16th Annual
World Tournament of Historic Base Ball
August 11-12, 2018 | Greenfield Village

thf.org/worldtournament
THE TRADITION CONTINUES this weekend as the Lah-De-Dahs and the Nationals of Greenfield Village take on vintage ball clubs from Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Ohio during the 16th Annual World Tournament of Historic Base Ball.

In 1867, Detroit played host to the World’s Base Ball Tournament, and 24 clubs from the United States and Canada took the field to compete in the game that was fast becoming the national pastime.

In 2018, watch teams face off on the field until only one club remains to be declared champion. Check out great hands-on base ball activities all weekend. Enjoy music by the Dodworth Saxhorn Band, and see the original rosewood trophy bat awarded to the Unknowns of Jackson, Michigan, for winning the first-class division in the 1867 World Tournament in Detroit. View an original copy of Haney’s Base Ball Book of Reference for 1867 (page 4), the rule book written by Henry Chadwick and used for the World Tournament and for the Greenfield Village historic base ball program, and examine the rosewood bat at the Luther Burbank Birthplace in Greenfield Village on Saturday and Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For a fun souvenir, take home a reproduction copy of Haney’s Base Ball Book of Reference — available for sale in the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village stores.

Promotional Sponsor

World Tournament Champions

2013 - Clodbusters BBC
2004 - Mother Nature
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2008 - Lah-De-Dahs BBC
2009 - Saginaw Old Golds
2010 - Columbus Capitols
2011 - Saginaw Old Golds
2012 - Saginaw Old Golds
2013 - Saginaw Old Golds
2014 - Saginaw Old Golds
2015 - Walker Tavern Wheels
2016 - Lah-De-Dahs BBC
2017 - Saginaw Old Golds
The Original World’s Base Ball Tournament

“World’s Base Ball Tournament, Detroit, Mich., 1867.” So reads the advertisement for the matches that would offer a first-place prize of $300 in greenbacks to the winner of the first class. The Detroit Base Ball Club sponsored the tournament, and it attracted teams from the United States and Canada. These teams were entered in one of three classes so that teams of similar skill might be pitted against each other.

The matches began on the grounds of the Detroit Base Ball Club on August 13, 1867, with the fans paying 25 cents each and 50 cents for each vehicle that entered the property. Seats in the grandstand cost an additional fee. A fence enclosed the ball field. The Detroit Free Press reported extensively on the matches. Crowds as large as 5,000 attended over the tournament’s three days.

The Free Press stories also provided insight into the quality of the matches and activities on the field. In a game on the first day, Witherspoon, the second baseman for the Commercial Club of Detroit, was said to have “made kindling of his bat.” During the games of the second day, the Free Press described a predecessor to World Series trophies. A gold-mounted rosewood trophy bat for the Unknowns of Jackson.

The Free Press claimed the outcome was as much of a surprise to the winning club as it was to the losers. The final score of 29 to 26 earned greenbacks and a gold-mounted rosewood trophy bat for the Unknowns of Jackson. In addition to cash and a prize for finishing second in the group, the Allegheny Club received a set of blue silk flags to serve as foul line markers down the outfield line. The Ann Arbor club won the second class, and a Canadian club, the Victoria of Ingersoll, took the third class.

The Original World’s Base Ball Tournament

Base Ball as the National Pastime

As base ball (it was spelled as two words into the early 1900s) gained popularity in the 1850s and 1860s, its promoters remarked on the healthful and wholesome aspects of the game. Henry Chadwick, one of base ball’s chief advocates, wrote in 1867: “What cricket is to the Englishman, base ball has become to an American.”

Chadwick, the inventor of the box score and a prolific writer on all things related to base ball, explained: “As a means of cultivating the physical powers, base ball is one of the most commendable exercises in vogue. As a remedy for many of the evils resulting from the immoral associations the boys and young men of our cities are apt to become connected with, the game merits the endorsement of every clergyman in the country. But one of the strongest aids to the popularity of base ball lies in the fact that it is a game — and about the only one, by the way — which can be countenanced by the fair sex. American ladies have been hitherto shut out from all pleasures incident to games... by the low character of the surroundings of most of the sports and pastimes men indulge in.” Chadwick was right. Base ball became the national pastime, and part of the reason was its appeal to Americans of all ages. Base ball meant America. It served as a form of exercise, entertainment and even a way for immigrants to participate in American culture. Base ball built a sense of community and still contributes to our identity as Americans.

Rules for World’s Base Ball Tournament

Base ball in the 1867 Detroit tournament would look only vaguely familiar to us today. The game consisted of nine players and four bases, 90 foot apart, with chalk marking the foul lines. After that, the game began to stray.

The pitcher was required to throw underhand, foul balls caught on the first bound put the hitter out, and a ball that first bounced fair and then rolled foul was a fair ball. Run scoring could be prolific, as players seldom wore gloves and the mitts of the day consisted of a fingerless pad that protected the palm and little else. Foul balls did not count as strikes, and the single umpire warned the hitter before he actually began calling strikes. He likewise warned the pitcher to deliver fair pitches before he called any balls. After such a warning, three balls allowed the runner to take his base, and any combination of three called or swinging strikes was an out. That rule remains today: Three strikes and you’re out, and any combination of three called or swinging strikes was an out. That rule remains today: Three strikes and you’re out, and three outs is a turn at the plate. As you watch the game, feel free to ask our players about any call that confuses you. It’s a grand old game, but one that can be confusing to modern visitors.

