

OPENING DAY 2007 ISSUE

Essex Base Ball News

The Essex Base Ball Club & The Lynn Live Oaks of the New England Vintage Base Ball League

Introducing the Boston Beaneaters

Essex, Waterbury players join to form 1880s-rules base ball team

The Essex Base Ball Organization will have a new team in 2007, the Boston Beaneaters. The Beaneaters, a team modeled after the National League team that played in the late 1880's, will be made up of members of the Essex Nine and Waterbury Connors. The Beaneaters will play exclusively overhand rules, and will participate in several tournaments in 2007 including one Memorial Day weekend in Pittsfield, MA, and one Labor Day weekend in Roxbury, NY. The team hopes that the skillful 2006 exhibition game pitching of Chris "The Monkey" Sheehy and Jim "Crazy Legs" Wigren will carry over to 2007 with some much-deserved victories.



Boston Beaneaters, then and now. Mike "King" Kelly of the original 1880's National League Beaneaters; Brian "Cappy" Sheehy (left) and Pat "Stonehands" Foley of the 2007 edition.

ANOTHER INTRODUCTION:

The Boston Bloomers Ladies Base Ball Club

Following the vintage base ball boom of Ohio and western New York, two vintage ladies teams are being chartered in New England. Originally a gentleman's game, ladies started playing base ball in the mid-1860's primarily with their brothers and eventually at private universities. The new version of the Boston Bloomers looks to recreate the excitement and camaraderie of those ladies in the 1860's; playing in vintage costumes, using wooden bats, no gloves, and catching the ball on one bounce for an out.

The first flavor of the Boston Bloomers can be had on May 6 at Endicott Park in Danvers. We will play a pick-up game, share information and history and more. Other pick-up games, practices and recruiting will occur throughout the season at Essex Base Ball games. Come see what vintage ladies base ball is all about, you just might be surprised how different it is from the men; no experience required, just a desire to learn and have fun. For more information, contact Amy Schweighardt at bostonbloomers@yahoo.com or 978-409-2459. For more information on women's baseball check out <http://wiki.vbba.org/index.php/Main/LadiesVintageBaseBall> .

Be a part of the action!

Want to do more than watch the games? The Essex Base Ball Club is currently recruiting **players, umpires, scorekeepers, and sideline interpreters** (people who can explain vintage rules to our 'cranks'). Also, to help with the costs of running the our base club, we are always looking for **donors and sponsors**. Anyone interested in participating or helping should contact Brian "Cappy" Sheehy at historyball@yahoo.com or 978-790-5707 or check us out on the web at www.essexbaseball.org.

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