

ABL 2009 MEMO

12/14/08

ABL MANAGERS:

Happy Holidays!!!!!!!!!!

Welcome to the 20th Anniversary Season of the American Baseball League. Our intent is to have fun and enjoy the experience of playing tabletop baseball while managing your own ball club.

BIG STORY: The franchise players are in. Thank you to every manager including the expansion team for getting their players in on time. The cards have arrived early and Spring Training may begin at anytime.

TPB CHANGES FOR 2009: No major changes with the TPB Charts this season other than what was voted on during the ABL Winter Meetings. You'll notice the charts and instructions are all in landscape orientation to make it easier to flow through the charts while rolling the bones.

ABL FREE AGENTS: Verify you have all the free agents sheets with the list below. Players listed are located in the upper right hand corner of each sheet.

Players:

C- Miguel Olivo
C- Rod Barajas
C- Chris Synder
C- Jarrod Saltalamacchi
1B- Casey Kotchman
1B- Ross Gload
2B- Jeff Baker
2B- Jamey Carroll
2B- Aaron Miles
SS- Mike Aviles
SS- Jerry Hairston
3B- Jose Castillo
3B- Bill Hall
3B- Andy Marte
LF- Delmon Young
LF- Matthew Joyce
CF- Marker (Brandon Boggs on left)
CF- Skip Schumaker
CF- Rick Ankiel
RF- Jose Guillen
RF- Jay Bruce
RF- Eric Hinske
RF- Fernando Tatis (Alone)

Pitchers:

SP- Shawn Marcum
SP- Justin Masterson

SP- Aaron Laffey
SP- Jorge De La Rosa
SP- Shawn Chacon
SP- Randy Johnson
SP- Jeremy Bonderman
SP-Brian Bannister
RP-Andrew Brown
RP- Robinson Tejada
RP- Jason Frasor
RP- Juan Cruz
RP- Fernando Rodney
RP- Brian Tallet
RP- Will Ohman
RP- Anthony Reyes
RP- Jeremy Affeldt
RP- Freddy Dolsi
RP- Chris Sampson
RP- Blaine Boyer
RP- Ryan Speier

ABL 2009 ROLLING DICE:

This year will included the Rolling Dice pages with the charts. Please keep the question and answer sheet with the charts as questions might come up during game play that might not be covered. Also look over the Diamond Chart (Supplemental Rules) as it also covers things not covered in the rules or changes made by the ABL.

ABL 2009 FREE AGENT DRAFT:

The 2009 ABL Free Agent Draft is slated for **Sunday January 25th at 10 a.m. est.** The Draft is planned to be held at the Sunrise Terrace Association Center. Make your plans early to join us as we head into our 20th season of exciting tabletop baseball. If you can't attend in person, you must send in draft sheets or let us know if you'll be on the phone. As usual there will be a break in between the draft to grab some food. Come enjoy the excitement of ABL Draft Day.

TRADING DRAFT PICKS AND PLAYERS:

Teams may begin to trade draft picks and players starting on **January 1st, 2009.** Teams may enter the draft with more than 15 players. All trades must be completed by **8 p.m. est. on Jan. 24th.** The Commish must approve all trades. An updated draft order will be sent out the day of the draft.

TRANSACTION REPORT:

11/23 **ABL 2009 EXPANSION TEAM DRAFT:**
Manahawkin selected Baltimore Orioles.

PLAYER POOL: Toronto Blue Jays were added to the 2009 Player Pool. The Pittsburgh Pirates and Washington Nationals were removed from the 2009 Player Pool

PLAYER POOL TEAMS FOR 2009: Arizona, Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago Cubs,

Cincinnati, Cleveland, Colorado, Detroit, Florida, Houston, Kansas City, Los Angeles Angels, Los Angeles Dodgers, Milwaukee, Minnesota, New York Mets, New York Yankees, Oakland, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Tampa Bay, Texas, and Toronto.

12/2 **FRANCHISE PLAYERS:** Annapolis signed Miguel Cabrera, Johnny Damon, Prince Fielder, Ben Sheets, Jason Varitek, Ian Kinsler, Scott Rolen, Ryan Theriot, Jason Bay, Carlos Beltran, Ervin Santana, Matt Garza, Chien Ming Wang, Mariano Rivera, and Manny Delcarmen.

FREE AGENT: Annapolis dropped Willy Taveras, John Smoltz, Kelvim Escobar, Chris Sampson, Huston Street, Ron Mahay, Brian Shouse, Russ Springer, Tadahito Iguchi, Damian Miller, Franklin Gutierrez, Miguel Tejada, Casey Kotchman, Gary Sheffield, and Carlos Silva.

