

Sean Keenan

ICM 528 – Content Creation

May 23, 2020

The Digital Baseball Scorebook Manager App Bibliography

Articles

Araton, H. (2013, July 12). Who Scores Games by Hand Anymore? Retrieved May 23, 2020, from <https://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/12/sports/baseball/who-scores-games-by-hand-anymore.html>

Author Harvey Araton interviews a variety of different fans and discusses some of their scorekeeping methods and strategies, as well as why they still choose to keep score. For some, it helps keep them focused in on the game, while for others, they like teaching their son how to keep score. In these interviews, Araton also discovers some of the difficulties these fans face when trying to keep score. Some of these difficulties include the inability to purchase one, the amount of writing it entails, and how digital alternatives force you to keep score in their way. Beyond that, he also discusses how ballparks nowadays have seemingly endless attractions and restaurants to keep the fans occupied rather than keeping score.

Berra, L. (2015, December 22). Game changers: A shift in keeping score. Retrieved May 23, 2020, from <https://www.mlb.com/news/shifts-may-change-way-baseball-is-scored/c-160183180>

In modern day baseball, the shift is an essential part of the game. With this change though brings the question of how the shift should affect scorekeeping. In this article, author Lindsay Berra dissects a few different methods of how people are adjusting to the shift in their scorekeeping. For some, they simply just write what position number the player is and leave at that, no matter where they fielded the ball, which is what the rulebook states. For others though, they feel they should account for the shift in some way. Some decided to draw a dot to where the ball was hit, while others such as Bill James suggest changing it up completely by dividing the field into zones. Overall, despite what the rulebook and some fans say, accounting for shifts in a game is something fans still struggle with.

Blanchette, J. (2019, August 22). John Blanchette: Lost art of scorekeeping is 'central to a full life experience'. Retrieved May 23, 2020, from <https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2019/aug/22/john-blanchette-lost-art-of-scorekeeping-is-centra/>

While many know of the idea of score keeping, many still struggles understanding why individuals still do it. To get an answer for that, author John Blanchette discusses with many older fans some of their motivations and reasons for keeping score. It's frequently older people doing it, with many of them saying it's too keep them in the game. One even

compared the feeling of not having your phone to not having a scorebook. Some do it through due to their love of the statistics. Baseball has become a very analytical sport over the years, so having more ways to look at these stats is great for many. One of the more unique reasons was for entertainment. For this person, baseball can get a little dull sometimes, so keeping score is a way to maintain some form of entertainment during these lulls. Overall, the reason for keeping score can vary greatly from person to person, which may be one of the reasons for its popularity

Caple, J. (2013, August 29). The art of scoring. Retrieved May 23, 2020, from https://www.espn.com/mlb/story/_/id/9605976/keeping-score-baseball-ultimate-art-form

In this in-depth piece discussing some of the history of scorekeeping, Jim Caple shows why score keeping is often view as an art form among fans. After going through the origins of score keeping, Caple begins to go against the notion that score keeping is actually dying. One of his reasons is that despite the digital age being upon us and their being apps to substitute traditional scorekeeping, these apps are missing something important, the individual touch. Nearly everyone has a different method of keeping score, which is much of the charm. The issue with these apps is that you get locked into their method, removing the individuality and making all the scorecards uniform in their look. These include tracking things such as who sung the national anthem and putting stars for good defensive plays.

Erskine, C. (2010, July 28). Scorekeeping by baseball fans appears to be a dying art. Retrieved May 23, 2020, from <https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-2010-jul-28-la-sp-erskine-20100729-story.html>

For the more cynical fans, there's a growing consensus among them about how scorekeeping is becoming a dying art. They can come off as grouchy and a bit of the 'back in my day' crowd, though this piece by Chris Erskine shows how dedicated they are to the tradition, as well as to why many of them began. In one example, an individual Erskine interviewed says they kept score at every game they've gone to since 1967. He could even remember what happened in the first few innings of that game perfectly. Erskine then starts rapid firing through multiple individuals on why they began score keeping, with the vast majority crediting their mom or dad for teaching them. Ironically, as baseball is fully into the information age, something which many credits as improving their knowledge on the game is something that's gone to the wayside in many of their eyes.

