

THE 1860 N.B.B.O. PREVIEW

NORTHEAST U.S.A., May 2 (1860) – The April training schedule is over, and the 48 members of the National Base Ball Organization are ready for opening day!

Each of the first two N.B.B.O. off-seasons saw notable changes. Ahead of the 1858 season, the Called Strike rule was introduced to shorten the length of games. Ahead of the 1859 season, it was decided that an All-Star Game should take place on the first Monday of August to celebrate the sport's premier talents. Ahead of this season, all was quiet. There will be no notable competition or rule changes for the 1860 season, as the National Base Ball Organization Executive Committee was satisfied with the state of the sport.

Even though they set numerous records last year, St. John's do not enter this season as the defending Tucker-Wheaton Cup champions. That honor goes to Orange B.B.C., who became the first New York club to lift the trophy after defeating Boston's Shamrock B.C. in last year's final series. Orange & Shamrock are favorites in their subdivisions again this year, but not surprisingly the Writers Pool is expecting St. John's and their murderous lineup to take the cup home for the third time in four years.

A wide-open race is expected for both New York League Batsman of the Year and the N.Y.L. batting title, with the Writers Pool expecting the class of New York to hit around .385. In the Northeastern League, where the base ball is played more aggressively, the writers expect the batting champion to hit right around .400 again this season. Runs per game are anticipated to remain between 6.5 and 7 per game for the average team, and even though some exciting new pitching talent has entered the N.B.B.O. ranks the writers expect previous years' tendency of only the most free-swinging teams to strike out once per game to hold true again.

As in the previous two years, the Writers Pool has gathered and averaged their predictions for the upcoming N.B.B.O. season, beginning with the standings below:

PREDICTED NEW YORK LEAGUE STANDINGS

NEW YORK LEAGUE PREDICTED STANDINGS BROOKLYN

Team	W	L	PCT	GB	Runs	Runs against
<u>Kings County B.B.C.</u>	43	27	.614	-	552	437
<u>Eckford B.B.C. of Greenpoint</u>	41	29	.586	2	470	418
<u>Atlantic Base Ball Club</u>	40	30	.571	3	485	446
<u>Nassau County B.B.C.</u>	40	30	.571	3	468	434
<u>Bedford Base Ball Club</u>	34	36	.486	9	405	445
<u>Continental Base Ball Club</u>	32	38	.457	11	429	451
<u>Empire Base Ball Club</u>	28	42	.400	15	399	480
<u>Excelsior Base Ball Club</u>	24	46	.343	19	416	514

NEW YORK LEAGUE PREDICTED STANDINGS NEW YORK CITY

Team	W	L	PCT	GB	Runs	Runs against
<u>Orange Base Ball Club</u>	46	24	.657	-	533	416
<u>Knickerbocker Base Ball Club</u>	40	30	.571	6	451	403
<u>Mutual Base Ball Club</u>	40	30	.571	6	544	504
<u>Union B.B.C. of Morrisania</u>	37	33	.529	9	494	470
<u>Gotham Base Ball Club</u>	35	35	.500	11	477	494
<u>Metropolitan Base Ball Club</u>	35	35	.500	11	435	466
<u>Hilltop B.B.C. of Yonkers</u>	30	40	.429	16	383	433
<u>Harlem Base Ball Club</u>	19	51	.271	27	359	492

NEW YORK LEAGUE PREDICTED STANDINGS UPSTATE NEW YORK

Team	W	L	PCT	GB	Runs	Runs against
<u>Utica Base Ball Club</u>	44	26	.629	-	508	415
<u>Niagara Base Ball Club</u>	41	29	.586	3	545	514
<u>Eagle Base Ball Club</u>	37	33	.529	7	468	452
<u>Syracuse Base Ball Club</u>	36	34	.514	8	461	462
<u>Victory Base Ball Club</u>	36	34	.514	8	460	415
<u>Flour City B.B.C.</u>	33	37	.471	11	487	475
<u>Minuteman Base Ball Club</u>	29	41	.414	15	428	507

For the 1860 New York League, season the Brooklyn and New York City championships are expected to largely be repeats of last season. Kings County, Atlantic, & Eckford were 1-2-3 in Brooklyn in '59 and they are the predicted top three again this year, with Eckford & Atlantic swapping places. Orange, Knickerbocker, & Mutual were 1-2-3 in New York City in '59, and they are expected to finish in the same order this year. The only major change projected in either metropolitan subdivision is that the writers feel Empire is due to fall well below .500 after going 36-34 last season.

