

Needham Cricket Clubs of the early 1900's



Needham, Massachusetts was named after the Needham Market Village of Suffolk, England. Needham Market is now our sister city. The Needham Market Cricket Club was founded in 1744. The Needham Market C.C. is still going strong today. Below is a picture of a recent championship team.

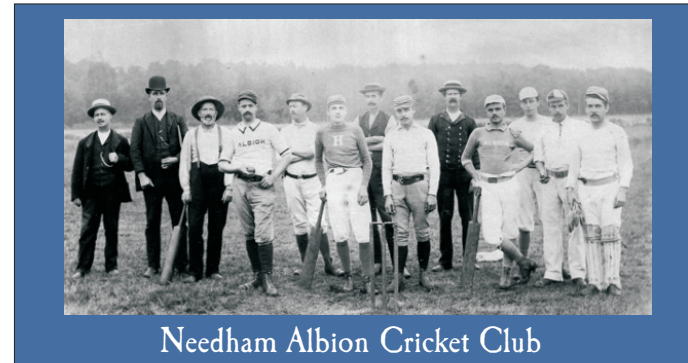


Cricket Returns To Needham



After nearly 100 years!

Needham 300 Sports Committee Presents
Massachusetts Cricket League All Stars
At Cricket Field



More than 100 years ago, Needham Heights was dotted with knitting factories for which the town had gained fame and financial prominence. Many of the workers in those factories were immigrants from Europe who brought with them their love of the game of Cricket.

Needham knitters from the English Midlands brought with them their passion for cricket, and at the turn of the century Needham Heights was considered "the Cricket Capital of Massachusetts." There were several local teams, some playing at the championship level. Cricket Field was donated by the Carter family and was one of the finer pitches. Although there were several cricket fields around town, Cricket field on Hillside Avenue is the only one left standing today. The Needham 300 Sports Committee welcomes you to this historic event commemorating Needham's rich sporting past.

Today's event presented by



and it's sponsors

September 25, 2011

Thanks to



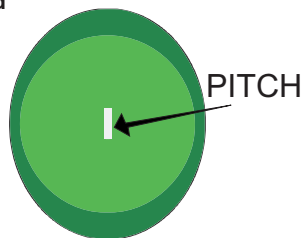
Massachusetts State Cricket League

for presenting today's game.

Cricket The Game

Cricket and Baseball are the best-known members of a family of bat-and-ball related games. Earliest mentions of Cricket appear some 200 to 300 years before Baseball. While many of their rules, terminology, and strategies are similar, there are many differences—some subtle, some major—between the two games.

Typical Baseball Field Compared To Larger Cricket Field in size.



Cricket Stumps or Wickets



Cricket is played between two teams of 7- 11 players each. Each team bats (takes its innings) in turn, the choice for first innings being decided by tossing a coin.

The center of the action is a pitch 22 yards long with wickets (three cricket stumps, see above) placed at each end, though a shorter pitch can be used by children. The pitch is roughly in the center of the playing area, the edge of which is marked by a line or a rope about 50 yards from the wickets.

Compared to baseball, which has four bases, you run from one base to another making one whole complete run. In baseball you play one inning at a time. In cricket, playing in a circular field there are two stumps located around a pitch located in the middle of the ground. Players run from stump to stump, a stump is three pieces of wood wickets, which are at the end of each side of the crease. There are two batsmen who are involved at the same time, called a batter in baseball and a batsmen in cricket. Two batsmen play at the same time. The pitcher throws a ball at the batter or the batsman, who runs across to the other side, and they exchange places, that's one run.

The bat is flatter in cricket. (see below) It is not round like a baseball bat. A batsmen can hit the ball in all angles, not just a certain direction as in baseball which would be a foul ball.

CRICKET



BASEBALL



Two batsmen play in partnership to score runs against the bowling (pitching) of the fielding side. The bowlers aim to restrict scoring and to dismiss the batsmen in one of the ways described in the rules of cricket. The most common ways of dismissing a batsman are bowled, caught off the bat, leg before wicket, stumped by the wicketkeeper and the run out of either batsman while attempting a run. When a batsman is dismissed (“out”) his place is taken by another player. The fielding captain decides which of his players will bowl. Each bowler bowls an “over” of six overarm deliveries from one end of the pitch, then the play switches so that one over is bowled alternately from each end of the pitch. No bowler can deliver two overs in succession.

The score is counted by “runs”, which are the number of times the batsmen run from end to end of the area between the two “popping creases” – lines across the pitch four feet from each wicket. Runs are usually the result of a hit by the bat; a hit across the boundary scores four runs, or six if it crosses without touching the ground. (Similar to hitting a grand slam homerun in baseball)

The inning is complete either when all but one of the batsmen are out, or when an agreed number of overs has been bowled, or when the batting captain has declared the innings closed.

A match consists of one or two innings by each side. In time limited matches, the side scoring the highest aggregate of runs wins. If the match is not played to a finish then the result is a draw, except in the case of some limited overs games where the winning side is the one that scored most runs during its share of the overs.

MCL Cricket Players will be available to answer your questions about cricket today.

Today's event was organized by
The Needham 300 Sports Committee
Chair - Carol Stento

Cricket Chair - Charles Wright
and

The Massachusetts Cricket League- M.C.L
V.P. Raja Tummla