404 ½ Chestnut Street.(35) Although generally reported that he opened his first store in 1874, Reach actually began business in 1865. Born in England, Al Reach was a regular on the Eckford championship clubs of 1862 and 1863. He "moved" to the Athletic BBC in 1864, the same year the Eckfords fell on hard times. He is constantly and incorrectly identified as the first player to receive money to play baseball. Pitcher Jim Creighton of the Excelsior Club of Brooklyn was paid in 1860.

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Everything was in place for a second premium event in the series. The weather was not as cooperative as it was in Brooklyn. The air was cool and the sky was overcast with only occasional breaks of sun. Although 4,000 tickets were available, between 2,500 and 5,000 spectators paid for the game "while all the surrounding houses, trees, high ground and vehicles were crowded with spectators making the scene one of great animation."(36) A combination of vicious criticism received the last two times the clubs met and a vastly reduced number of patrons, the Philadelphia police were almost guaranteed that they would maintain control of the crowd through the match, which they did. The Athletics were late arriving to the field and the scheduled 2 o'clock start was pushed ahead to 2:10. For the home nine, Gaskill returned to the outfield while Berkenstock, still nursing his injured finger, was replaced at first by Kleinfelder, as he was in the match in Bedford. The Athletics produced the same nine, although there were a few positional changes. The arbiter for the match was Theodore Bomesler of the Eureka Club from Newark, New Jersey.

The contest was even through four innings, at nine runs apiece. This game followed the same pattern as the previous one. Close for a time and then becoming a blow-out. This time it was the Athletics' turn as they outscored the Athletics 22-1 in the next three innings, taking a commanding 31-12 lead. As the Athletics began to bat in the top of the eight, the rain began to fall heavily, forcing the umpire to call the match at 4:45 p.m. The build-up to the game was again, more exciting than the match.

The Brooklyn Eagle, showing extreme bias regarding the outcome, failed to print a box score of the match. In fact, they dedicated only one small paragraph to the match printing, "The game has been so fully reported in the morning papers that nothing more than a mere summary is needed."(37) Immediate allegations of the Athletics lying down to ensure a third pay day were abundant. These were not cynical views. Simply based on the financial intake from the two plus matches, the bare minimum that the two clubs were to share was \$7,000. A third and deciding match would easily push the coffers to over \$10,000.

Before splitting the gate receipts, the Athletics accounted for the \$1,500 it cost for the erection of the fence around their playing field. They also accounted for the fact that they paid all of the traveling expenses of the Athletics to Philadelphia and the Athletics did not do the same for them.(38) The Bedford club insisted on their share being based on the gross amount; however, the Athletics did not budge. The two clubs would not meet again in 1866 and did not face each other for 11 months.

This stalemate, over money, ruined the momentum that the two previous matches achieved in terms of money making ability, spectator interest and the declaration of an undisputed NABBP Champion. The games did prove that high-level baseball was a viable business and simply based on that thought, it is unconscionable that the two would not allow a third match to not be played. What was not lost in Brooklyn was the potential profit the local teams could generate. William Cammayer, owner of the Union Grounds in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, which was the home of the Mutual Club of New York since 1862 (and the first enclosed ball field in America) lured the Atlantic club as a second tenant. Cammayer not only raised the entry fee to \$.25, up from \$.10, he increased the number of spectators seats, added a large press box which contained "cushioned seats for reporters and scorers and reconditioned the playing field which the [New York] Clipper described as 'too nice to play on....a perfect picture of a ground inside the bases.'"(39) As for Cammayer, made sure his investment paid off. He received 40% of the gate receipts for matches as well as expenses for each match.

Just three years after this historic series, baseball became "openly" professional, during a time that the by-laws of the National Association of Base Ball Players strictly prohibited it.

## Vintage Base Ball Association Member Club Liability Insurance Information

### Cincinnati Insurance Company

Policy # ENP 0313868

03/01/2015- 03/01/2018

Liability

General liability

\$1,000,000

Any one occurrence

\$2,000,000

Aggregate

\$5,000

Medical expenses

\$100,000

Damage to Premises rented to you

\$1,000,000

Hired & non-owned auto

Policy # BCN-0076210

03/05/2015 - 03/05/2018

Directors and Officers Liability

\$1,000,000

Aggregate (Covers officers, trustees, employees, volunteers and members)

\$1,000

Deductible

### Marie C. Trudeau CIC

#### W. E. Davis Insurance Agency

29 Frederick St.

Columbus, OH 43206

614-443-0533

614-444-1201 fax

marie@wedavis.com

www.wedavis.com

This summary was prepared as a convenience to the named insured and does not imply coverage. Actual policy language provides final coverage determination.

# VBBA Financial Report

VBBA Association Financial Activity - 2015		
Balance, January 1, 2015		\$ 20,492.79
Income (Dues):		
Individuals:	10	\$ 100.00
Associates:	6	\$ 195.00
Full Clubs:	49	\$ 2,455.00
Total:	65	
2016 Individuals		
2016 Associates		\$ -
2016 Full Clubs	4	\$ 200.00
2016 Total:	4	
Total Dues:		\$ 2,950.00
Sale of goods		
		\$ 1.00
Interest on checking account		
		\$ 0.40
Total Income		\$ 2,951.40

Expenses:		
Office supplies		\$ 65.26
Communications		\$ 100.00
2015 Conference expenses		\$ 4,565.35
2016 Conference expenses		\$ 1,000.00
Promotion materials		\$ 909.91
New Member Program reimbursement		\$ 100.00
Insurance		\$ 1,494.00
Fees - Secretary of State		\$ 250.00
Web site		\$ 4,000.00
Total Expenses		\$ 12,484.52
Income over/(under) Expenses		\$ (9,533.12)
Balance as of	8/17/2015	\$ 10,959.67
		\$ -

Have something you want to see in the newsletter?  
 Contact Andy "Beefy" Phillips at [beefythemule@gmail.com](mailto:beefythemule@gmail.com)

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