As always, the Upstate Championship seems to be in a continuous state of readjustment. The Writers Pool has actually predicted Minuteman to fall from first to last this season, with 1859 runners-up Utica the expected Upstate champions. Eagle, the smallest club in the N.Y.L. and one that has a venue which holds only a thousand people, has been picked to finish third. Finally, to give the reader yet another idea of just how competitive Upstate is, Flour City has been projected to finish seventh out of eight with a barely-below-500 record of 33-37.

It looks like one is to expect more of the same from N.Y.C. & Brooklyn, but in Upstate New York anything goes.

PREDICTED NORTHEASTERN LEAGUE STANDINGS

NORTHEASTERN LEAGUE PREDICTED STANDINGS COASTAL

Team	W	L	PCT	GB	Runs	Runs against
<u>Massachusetts Bay B.C.</u>	39	31	.557	-	522	507
<u>Shamrock Baseball Club</u>	39	31	.557	-	501	426
<u>American Baseball Club</u>	37	33	.529	2	477	459
<u>Trenton United B.B.C.</u>	37	33	.529	2	460	434
<u>Olympic Base Ball Club</u>	35	35	.500	4	469	490
<u>Newark Base Ball Club</u>	34	36	.486	5	491	507
<u>Port Jersey B.B.C.</u>	30	40	.429	9	509	552
<u>Quaker State B.C.</u>	30	40	.429	9	476	530

NORTHEASTERN LEAGUE PREDICTED STANDINGS INLAND

Team	W	L	PCT	GB	Runs	Runs against
<u>Reading Athletic Club</u>	44	26	.629	-	532	433
<u>Susquehanna Baseball Club</u>	41	29	.586	3	521	454
<u>Scranton Baseball Club</u>	39	31	.557	5	488	424
<u>Alleghany Baseball Club</u>	38	32	.543	6	495	491
<u>Pioneer Baseball Club</u>	36	34	.514	8	443	432
<u>Sportsman's Baseball Club</u>	30	40	.429	14	488	484
<u>Merrimack Mills B.C.</u>	29	41	.414	15	433	553
<u>Lake Erie B.C.</u>	24	46	.343	20	427	555

NORTHEASTERN LEAGUE PREDICTED STANDINGS NEW ENGLAND

Team	W	L	PCT	GB	Runs	Runs against
<u>St. John's Baseball Club</u>	49	21	.700	-	546	388
<u>Green Mountain B.C.</u>	43	27	.614	6	494	406
<u>Sons of the Ocean</u>	36	34	.514	13	493	458
<u>Portland Baseball Club</u>	35	35	.500	14	479	474
<u>Oceanic Baseball Club</u>	32	38	.457	17	402	462
<u>Quinnipiac Baseball Club</u>	32	38	.457	17	500	542
<u>Granite Baseball Club</u>	30	40	.429	19	419	468
<u>Cantabrigians Baseball Club</u>	25	45	.357	24	393	528

For the 1860 Northeastern League season, not much different is expected in the Coastal & New England championships. The two Bostonian clubs are expected at the top of the Coastal for the second season in a row, though the writers are looking for a real coin flip of a pennant race this year. To be fair, with first projected to finish 39-31 and last projected to finish 30-40, the entire Coastal looks like a coin flip.

In greater New England, why would anybody go against St. John's, even after last year's upset in the N.E.L.C.S.? They still have the most talented roster in the sport, and they are still easily capable of scoring 9-10 runs during an average afternoon.

There are some slight differences expected downwind in the two subdivisions. Olympic is expected to finally crawl out of their last-place hole with a thirteen-win improvement, and the writers like Green Mountain & Sons of the Ocean to leapfrog Portland.

Once again, Inland looks like a quagmire. Alleghany is predicted to fall from first to fourth, but only lose two more games than last season in doing so. Scranton & Susquehanna are tipped to make big upward moves, while Merrimack Mills & Sportman's are expected to fall.

Still, all roads to the cup go through St. John's B.C.