Fetter, H. (2013, July 15). By-Hand Baseball Scorekeeping: A 'Dying Art' That May Never Actually Die. Retrieved May 23, 2020, from <https://www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2013/07/by-hand-baseball-scorekeeping-a-dying-art-that-may-never-actually-die/277804/>

In discussions about score keeping, the term dying art comes up frequently. For some, it's on death's doorstep and will be completely forgotten in a few years. For others its popularity is waning, though still happening among longtime fans. Author Henry Fetter takes a quick look through these proclamations in his article, noticing that's it's actually

quite the familiar tune. He first goes through many modern articles lamenting the death of score keeping, which would add up to being in the digital age. Interestingly enough though, he then goes further back to a sporting news article from 1950 forecasting the death of the score card. Similar to the sport it tracks, score keeping is something that everyone thinks is dying, yet still seems to live on in some way. Their life may be extended even further when taking into account teams such as the Washington Nationals, who offer free scorecards at all their home games.

Flaherty, J. (2018, July 10). These Delightful Designer Notepads Revive Old-Timey Baseball Score-Keeping. Retrieved May 23, 2020, from <https://www.wired.com/2013/05/halfliner-scorebook/>

The appeal of score keeping to many isn't just how it keeps them in the game or carries on tradition, but also how it gives them something that looks nice and is good for potential display. With that in mind, Joe Flaherty discusses a project made by graphic designer Bethany Heck. This book contains not only well formatted layouts of scorecards, but also introductory sections for those unfamiliar with the art, as well as the ability to track things such as weather and MVP of the game. This started as a senior project for Heck, though after bringing it to kick starter, she's been able to sell over 3,000 copies. It even got popular enough for her to create a second edition, taking the weaknesses and strengths from her previous attempt and using it to create a simpler, cleaner product. She also had plans to transform it into an app of some kind as well.

Goold, D. (2015, August 11). Goold: Modern challenges to traditional scorekeeping. Retrieved May 23, 2020, from https://www.stltoday.com/sports/baseball/professional/birdland/goold-modern-challenges-to-traditional-scorekeeping/article_5db1c6d1-b5cf-536a-aabb-68912bdde297.html

While modern baseball had made the shift something common place, there hasn't been an official change to score keeping accounting for it. For some, that may be fine, as it keeps score keeping something more personal, but others, such as author Derrick Goold, have some suggestions on how to adjust. To start, he describes what he calls "The Vector", which is simply an arrow in the top left of the score box when a shift is in play. Another factor includes putting an 's' after a position number to help show that they were shifted when they fielded the ball. Finally, to account for replay reviews, he uses an 'R' for when a play is challenged and circles it when overturned. These are just some suggestions by Goold and he even asks for readers to send their own score cards with him, as score cards main appeal is how each individual chooses to use them.

Mesrey, D. (2017, April 12). The Art of Scorekeeping in Baseball. Retrieved May 23, 2020, from <https://www.shinola.com/thejournal/art-scorekeeping-baseball>

In his article on score keeping, baseball historian Dave Mesrey goes through the history of score keeping as an art form. He starts with the historic debut of Jackie Robinson, expect now through the lenses of broadcasters Red Barber's score card. Obviously the score card itself wasn't the main influence for Barber's changing view on black men playing baseball,

but it offers a historical piece to this monumental event, something to remember it by. Beyond historical moments, it also helps fans and broadcasters alike show their personality. As an example, he used famous announcer Phil Rizzuto, who would write 'WW' or 'Wasn't Watching' when he got distracted in the booth. Rizzuto was beloved for many of his funny, colorful habits in the booth, and this minor score card quirk does a great job at showing it. Overall, this article helps show how score cards aren't just a fun time sink, but also how it can document historical moments and personalities throughout the history of the game

Montero, D. (2017, August 28). Keeping the book: Dodgers fans keep art of scorekeeping alive. Retrieved May 23, 2020, from <https://www.dailynews.com/2015/10/10/keeping-the-book-dodgers-fans-keep-art-of-scorekeeping-alive/>

In a more light-hearted and personal look at scorekeeping, author David Montero looks at a group of dodger fans and their score keeping habits. To start, he details the preparation one fan takes when going to keep score at a game, as well as how it helped connect her and her husband. He then expands, talking about how the top deck at a dodger's playoff game was filled with many fans keeping score. One of them even had a custom-made card, which she shares with others in the group. Due to her dedication, she has some fun and historic moments documented, such as Clayton Kershaw's 300th strikeout of the season, as well as a game that ended with a balk. All of this helps show the personal side of scorekeeping and how it goes beyond just a personal hobby. It gives groups of like-minded fans a way to connect to each other and share their passion with each other, as well as a way to have historical artifacts and memories of iconic moments for their favorite sport.