12/3 **FRANCHISE PLAYERS:** Las Vegas signed Albert Pujols, Lance Berkman, Joe Nathan, Matt Holliday, Brandon Webb, Dan Haren, Grady Sizemore, Brian Fuentes, Carlos Guillen, James Shields, Kaz Matsui, Stephen Drew, J.J. Hardy, Rafael Perez, and Elijah Dukes.

FREE AGENT: Las Vegas dropped Rich Hill, Rafael Perez, Rafael Soriano, Edgar Gonzalez, Chris Duncan, Jeremy Hermida, Rickie Weeks, Corey Hart, Javier Valentin, Akinori Iwamura, Macier Izturis, Miguel Montero, Mark Reynolds, Chad Gaudin, and Juan Rivera.

12/4 **FRANCHISE PLAYERS:** Long Beach Island signed Josh Beckett, John Lackey, David Wright, Milton Bradley, Chone Figgins, Hanley Ramirez, Howie Kendrick, Brian McCann, Yadier Molina, David Ortiz, Torii Hunter, Dan Wheeler, Joakim Soria, Carlos Villanueva, and Chad Billingsley.

FREE AGENT: Long Beach Island dropped Jeff Francoeur, Lastings Milledge, Paul Konerko, Jim Thome, Cliff Floyd, Jamey Carroll, Mark Teahen, Billy Butler, Delmon Young, Kevin Gregg, Damaso Marte, Scot Shields, Michael Wuertz, Jon Garland, and Oliver Perez.

12/5 **FRANCHISE PLAYERS:** Atlanta signed Jake Westbrook, Nick Johnson, Jose Valverde, Curtis Granderson, Marco Scutaro, Jason Bartlett, Jared Burton, Micah Owings, Roy Oswalt, Mike Mussina, Derrek Lee, Chipper Jones, Mike Redmond, Placido Polanco, and Ken Griffey.

FREE AGENT: Atlanta dropped Brad Penny, Francisco Cordero, Chris Schroder, Peter Moylan, Orlando Cabrera, Dmitri Young, Shannon Stewart, Matt Diaz, Brandon Inge, Sammy Sosa, Sean Casey, Gerald Laird, Cody Ross, Robinson Cano, and Endy Chavez.

FRANCHISE PLAYERS: Tallahassee signed Francisco Rodriguez, Alfredo Amezaga, Aaron Cook, Zack Greinke, Gil Meche, Derek Lowe, Jonathan Broxton, Jon Rauch, Kelly Shoppach, Ryan Doumit, Carlos Pena, Bobby Abreu, Carlos Lee, Juan Pierre, and Cesar Izturis.

FREE AGENT: Tallahassee dropped C. J. Wilson, Justin Speier, Ryan Franklin, Adam LaRoche, Mike Lamb, Nook Logan, Barry Bonds, Shawn Green, Norris Hopper, Jeff Keppinger, Michael Young, Steve Trachsel, and Brendan Harris.

12/6 **FRANCHISE PLAYERS:** Oregon signed Mark Teixeira, Brad Hawpe, Jermaine Dye, Carl Crawford, Jose Reyes, Justin Verlander, B.J. Upton, Dan Uggla, Mark DeRosa, Carlos Delgado, C.C. Sabathia, Javier Lopez, Brad Lidge, Kurt Suzuki, and Joey Gathright.

FREE AGENT: Oregon dropped Jason Hirsh, Curt Schilling, Rafael Betancourt, Joaquin Benoit, David Riske, Al Reyes, Ryan Zimmerman, Paul Lo Duca, Austin Kearns, Alex Gonzalez, Greg Maddux, Randy Wolf, Scott Linebrink, Esteban German, and Ramon Ortiz.

FRANCHISE PLAYERS: Chicago signed Luis Castillo, Johan Santana, Todd Helton, Joe Mauer, Jeff Francis, J.D. Drew, David Eckstein, Troy Glaus, Jason Giambi, Jack Cust, Jeff Kent, Taylor Buchholz, and Jered Weaver.

FREE AGENT: Chicago dropped Roger Clemens, Chad Bradford, Jamie Walker, Lee Gardner, Manny Corpas, Bobby Seay, Chad Tracy, Hunter Pence, Jack Wilson, Eric Chavez, Ivan Rodriguez, Travis Buck, Luke Scott, Dontrelle Willis, Morgan Ensberg, Mark Hendrickson, and Livan Hernandez.

FRANCHISE PLAYERS: Chesapeake Bay signed Rich Harden, Billy Wagner, Vladimir Guerrero, Victor Martinez, Yovani Gallardo, Carlos Marmol, Aaron Harang, James Loney, Kelly Johnson, Troy Tulowitzki, Adam Dunn, Alfonso Soriano, Josh Hamilton, Wandy Rodriguez, and Edwin Encarnacion.

