

AMERICAN BASEBALL JUNE RECAP

NORTHEAST U.S.A. (July 1, 1874) – It is now summertime in the Northeastern United States. The calendar has crossed over from June to July, and with the season another month older it's time to see how things look:

APBL STANDINGS (49 of 90 games played)

COLONIAL CONFERENCE						METROPOLITAN CONFERENCE					
	W	L	GB	RD	JUNE		W	L	GB	RD	JUNE
Alleghany	35	14	--	+98	16-9	Orange	32	17	--	+89	18-7
Flour City	25	24	10	-32	13-12	American	28	21	4	+83	13-12
Niagara	24	24	10.5	-3	13-12	Gotham	26	23	6	-10	16-9
Shamrock	24	25	11	+10	15-10	Excelsior	24	25	8	+8	11-14
St. John's	23	25	11.5	+16	11-15	Knickerbocker	24	25	8	+3	12-13
Mass. Bay	15	34	11.5	-89	8-18	Kings Co.	13	36	19	-173	5-20

Alleghany remains the best team in the APBL, although they weren't as dominant in June (16-9, +16 RD) as they were in May (19-5, +82 RD). Behind them is a mediocre mass of four teams at or around the .500 mark, with St. John's looking increasingly likely that they will miss the postseason for just the second time ever. Mass. Bay looks certain to finish last.

American's 9-1 surge to end May led to just a so-so June, and Orange used that to their advantage as they were the APBL's best team during the month and went from one game behind American to four games ahead. Gotham also played very good baseball during June, and as a result moved from alone in 5th place to solidly in 3rd. Excelsior & Knickerbocker moved down the standings after months that weren't terrible but still under .500. The less said about Kings County, the better.

APBL MONTHLY AWARDS

BATSMAN OF THE MONTH

Babe Johnson (2B, GOT) – .370, .858 OPS, 25 R, 44 H, 9 2B, 1 3B, 40 RBI, 7 BB, 15 SB, 1.7 WPA, 1.1 WAR

PITCHER OF THE MONTH

Elmer Seabold (ALL) – 10-3, 2.51 ERA, 96.2 IP, 8 CG, 16 K, 1.6 K/BB, 1.38 WHIP, 1.2 WAR, 1.5 rWAR

GREENHORN OF THE MONTH

Eamonn Tood (3B, StJ) – .349, .788 OPS, 22 R, 38 H, 6 XBH, 1 HR, 20 RBI, 2 BB, 1 SB, 1.9 WPA, 0.8 WAR

There was no explicitly rampant batsman during the month of June, so Johnson took BotM honors even though he hit .370 (May: .327). The main reason it went to Johnson: he drove in forty runs over just 25 games (May: 19 RBI in 24 G) for a Gotham team that went 16-9, and he also stole fifteen bases (May: 6 SB).

Seabold follows teammate Raynard Cordell as PotM by virtue of the fact that he was the only ten-win man during the month of June. Paul Caldwell (ORA) was 8-2 with a 2.86 ERA. James Goodman was 8-3 with a 3.18 ERA and 2.4 WAR. Jim Creighton was 8-6 with a 2.61 ERA, 35 Strikeouts, and 1.9 WAR over a ridiculous 114 innings.

Eamonn Todd improved slightly during June while Tomoharu Mukai saw a slight dropoff in form, and as a result Todd earned GotM. Mass. Bay greenhorns Lane Garvin (C) & Warren Perkins (2B) are doing good work with their gloves but not so good with their bats, and their other greenhorn, I.A. Butler, went 3-9 for a team that gave him little offensive support.