Blogs

Foster, A. (2019, April 19). Baseball 101: The Anatomy of Scorekeeping. Retrieved May 23, 2020, from <https://www.thegoodphight.com/2019/4/19/18305031/baseball-101-the-anatomy-of-scorekeeping>

For many, scorekeeping can be very complicated, especially from the outside looking in. In this post, author Allie Foster tries to simplify that a bit by running down the basics. For starters, the number system is something that throws off a newcomer easily. In reality, the numbers are simply just tied to each position (i.e. 1 = Pitcher, 8 = Center Field). Once you've got them memorized, these numbers help make showing where the ball went and who interacted with it much simpler and quicker. There's also a large number of different letters and acronyms to help show certain plays as well. For example, K means strikeout, BB means walk, and SF means sacrifice fly. Similar to the numbers, the main key here is memorizing. This also shows some of the appeal for scorekeeping. Once you've figured it out, it becomes like a whole different language for baseball fans to communicate with.

Martin, A. (2009, April 15). Keeping a Clean Scorecard: A Baseball Beancounter's Bible. Retrieved May 23, 2020, from <https://www.purplerow.com/2009/4/15/838329/keeping-a-clean-scorecard-a>

In a more detailed look at what goes into writing a scorecard, author Andrew Martin discusses and shows some fun and clean ways to add some more detail to a scorecard. He runs through a sample Rockies game, detailing each at bat and showing how you can put this information in the card, so you really know what happened. Some of these details include things such as the count, stolen bases, which out the batter was, and even when a runner advances multiple bases. This helps show the many different ways one can keep score, as well as how people enjoying sharing their style. There are no hard and fast rules to scorekeeping besides the basics and the personality each different scorecard has is a major part of their eternal charm.

McKay, K. (2020, January 06). How To Score a Baseball Game (Step-by-Step). Retrieved May 23, 2020, from <https://www.artofmanliness.com/articles/how-to-score-a-baseball-game-with-pencil-and-paper/>

In this article, authors Brett and Kate McKay do a quick rundown of how to keep score. It runs down the process from start to finish, including a website to print a custom scorecard for free. They then run through a sample scorecard, showing some of the plays that may happen and how you can score them. Beyond the basics though, they also show an example of a personalized scorecard. Personalization is an essential aspect of scorekeeping; with they're being hundreds of different ways to do it. This is similar to a phone background or dark mode on a phone app. By being able to make it your own thing, it helps give people the chance to show their personality and share this personality with others.

Schindler, C. (2020, April 09). The Art of Keeping Score. Retrieved May 23, 2020, from <https://peoriachiefs.mlblogs.com/the-art-of-keeping-score-1edf83e3de02>

Some struggle at times seeing what the art is behind scorekeeping. In their eyes, it's often just a bunch of random, archaic scribbles describing the events of a baseball game. As Cory Schindler shows in this article, the art behind it is how different people can have completely different looks despite all covering the same sport. In all the different examples showed, each score keeper has some unique aspects to their card. Some of basic boxes and pencil marks, some have more detailed boxes such as a way to show the count, while other use a large variety of colors in their book. This all does a great job at physically showing all the different ways and styles a person can jot down what takes place during a baseball game.

Sorensen, C. (2016, July 31). The Lost Art of Keeping Score and Why You Should Try It! Retrieved May 23, 2020, from <https://www.dodgersnation.com/the-lost-art-of-keeping-score-and-why-you-should-try-it/2016/07/31/>

This article is similar to many others that help show a basic introduction to scorekeeping. Christiaan Sorensen adds a bit of variety to it though, making the focus fans who have no

familiarity with scorekeeping, as well as adding a bit of humor. Sorensen also details some of the other aspects of scorekeeping others don't mention. For one, keeping score means you need to pay full attention to the game, for the whole game. Beyond that, you can talk to friends, but you can't get too lost in conversation as that will hurt your scorekeeping ability. Keeping score for many is what transitions you from a casual fan to a hardcore one. As Sorensen describes it, keeping score almost makes you a part of the staff, as you're privy to information the sacred few are given.

Videos

Masn Nationals. "Bob Carpenter explains how he scores some complex plays" *YouTube*, 12 Jul. 2019 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hbE7gtH-4UA>

Commentator Bob Carpenter, like many broadcasters, often keeps score while commentating the game. Since he sees so many games a year, he's run into some interesting plays. Due to this, it can lead to some odd-looking scorekeeping. This led to the Nationals YouTube channel making a video showing how he goes about scoring these strange plays. These include multiple complex rundowns and wild pitches. One of the hardest parts of scorekeeping is figuring out what to do for these crazy plays, so having a broadcaster with expansive knowledge on both the game itself as well as scorekeeping makes it much easier for newcomers to figure out and learn how to keep score.