FREE AGENT: Chesapeake Bay dropped Joe Blanton, Bronson Arroyo, Pedro Feliciano, Bobby Howry, Juan Cruz, Jeff Mathis, Garrett Atkins, Jose Vidro, Ramon Vazquez, Brad Wilkerson, Wilson Betemit, Jacque Jones, Ryan Freel, Luis Gonzalez, and Kenny Lofton.

12/7 **FRANCHISE PLAYERS:** Titusville signed Pat Burrell, Ryan Howard, Jimmy Rollins, Chase Utley, Shane Victorino, Jayson Werth, Cole Hamels, Ryan Madson, Ryan Dempster, Ted Lilly, Ramon Castro, Hank Blalock, Josh Willingham, Ryan Ludwick, and Xavier Nady.

FREE AGENT: Titusville dropped Shawn Hill, Orlando Hernandez, Mike Timlin, Alan Embree, Troy Percival, Brett Myers, Matt Guerrier, Jose Molina, Eric Byrnes, Chris Coste, Greg Dobbs, Chris Gomez, Aaron Rowand, Tom Gordon, and Kyle Kendrick.

FRANCHISE PLAYERS: Bronx signed Derek Jeter, Hideki Matsui, Jorge Posada, Ichiro Suzuki, Edgar Renteria, Takashi Saito, Scott Kazmir, Alex Rodriguez, Magglio Ordonez, Connor Jackson, Orlando Hudson, Ryan Spillborghs, Tim Hudson, Fausto Carmona, and Adam Wainwright.

FREE AGENT: Bronx dropped Pat Neshek, Joe Beimel, LaTroy Hawkins, Matt Herges, Derrick Turnbow, Mark Loretta, Jason Tyner, Willie Harris, Johnny Estrada, Scott Hatteberg, Melky Cabrera, Andy Pettitte, Tony Clark, Nomar Garciaparra, and Darren Oliver.

12/9 **FRANCHISE PLAYERS:** Manahawkin signed Matt Albers, Brian Bass, Daniel Cabrera, Jeremy Guthrie, Jim Johnson, Garrett Olson, George Sherrill, Ramon Hernandez, Aubrey Huff, Adam Jones, Nick Markakis, Kevin Millar, Melvin Mora, Jay Payton, and Brian Roberts.

12/10 **FRANCHISE PLAYERS:** Barnegat Bay signed Jon Lester, Daisuke Matsuzaka, Johnathan Papelbon, Tim Wakefield, Jacoby Ellsbury, Dustin Pedroia, Manny Ramirez, Kevin Youkilis, Ryan Church, Matt Kemp, Yunel Escobar, Russell Martin, Chris Iannetta, Javier Vazquez, and Tony Pena.

FREE AGENT: Barnegat Bay dropped Brian Bannister, John Maine, Joel Peralta, Hideki Okajima, Brandon Lyon, Mike Lowell, Brendan Ryan, Damion Easley, Travis Hafner, Reggie Willits, Scott Spiezio, Coco Crisp, Alex Gordon, Sean Marshall, and Clay Buchholz.

12/14 **TRIPLE PLAY CARDS ARRIVE**

ABL 2009 FEE:

The 2009 ABL fee will raise \$5 for the first time since 2003 to \$60. If you finish with 15 IP's, you can

get it lowered down to **\$50**. Win the title and it's on the ABL's nickel.

Each manager must pay the **\$60** operational fee for the American Baseball League Season by **November 15th** for the next season. If it isn't paid in full by **November 25th**, the ABL will fold your team for that upcoming season unless other arrangements have been made with the league. The fees help with expenses to run the league. **This is a firm deadline; please communicate with the Commish if you can't meet the deadline.**

Remember the 2009 fee is due **November 15th**. Please pay the fee on time if you want to play ball in 2009. If money is a problem, let the Commish know and something can be worked out. You have plenty of notice to make sure the fee is paid on time. If an Expansion Team Fee is paid by **November 15th**, the new manager will be able to vote in the November Off-Season voting session. The first expansion team to pay their fee in full will get the highest pick in the expansion draft. The second team to pay their fee in full will get the 2nd pick in the expansion draft and so on. There is no extra cost for Expansion teams in 2009.

Fees Currently Paid:

Chesapeake Bay	Commish Fee
Bronx	Champions Fee
Manahawkin	\$60.00
Chicago	\$60.00
Titusville	\$60.00
Annapolis	<i>\$60.00 (Paid \$40.00 still owes \$20.00)</i>
Atlanta	\$60.00
Barnegat Bay	\$50.00
Long Beach Island	\$35.00
Las Vegas	\$50.00

Fees on their way:

Tallahassee	\$30.00
Oregon	\$55.00

ABL 2009 DIVISIONAL ALIGNMENT:

As of November 25th, 2008 the ABL will have 12 teams for the upcoming 2009 season. We will have six teams in each division with the American League and National League Format. The National Division will manage with the pitcher batting in divisional games and at home in cross divisional games. The American Division will manage with the D.H. in divisional games and at home in cross-divisional games.