From the collections of The Henry Ford.
Lah-De-Dahs BBC
Dearborn, Michigan
The Greenfield Village Lah-De-Dahs, founded in 1992, borrowed their name from an amateur club that played ball in Waterford, Michigan, during the 1880s. As the sports ambassadors of Greenfield Village, they re-create base ball history every weekend of the summer for enthusiastic crowds of spectators. By challenging other vintage clubs to play by the authentic rules of 1867 in the true competitive spirit that is the legacy of our national pastime, they help to preserve the stories and traditions of America’s past.

Greenfield Village Nationals BBC
Dearborn, Michigan
The Nationals, founded in 2003 as the second vintage base ball club of Greenfield Village, are based on the Nationals of Parma, Michigan, one of 23 clubs that competed in the original 1867 World’s Base Ball Tournament in Detroit. Together with their brother club, the Lah-De-Dahs, they play ball weekly in the historic and gentlemanly fashion of their namesakes.

The Forest Citys BBC
Cleveland, Ohio
Professional baseball began in Cleveland in 1869. Forest Citys was the first fully salaried Cleveland team, beginning in 1870 as an independent. In 1871, the club joined the first professional league, the National Association. Home games were played at National Association Grounds in Cleveland, and the club played in the first National Association game as the visiting team against the Keikonsa club of Fort Wayne, Indiana. Forest Citys won 2-0.

Columbus Capitals
Columbus, Ohio
The Capital Base Ball Club is a team based on the original Capital Club, one of three base ball clubs formed in the spring of 1866 in downtown Columbus, Ohio. The Capitals’ uniform — dark blue trousers and hat, blue-and-white checked shirt with white shield — is based on newspaper accounts of the uniforms worn by the original Capital Club. Enjoying their 20th season, the Capitals are thrilled to be returning to Greenfield Village.

Walker Tavern Wheels BBC
Brooklyn, Michigan
The Walker Tavern Wheels Base Ball Club was created in 2008. The Wheels are a modern representation of numerous base ball clubs founded in Washtenaw, Lenawee and Jackson counties. The Wheels’ name pays homage to the Chicago Road (U.S. 12) and to the history interpreted at Walker Tavern. The green in the uniforms represents their home in the Irish Hills.

Fallasburg Flats BBC
Lowell, Michigan
The Fallasburg Flats have been playing the game of base ball since 2007. Originally known as the Cubs, the Flats had middling success early on. Their growing pains were reflected in the fact that they were bested in most games as the players honed their skills to get to where they are today. The Flats are supported by the Fallasburg Historical Society, which maintains and renovates the historic Village of Fallasburg near Lowell.

Rochester Grangers
Rochester Hills, Michigan
The Rochester Grangers were founded in the 1870s in Rochester, Michigan, as part of a merchant’s league. The club was re-formed in 1999 and plays home matches at the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm. The club has traveled throughout the Midwest and enjoys meeting new friends wherever it goes.

Black Flags of Drovertown
Huntington, Indiana
The Black Flags of Drovertown were formed in the 2017 season as a barnstorming club that travels to other locations to play the grand game of base ball. The club chose the name Drovertown from a township that was annexed to the city of Huntington and the name Black Flags from a Civil War group that stood for no surrender. As barnstormers, the club plays by the rules used at matches attended.
OREGON GANYMEDES BBC
Oregon, Illinois
The Ganymedes hail from the city of Oregon, located on the shores of the scenic Rock River 100 miles west of Chicago. The club’s name comes from Ganymede Spring, a local mineral water spring named by the famous journalist Margaret Fuller when she visited Oregon in 1843. According to Greek mythology, Ganymede was the cupbearer to the gods on Mt. Olympus. The team’s gray-and-red uniforms were designed from an 1871 hometown newspaper description of the Oregon base ball club. The Ganymedes have been playing vintage rules base ball as an educational outreach program for Oregon’s Chana School Museum since 2005.

INDIANAPOLIS BLUES
Indianapolis, Indiana
The Indianapolis Blues were formed by Scott “Preacher” Anderson in 2002. Their home matches are played in Greenwood, Indiana, on the city’s south side. The club takes its name from the team that played a single season in the National League. Though that season was 1878, the team’s home matches are governed by the rules of 1864.

BAY CITY INDEPENDENTS BBC
Bay City, Michigan
The Bay City Independents Base Ball Club is a vintage club that was formed to play 19th-century base ball in the grandest of Bay City traditions. Bay City, Michigan, can date its base ball clubs to 1865, and it is the rules of that era that the Bay City Independents Base Ball Club chooses to re-create. The modern-day Independents patterned their scarlet-and-white uniforms after those of the 1883 club. Check out the club’s website: baycitybaseball.com.