NEW YORK LEAGUE AWARD FAVORITES

BATSMAN OF THE YEAR

- FAVORITE: Soren Thomsen (OF, Kings County) – Prediction of .378 AVG, 3 HR, 65 RBI, 12 SB
- SECOND: Joe Bentley (2B, Niagara) – Prediction of .378 AVG, 1 HR, 51 RBI, 11 SB
- THIRD: William LaValliere (OF, Utica) – Prediction of .372AVG, 2 HR, 56 RBI, 12 SB
- OTHERS: Ed Huntley (3B/SS, ORA), Peter Sweet (OF, UTI), Alistair Jones (CF, MUT), Walt Driscoll (OF, MUT), Clive Stock (CF, VIC), Oliver Stein (OF, BING), James Robertson (OF, SYR)

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

- FAVORITE: Edward Huntley (3B/SS, Orange)
- SECOND: Jerald Peterson (3B, Kings County)
- THIRD: Henry Ciccone (2B, Metropolitan)
- OTHERS: Per Olaf Bakken (SS, K.C.), Carl Keener (SS, MIN), Walt Driscoll (OF, MUT), Albert Jones (CF, KNI), Chester Ellis (OF, ATL), Calum Barr (CF, ATL), John Francis (CF, K.C.)

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

- FAVORITE: Jim Creighton (P, Excelsior)
- SECOND: Alistair Jones (CF, Mutual)
- THIRD: James Hoyt (OF, Flour City)
- OTHERS: Wilson Clark (CF, HAR), Arthur Kiessling (CF, EXC), Theodore Kolberg (SS, ATL), Charles Schuster (3B, MUT), William Pearson (P, MUT), MacKenzie Dunn (3B, ORA), Dennis Pruitt (OF, EMP)

TEAM OF THE YEAR

- P: Grover Wright (K.C.), C: James Hoddle (F.C.), 1B: Will Robbins (BED), 2B: Joe Bentley (NIA), 3B: Leroy Weld (MET), SS: Edward Huntley (ORA), OF: William LaValliere (UTI), CF: Albert Jones (KNI), OF: Soren Thomsen (K.C.)

NORTHEASTERN LEAGUE AWARD FAVORITES

BATSMAN OF THE YEAR

- **FAVORITE:** Konrad Jensen (OF, STJ) – Prediction of .374 AVG, 2 HR, 56 RBI, 55 SB
- **SECOND:** Frank Krillenberger (1B, T.U.) – Prediction of .397, 1 HR, 49 RBI, 2 SB
- **THIRD:** Thomas Maloney (OF, SHA) – Prediction of .382, 0 HR, 62 RBI, 33 SB
- **OTHERS:** Stanford Topps (3B, REA), William Johnson (OF, STJ), Arthur Waltrip (CF, AME), Willie Davis (CF, SUS), Hawk Peterson (3B, M.M.), Henry Fowler (1B, ALL), Clive Wise (OF, S.o.t.O.)

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

- **FAVORITE:** Anthony Mascherino (SS, G.M.)
- **SECOND:** Willie Davis (CF, SUS)
- **THIRD:** Anderson MacGyver (2B, STJ)
- **OTHERS:** Konrad Jensen (OF, STJ), Samuel Kessler (3B, S.o.t.O.), William Johnson (STJ), Joe Blake (SS, ALL), Albert Fowler (SS, SUS), Daragh Adams (SHA), Thomas Maloney (SHA)

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

- **FAVORITE:** Ernest Lewis (2B, Quinnipiac)
- **SECOND:** Ben Bailey (P, Green Mountain)
- **THIRD:** Dag Nielsen (C, Reading)
- **OTHERS:** Pankratz Bauer (2B, NEW), Newton Guilford (1B, SHA), Paul Kronenberg (OF, SPO), Douglas Coates (SS, SCR), Callum Hughes (2B, PORT), Jesse Beaver (SPO), Everett Early (GRA)

TEAM OF THE YEAR

- **P:** John McGowan (STJ), **C:** Roy Jacobson (SCR), **1B:** Frank Krillenberger (T.U.), **2B:** Anderson MacGyver (STJ), **3B:** Stanford Topps (REA), **SS:** Anthony Mascherino (G.M.), **OF:** Thomas Maloney (SHA), **CF:** Willie Davis (SUS), **OF:** Konrad Jensen (STJ)