2009 Setup as of Today:

National Division

Chesapeake Bay Channel Cats	Scott Allen
Tallahassee Terriers	Don Allen Jr.
Las Vegas Vipers	Shawn Fitzpatrick
Chicago Gangstas	Anthony Marrongelli
Oregon Raptors	Greg "Buck" Dietzen
Titusville Perfectos	Lenny Saaf

American Division

Bronx Bombers	Mike Allen
Atlanta Inmates	Kevin Kunkle

Long Beach Island Starfish
Annapolis Hazard
Barnegat Bay Corsairs
Manahawkin Pelicans

Skibby Bomysoad
Jason Cupelo
Amanda Macrander
Steve Bomysoad

ABL 2009 SCHEDULE:

The Complete ABL 2009 Schedule will be coming out in the coming weeks.

XBL 2008 STATUS:

The XBL will return in 2009 for its 8th season in history. If you know someone who hasn't played tabletop baseball before but loves the game of baseball, maybe the XBL is right for them. The XBL format is great chance to learn the game of table top baseball at a slow and fun pace. As we have seen in the past, once a baseball fan plays a couple of games they seem to get hooked. We must continue to try and get the word out about the excitement of table top baseball. Contact the Commish if you are interested in fielding an XBL team in 2009 or know someone who might want to give it a try.

ABL 2009 SPRING TRAINING:

Once the cards arrive, please play games to get re-acquainted with the new charts and cards. It is very important each team at least try to play one spring game before the season with the charts changes being added. All teams can use free agents in spring training games until the free agent draft to fill out their roster. This is a fun way to find out if a player will fit in with your team before you draft him. When you play games, please send in the results to the Commish.

2008 ABL SPRING TRAINING STANDINGS

1/31

BABE RUTH	W	L	T	PCT
Oregon	2	0	0	1.000
Titusville	1	0	0	1.000
St. Augustine	2	1	0	.667
Asbury	9	6	0	.600
Barnegat Bay	1	1	0	.500
Tallahassee	1	1	0	.500
Annapolis	3	8	0	.273
Chesapeake Bay	1	3	0	.250
Las Vegas	0	0	0	.000
Bronx	0	0	0	.000
Chicago	0	0	0	.000
Atlanta	0	0	0	.000

SCORES:

ASB 2 ANN 1
ASB 8 ANN 0
ANN 8 ASB 4
ANN 11 ASB 10
BB 3 ASB 2

ASB 5	BB 2
ASB 5	ANN 1
ANN 3	ASB 2
ASB 6	ANN 3
ASB 10	ANN 4
TV 12	CB 5
ORE 10	ANN 3
STA 16	CB 7
CB 5	ASB 4
ASB 5	STA 3
TA 6	CB 2
STA 6	TA 3 11 INN.

2009 ABL DRAFT ORDER FOR THE 1ST ROUND(As of today)

1. Atlanta
2. Manahawkin
3. Barnegat Bay
4. Chicago
5. Titusville
6. Atlanta/Annapolis
7. Las Vegas
8. Tallahassee
9. Chesapeake Bay
10. Annapolis/Long Beach Island
11. Bronx

Note: There are only 11 picks since Oregon traded their 1st round pick to St. Augustine.

ABL 2008 YEARBOOK:

You may order a hard copy of the ABL 2008 Yearbook from the ABL Online Store at Café Press. The ABL 2008 Yearbook contains all the history of the ABL that includes all the records, franchise history, and pictures of every current manager. This year the yearbook includes articles from Ontario Replay Baseball League managers, a great ABL statistical analysis by Lenny Saaf and other stories. Plus there are ABL shirts, mugs, and steins available for order too.

ABL TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

MLB Rosters frozen for the ABL
 Fee Deadline

Oct 1st
 Nov 15th

Expansion Team Deadline	Nov 15th
Expansion Team Draft	Nov 23rd
Franchise Players Deadline	Dec 10th
Triple Play Cards Arrive	Now
Spring Training Games Begin	Now
Existing Teams Drop Deadline	Jan 14th
Expansion Teams Drop Deadline	Jan 14th
Free Agent Draft Day	Jan 25th
Spring Training Games Deadline	Jan 28th
Taxi Teams Deadline	Jan 28th
Regular Season Begins	Jan 30th

Thanks
Commish