

The SANDLOTT Wood Bat League

The SANDLOTT Wood Bat League is a member of the Stan Musial Division of the American Amateur Baseball Congress (AABC) headquartered in Farmington, New Mexico. The Musial Division is an unlimited age division, but will overwhelmingly be players 19 years of age and over.

SANDLOTT Baseball formed its first wooden bat league in the summer of 2001. Coaches with professional experience are being secured from various colleges. These coaches will be compensated to provide leadership and training for the college players.

Approximately 90% of the players in the 2007 SANDLOTT Wood Bat League will be college players. In 2006 there were college players participating from approximately 25 different states. There are many college applicants each year and the SANDLOTT rosters are being filled with players with more skills each year because most of the players are accepted due to referrals from their college coaches. Local colleges in the middle Tennessee area are supporting the SANDLOTT Wood bat League by making their college fields available for league games.

Other wood bat leagues are flourishing all over the country. The SANDLOTT Wood Bat League continues to grow and meet the needs of serious college players. Out-of-state players are assisted in finding housing for the summer baseball season. SANDLOTT has agreements with several complexes that rent space to SANDLOTT players. Costs to the players vary depending on the accommodations and services provided by the various complexes.

SANDLOTT Wood bat teams will play approximately 40 games each summer. Play begins in early June and concludes the first week of August. Each year approximately 25-30 players from the league are invited to participate in a pro-scout showcase the first weekend after league play is completed. The event is well attended by scouts from most of the major league teams.

WOOD BATS FOR THE LEAGUE

Old Hickory Bat Company supports the SANDLOTT wood bat League by supplying top quality maple bats and is the official bat supplier for the SANDLOTT Wood Bat League. Each team gets a supply of team bats prior to league play. Additional bats for individual players and replacement bats are available for players to purchase. League prices for Old Hickory Maple Bats range from \$35 to \$45.

ABOUT THE COMMISSIONER

The Commissioner of the Wood Bat League is Mickey Hiter, who starred in this same league (then called the Tri-State League) in the late 60's and early 70's. Mickey was an All-Nashville catcher at Antioch High School and later played at David Lipscomb College. In 1998 Mickey coached his Twitty City Hallmark team to the World Series

Championship in the 17 year old division of the National Amateur Baseball Federation (NABF). In January 2002, Hiter was voted "Mr. Baseball" in middle Tennessee by the prestigious Nashville Old Timers Baseball Association.

In addition to administering to the SANDLOTT Wood Bat League, Mickey also serves as Commissioner of the 13-16 year old divisions of the Greater Nashville Amateur Baseball Association (GNABA) as well as serving as President of SANDLOTT (Select Amateur National Development League for Travel Teams) that he founded in the fall of 1999. Click on www.sandlottbaseball.com to learn more about this organization.