APBL STATISTICAL LEADERS

Average: .391 by three different batsmen

OPS: .960 by Konrad Jensen (LF, St. John's)

Runs: 68 by Clive Strachan (RF, Gotham)

Home Runs: 2 by twelve different batsmen

Runs Batted In: 66 by William Busby (1B, American)

Stolen Bases: 46 by James Burke (CF, American)

Batsman WPA: 4.32 by Hugh Harris (3B, Flour City)

Batsman WAR: 3.4 by Gerald Strong (SS, Alleghany)

ERA (100+ IP): 2.61 by Paul Caldwell (Orange)

Wins: 17 by Jim Creighton (Excelsior) & Elmer Seabold (Alleghany)

Complete Games: 17 by Raynard Cordell (Alleghany) & Elmer Seabold

Strikeouts: 72 by Jim Creighton (Excelsior)

WHIP (100+ IP): 1.21 by Jim Creighton

Pitcher WAR: 4.4 by James Goodman (Flour City)

Pitcher rWAR: 5.8 by Raynard Cordell

NBBO REGIONAL LEADERS (35 of 70 games played)

BROOKLYN: Eckford at 24-11 (Atlantic 2 GB, Continental 3 GB, Star 5 GB)

NEW YORK CITY: Union at 20-15 (Mercury & Metro 1 GB, N.Y.A.C. 1.5 GB, Baltic 2 GB, Mutual 3 GB, Harlem 4 GB)

UPSTATE NY: Utica at 25-10 (Syracuse 3.5 GB, Frontier 5 GB, Minuteman 6 GB)

COASTAL: Trenton Utd. at 23-11 (Quaker St. 1 GB, Maryland 4.5 GB, Olympic 5.5 GB)

INLAND: Susquehanna at 30-5 (Reading A.C. 9 GB, no other team within 10 GB)

NEW ENGLAND: Portland at 27-8 (S.o.t.O. 7 GB, Quinnipiac 9 GB, Oceanic 10 GB)

Brooklyn looks like a four-way race at midseason, given that the bottom four teams are all well under .500. Eckford is 8-2 over their last ten games and, given Eckford's second half form over the past two seasons, the fact that they're on top of the standings after 35 games could spell everyone else's doom and give Eckford their third consecutive pennant.

New York City is tighter than it's ever been, with seven teams within arm's reach of leaders Union at the midway point. 12-22 Hilltop excluded, it really looks like the pennant could go to any of the top seven teams.

Upstate, Utica is playing excellent baseball once again, led by 3B Fox Ellis and 44-year-old RF James Heilman, the current NBBO leader in RBI. Syracuse and their NYL-best .317 team average remain very dangerous. 3rd-place Frontier leads the NYL in Runs. Minuteman has only played 10/35 games at home.

In the Coastal, Quaker St. has recovered from their slow start (8-2 L10) to just about catch up to Trenton Utd. They have a trio of batsman hitting better than .375, and Ross Gill has an ERA below 3.00 for the third straight season. Maryland has cooled off after a 16-9 start (3-7 L10). Olympic being over .500 (Win%: .363 all-time) is the surprise of the season so far.

Inland, Susquehanna has equaled Knickerbocker in '65 and Quaker St. in '71 with an all-time-best 30-5 first half. There is no reason to believe Reading can catch them, as both teams have played 20/35 games at home.

In New England, Portland used a 16-4 June to put a chokehold on the rest of the competition. Their offense, pitching, & defense are all top-five in the NEL, and from the looks of it the only way the rest of the top four might have a chance to catch Portland is if the leaders hit an enormous rough patch, and soon.

NBBO MONTHLY AWARDS

BATSMEN OF THE MONTH

NYL: Chester Alexander (2B, SYR) – .456, 1.001 OPS, 22 R, 41 H, 6 2B, 0 HR, 22 RBI, 3 BB, 3 SB, 2.3 WPA, 1.2 WAR

NEL: Manuel Romeiras (CF, TU) – .369, .940, 27 R, 38 H, 13 XBH, 1 HR, 25 RBI, 6 BB, 24 SB, 3.0 WPA, 1.5 WAR

PITCHERS OF THE MONTH

NYL: Olaf Sorensen (ATL) – 8-4, 1.88 ERA, 100.1 IP, 9 CG, 7 K, 1.0 K/BB, 1.06 WHIP, 1.3 WAR, 3.4 rWAR

NEL: William Hawk (SUS) – 10-1, 1.76 ERA, 102.1 IP, 9 CG, 9 K, 3.0 K/BB, 1.09 WHIP, 1.5 WAR, 3.5 rWAR

GREENHORNS OF THE MONTH

NYL: Edward Pelham (P, FRO) – 7-3, 3.70 ERA, 90.0 IP, 5 CG, 5 K, 1.7 K/BB, 1.36 WHIP, 1.8 WAR, 1.3 rWAR

NEL: Alfred Williams (3B, PORT) – .326, .767 OPS, 25 R, 30 H, 2 2B, 3 3B, 14 RBI, 4 BB, 8 SB, 1.3 WPA, 0.7 WAR

NBBO STATISTICAL LEADERS

Average: .394 by William Strand (1B, Syracuse)

OPS: .939 by John Montgomery (CF, N.Y.A.C.)

