

The Invention and Development of Baseball

Baseball was invented in America in 1845. It was based on the English game called **rounders**. The game of rounders was brought to America when colonists decided to make up their own version of the game and called it **town ball**. Town ball became more and more popular throughout the states. A man named Alexander Cartwright loved the game of town ball. He eventually generated a new set of rules for town ball. He called this altered version of the game baseball. He replaced paddles with bats, and poles with four bases. Instead of a possible twenty-five players, each team would only play with nine players. Another popular rule that Cartwright installed into his new game was that a runner could get out by one of the fielder's throwing the ball at them. The other had to either tag a base or the runner with the ball to get the runner out. The first established baseball team was called the Knickerbocker Baseball Club. The first baseball game ever played was in 1846, which was a game between the Knickerbockers and the New York Nines. The New York Nines won the game 23-1. Many of Alexander Cartwright's rules are still used in modern baseball.