Masn Nationals. "Bob Carpenter talks about preparing his scorebook" *YouTube*, 27 Jul. 2017 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9-oR5gt0mgQ>

In this video, the Washington Nationals interview their broadcaster Bob Carpenter on his scorecard, and he goes about keeping it. To start, he talks about keeping all his scorecards in books. To show how this is useful, he runs through some old scorebooks, showing how he can use it to go back and look at say, a homerun Ryan Zimmerman hit in a game. He also does some unique things such as listing the standings the day of that game. Overall, this is a deep, comprehensive look at how someone very involved in the game goes about keeping score. It shows some of the differences an older, professional commentator may do compared to fans and what not.

mikescottbaseball. "Keeping a scorebook pt1" *YouTube*, 21 Jun. 2011, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XtmtVHXQpD0>

In this video, Mike Scott has a fully detailed tutorial on how to keep score at a game. This video starts first by running through all the basics of scorekeeping, such as the positions and numbers they're aligned to. He then moves on to the physical card itself, going through details such as the names, numbers, and play boxes. Afterwards, he runs through a basic inning of plays, showing how each play is documented, as well as all the different markings usually done. He also shows what happens when the inning transitions, such as

writing an X on the leadoff hitter's box for the next inning. Overall, this a great, detailed introduction to keeping score, going through all the basics in a digestible way.

mikescottbaseball. "Keeping a scorebook pt2" *YouTube*, 21 Jun. 2011,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ymuj9580qBQ>

Picking up from where he left off in his last video, Mike Scott keeps running through his hypothetical scorecard. In this. He tries to run through some different plays and how to score them, such as balks, unassisted outs, and caught stealing. By the end, he has four full innings documented, with a wide variety of different sequences to base your own off of. In this two-part series, Scott has one of the most detailed looks at scorekeeping, making it very easy for a viewer to learn from. Scott's video is also easy to watch as the scorecard is large and detailed and very easy to see.

MJH-Baseball. "How To - Score keeping baseball – BASIC" *YouTube*, 30 Mar. 2017,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=82WJsBG5O3s>

For some, a detailed tutorial is what they need to get a hang of scorekeeping. For others though, they may not have the time or energy to learn from a long-winded video or article. In this video though, the creator tries to accommodate those needs by making a rapid-fire tutorial of how to quickly start a scorecard as well as continue to keep score afterward. For creating one fast, it often can be easier to just write the players numbers down rather the full names if you don't have time. He also does a quick rundown of all the basic plays, putting in only the necessary detail, showing what's needed and what's there for extra personality. This video is a good and fast way to show what's essential in scorekeeping and what you need if you're trying to quickly score keep at your kids' game and what not.

YESNetwork. "The Lost Art of Scorekeeping" *YouTube*, 26 May. 2015,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7u20avLPIe8>

In this video, the YESNetwork interviews all their different analysts and broadcasters, letting them explain how they go about scorekeeping. This includes things such as how they started scorekeeping, how they adjust their scorecards for rule changes and what not, as well looking at certain plays for analysts. This video does a great job showing the strengths of scorekeeping. These are three different professionals inside baseball, who all keep a scorecard and do so in very different ways. Some are simpler, some are more detailed, some like looking back, others just like the action. There's no right or wrong way, as the individuality of it all is what makes it the way it is.

Broadcast Transcript

"Commentary: Fans keeping score at baseball games." *All Things Considered*, 22 Aug. 2001.
Gale Academic OneFile, <https://link-gale->

com.libraryproxy.quinnipiac.edu/apps/doc/A166029880/AONE?u=a13qu&sid=AONE&xid=10617d9f. Accessed 23 May 2020.

In a unique style of broadcast, Linda Wertheimer and Scott Huler interview a fan on her scorekeeping habits and why she goes about it. For one, she feels it gives her a memento for the game, along with her ticket. Another aspect that keeps her doing it is how she can use it to keep track of stats she may want to know. A really interesting part of the interview is how people interact with her because of this habit. Often times, older folks compliment her for actually keeping score, while others ask her what happened last time up for certain batters. This transcript helps show a fun way to look at people's scorekeeping trends, as well as some interesting interactions keeping score may cause while at a game.

Books

Dickson, P. (2007). *The joy of keeping score: How scoring the game has influenced and enhanced the history of baseball*. New York: Walker.