Runs: 53 by John Kinder (CF, Minuteman)

Home Runs: 3 by Alexander Grimes (3B, Nassau Co.)

Runs Batted In: 43 by James Heilman (RF, Utica)

Stolen Bases: 31 by Steffen Strandlund (RF, Sportsman's)

Batsman WPA: 3.4 by Deacon George (2B, Green Mtn.)

Batsman WAR: 2.1 by Ned Morganti (CF, Quaker St.)

ERA (100+ IP): 1.65 by Albert Hawk (Susquehanna)

Wins: 17 by William Hawk

Complete Games: 16 by Olaf Sorensen

Strikeouts: 24 by Willie Gray (Marathon)

WHIP (100+ IP): 1.06 by James Kilgore (Oceanic)

Pitcher WAR: 3.2 by George Burroughs (Pt. Jersey)

Pitcher rWAR: 5.8 by Olaf Sorensen

PCBL LEADERS (35 of 70 games played)

EAST: Keystone at 21-14 (Frankford 1 GB, Pt. Richmond 3 GB, all other teams within 6 GB)

WEST: Overbrook & Schuylkill at 23-12 (Merion 3 GB, P.B.C.C. 4 GB, Mercantile 5 GB)

East Philadelphia is going to be a race to the very end. With the spread in records ranging from 21-14 to 15-20, it's entirely possible that the team in last place at the midway point, Queen Village, could storm up the standings and take the pennant. The only caveat: if Joseph Evans, who hit .267 last month, has his bat wake back up then Frankford could take over.

And once again, it's the B.C.C. teams looking up at the top of the standings after 35 games in East Philadelphia. Overbrook & Schuylkill have only been okay after excellent starts, but Schuylkill has only played 10/35 games at home. Then again, so has Merion, and Philadelphia B.C.C. is lurking not all that far behind the top two.

PCBL MONTHLY AWARDS

BATSMAN OF THE MONTH

Arthur Hall (RF, SoB) – .391, .923 OPS, 23 R, 36 H, 5 2B, 3 3B, 29 RBI, 2 BB, 4 SB, 1.4 WPA, 0.9 WAR

PITCHER OF THE MONTH

William Jardin (OVER) – 8-4, 1.54 ERA, 99.2 IP, 8 CG, 1 SHO, 9 K, 1.3 K/BB, 1.17 WHIP, 2.2 WAR, 3.4 rWAR

GREENHORN OF THE MONTH

Arthur Hall (RF, SoB) – PCBL Batsman of the Month

PCBL STATISTICAL LEADERS

Average: .386 by Albert Taylor (RF, Pt. Richmond)

OPS: .888 by Jonathan Lurie (RF, P.B.C.C.)

Runs: 53 by William Cardigan (LF, Overbrook)

Home Runs: 2 by seven different batsmen

Runs Batted In: 45 by Andrew Schneider (C, Spartan)

Stolen Bases: 21 by Joseph King (CF, Independence)

Batsman WPA: 3.2 by Arlington Guest (2B, Yorktown)

Batsman WAR: 1.8 by Charles Hunt (3B, P.B.C.C.)

ERA (100+ IP): 1.52 by Oscar Downs (Queen Village)

Wins: 12 by William Jardin (Overbrook) & Casper Shultis (Mercantile)

Complete Games: 14 by Casper Shultis

Strikeouts: 23 by Charlie Greiner (Frankford) & William Winingham (Schuylkill)

WHIP (100+ IP): 1.12 by Warren Leonard (P.B.C.C.)

Pitcher WAR: 3.8 by William Jardin

Pitcher rWAR: 5.5 by William Jardin