SAGINAW OLD GOLDS BBC
Saginaw, Michigan
The Saginaw Old Golds were reborn in 2007 by Richard Currie, Harold Campau and Thomas Mudd after they discovered the history of base ball in Saginaw in 1883-1884 as a part of the Northwestern League. The club was known as the Saginaw BBC but was nicknamed Old Golds because of its Vegas-gold collars. Every talented member of that original Old Golds team made it to the big leagues, including Hall of Fame pitcher John Clarkson.

PARTICIPATING CLUBS

DAY ONE: ROUND ROBIN
Time Limit: 1 hour, 30 minutes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GAME</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>TEAMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Walnut Grove #1</td>
<td>8:00*</td>
<td>Columbus Capitals vs. Rochester Grangers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Walnut Grove #2</td>
<td>8:00*</td>
<td>Saginaw Old Golds vs. Fallasburg Flats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Walnut Grove #1</td>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>Columbus Capitals vs. Black Flags of Detrovertown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Walnut Grove #2</td>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>Forest Citys vs. Greenfield Village Nationals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Walnut Grove #1</td>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Walker Tavern Wheels vs. Saginaw Old Golds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Walnut Grove #2</td>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Bay City Independents vs. Oregon Ganymedes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Walnut Grove #1</td>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>Walker Tavern Wheels vs. Fallasburg Flats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Walnut Grove #2</td>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>Forest Citys vs. Indianapolis Blues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Walnut Grove #1</td>
<td>2:00</td>
<td>Black Flags of Detrovertown vs. Rochester Grangers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Walnut Grove #2</td>
<td>2:00</td>
<td>Lah-De-Dahs vs. Oregon Ganymedes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Walnut Grove #1</td>
<td>3:30</td>
<td>Lah-De-Dahs vs. Bay City Independents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Walnut Grove #2</td>
<td>3:30</td>
<td>Indianapolis Blues vs. Greenfield Village Nationals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please note: These matches will be completed prior to Greenfield Village opening at 9:30 a.m. Due to time and field restrictions, only participants and their families will be permitted into the village for these matches.

DAY TWO: BRACKETS

3RD-CLASS CHAMPION
Time Limit: 1 hour, 20 minutes

#3-Pool A
8:00
Walnut Grove #1

#3-Pool B

#3-Pool C
8:00
Walnut Grove #2

#3-Pool D

2ND-CLASS CHAMPION
Time Limit: 1 hour, 20 minutes

#2-Pool A
9:30
Walnut Grove #1

#2-Pool B

#2-Pool C
9:30
Walnut Grove #2

#2-Pool D

1ST-CLASS CHAMPION
Time Limit: 1 hour, 30 minutes. No time limit for final.

#1-Pool A
11:00
Walnut Grove #1

#1-Pool B

#1-Pool C
11:00
Walnut Grove #2

#1-Pool D
68th Annual Old Car Festival in Greenfield Village
September 8-9 • Open Saturday ’til 9 p.m.
Feel the passion behind America’s longest-running antique car show, featuring hundreds of authentic vehicles from the 1890s through 1932 — all coming to life in the historic setting of Greenfield Village.

Fall Flavor Weekends in Greenfield Village
Presented by Beaumont
September 29-30 and October 6-7
From field to fork, we share the stories of America’s rich food culture in the abundant season of autumn, a time of hard work and celebration. See cooking demonstrations at our historic homes, and browse the delights at our Saturday Farmers Market.

Hallowe’en in Greenfield Village* Presented by meijer
October 12-14, 18-21 and 25-28
Step inside Hallowe’en’s classic tales as you stroll an enchanted path lit by 1,000 hand-carved jack-o-lanterns. Adventures unfold as historic hobgoblins transport you through strange worlds along the way. Create your perfect fall evening by starting with the new Hallowe’en Fairy-Tale Feast — perfect for little ghosts and ghouls — or a sumptuous Eagle Tavern Harvest Supper.

Holiday Nights in Greenfield Village* Presented by Citizens Bank*
November 30, December 1-2, 7-9, 13-16, 18-23 and 26-27
An evening of caroling, ice-skating and bustling streets filled with yuletide goods culminates in a fireworks-filled sky, enchanting you with the warmth of the holidays in one of the nation’s most beloved annual traditions. Not to be missed enjoy our exclusive holiday cocktail party with Holiday Nights Happy Hour — includes early access, seasonal appetizers, holiday jazz, premium parking and more.*Additional fee required. All programs and prices are subject to change.

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Explore Rockwell, Roosevelt & the Four Freedoms. This internationally touring exhibition provides a rare opportunity to see Norman Rockwell’s Four Freedoms paintings, in addition to other works by Rockwell and his contemporaries, alongside interactive digital displays and virtual-reality technology.

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ROCKWELL, ROOSEVELT & THE FOUR FREEDOMS
OCTOBER 13, 2018–JANUARY 13, 2019
Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation™
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To learn more, visit thf.org/fourfreedoms.

Rockwell, Roosevelt & the Four Freedoms and its international tour are organized by the Norman Rockwell Museum, Stockbridge, MA. Leadership support for Rockwell, Roosevelt & the Four Freedoms is provided by JAY ALI, The Alix Foundation and the George Lucas Family Foundation.

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