Scorekeeping is a major part of baseball's long history, starting all the way back in 1845. In this book, Paul Dickson details this history, providing a long-detailed look at scorekeeping. He also provides numerous examples of famous scorecards, such as Don Larsen's perfect game and Cal Ripken's record-breaking game. Beyond this, the book contains details of other more minute parts of baseball's history, such as rule changes, scoring blunders and others. Overall, this book offers a detailed and fun way to look at the history of baseball through a different perspective, that of the scorecard.

Wirkmaa, A. (2003). *Baseball scorekeeping: A practical guide to the rules*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland &.

While the general rules of scorekeeping are fairly easy to get a grasp on, such as which number applies to which position and some of the abbreviations, all the different combinations these rules find themselves entangled with provide a much greater challenge. This is especially true when scorekeeping goes beyond a simple hobby and becomes an official job for some. In this regard, you must be careful and precise in your scorings, as they will influence not only the scorecard, but the stats and history of the game itself. In this book, author Andres Wirkmaa gives a look into that world, as well as details about how what an official scorer must do and how these rules must be followed and implemented.

Wirkmaa, A. (2015). *The complete baseball scorekeeping handbook*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company.

Going off of his last book, author Andres Wirkmaa has used this book to help provide an extremely detailed look and guide into scorekeeping. This includes comprehensive manuals on how to keep a scorecard, as well as in-depth analysis on the many different rules and terms used for scorekeeping. Examples are provided throughout the book, looking at official games and scorecards. This book helps show you how scorekeeping rules have changed over time, how they apply now, and the most convoluted scenario's you may run into while keeping score. Overall, this book answers every question you may have in regard to scorekeeping, big or small.

Journal

Olbermann, K. "Why is the shortstop 6." *The Baseball Research Journal*, vol. 34, 2005, pp. 16-18

If you ever kept score in baseball game, you're most likely familiar with the classic numbering system. This has stayed consistent in most cases as it's usually pretty logical. Pitcher is 1, catcher is 2, first base is 3, so on and so forth. The only odd part is why the shortstop is 6 and third base is 5. Since shortstop comes before third base in the field, you'd think the same would be true for scoring. In this brief section of the baseball research journal, author Keith Olbermann explores the history behind this and why it's the way it is. It's a fascinating look into some of the intricacies of scorekeeping, as well as why it's the way it is.

Thornley, S, Tholkes, B. "From Recorder to Judge: The Evolution of the Scorer in the Nineteenth Century." *The Baseball Research Journal*, vol. 46, 2017, pp. 5-9

While many do scorekeeping as a hobby, there's also a set of official scorers for each individual game. These are the ones tasked at keeping the live scoreboard updated and other features of the like. For the early parts of baseball history, these scorers were simply recorders. They didn't judge whether a play was an error or if it was a hit, as the difference didn't exist yet. Author Stew Thornley details this change, as well as some of the more minor history behind it. This helps bring perspective to scorekeeping, how it changed over time, and how it has affected the league and teams in regard to looking at stats.

Magazine

Stone, Larry. "The Art of Score Keeping." *Baseball Digest*, vol. 63, no. 7, July 2004, pp. 72-77. EBSCOhost, search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=s3h&AN=13257879&site=ehost-live&scope=site.

Stats have always been an essential part of baseball history. Some of the most monumental moments in the sports long history has been all-time records being broken, such as the home run record or consecutive game streak. To have these records though, they have to be kept track of, which is where score keeping comes in. In this article, author Larry Stone details the beauty and impact that often comes from this. For some, one or two different

calls can make a large difference in their career. For one player, they missed a .300 career average by 16 hits. Who knows if this would've helped this player get in the hall of fame or not. Questions and issues such as these are fascinating and help show the history and importance of score keeping from the angle of the game's stats.

Furlong, William. "Behind the Box Score: Keeping Baseball's Books is a Vital Part of the Game." *Nation's Business* (pre-1986), vol. 40, no. 8, 08, 1952, pp. 56. ProQuest, <http://libraryproxy.quinnipiac.edu/login?url=https://search-proquest-com.libraryproxy.quinnipiac.edu/docview/231716599?accountid=13381>.

In an older piece of material, author William Furlong helps presents one of the earlier looks at someone championing the art of scorekeeping. Furlong viewed scorekeeping as an essential aspect of baseball's history and praised its ability to provide a look into previous games. He also described a scenario where there was a discrepancy in the stats and a previous scorecard and how this discrepancy help fix a mistake made on a previous stat. This provides a unique look into scorekeeping, back before the age of computers and information. These scorecards were essential as they were the main record keeps of stats back in the day. Even now, we still have detailed stats of many historical players such as Ty Cobb and Babe Ruth, thanks in part to the dedication many had to keeping score back in the day.