Ohio Cup

Vintage Base Ball Festival

September 2 & 3, 2023

Ohio History Connection

Ohio Village

ohiohistory.org/muffins
THE OHIO CUP IS A FESTIVAL
By “Gentleman” Jim Tootle

The Ohio Cup matches are played as a three-day festival rather than a tournament. The emphasis is on celebrating the wonderful game of vintage base ball and the joy of playing the 1860s-era version of the national pastime. Matches are time-limited (rather than the customary nine innings) so that teams have the opportunity to play a number of opponents, some of which have traveled a great distance.

In its early years, the Ohio Cup was played as a tournament. But in the traditional bracket format, Ohio teams that had already played each other several times during the summer often played each other again, thereby missing out on the opportunity to get acquainted with our out-of-state guests. The bracket format also made it difficult for visiting teams to make travel plans since they did not know in advance what times their games would be played. Most importantly, it was felt that playing for a tournament championship places too much emphasis on winning at the expense of the general spirit of good sportsmanship and camaraderie that characterizes vintage base ball and the Ohio Cup.

The festival format has proven to be a great success, creating a colorful, educational, and sportsmanlike setting for participants and spectators to step back in time and experience base ball as it was meant to be played, by gentlemen (and ladies).

A BRIEF TIMELINE

1992  The 1st Ohio Cup was on Memorial Day weekend. Participants included two Ohio Village Muffins teams (Hurlers and Strikers), Kent Base Ball Club and the Great Black Swamp Frogs.

1993  The Ohio Cup was moved to the weekend following Labor Day. There were Friday, Saturday and Sunday matches. Participants included eight clubs: Kentucky Pioneers, Middletown Laurels, Great Black Swamp Frogs, Sharon Woods Shamrocks, Carriage Hill Farm Clod Busters, Deep River Grinders and the Ohio Village Muffins (Hurlers and Strikers).

1994  The format was changed to a festival rather than a tournament and moved to Labor Day weekend. Participants numbered nine clubs (including the Colorado Vintage Base Ball Club and the Greenfield Lah-De-Dahs), as well as the debut of the Ohio Village Diamonds.

1995  Participants included 12 clubs, adding the Canal Fulton Mules, Sycamore Grasshoppers and the first appearance by the National City 45s.

1997  Participants included 15 clubs, adding the Rock Springs Ground Squirrels with their feared “chi chi chi” battle call and the 1922 Giants. The first soiree and potluck dinner was held on Saturday night.

1997–2023  Participation gradually increased from 15 clubs to 30 clubs, coming from Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Indiana, Minnesota, Tennessee, Illinois, Florida and more. Huzzah!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>MUFFIN MEADOW</th>
<th>CAPITOLINE GROUNDS</th>
<th>UNION GROUNDS</th>
<th>ELYSIAN FIELD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
<td>Ohio Village Muffins – V squad</td>
<td>Cincinnati Buckeyes vs Minnesota Union</td>
<td>Rochester Grangers vs Volunteers of the Ohio 9th</td>
<td>Frosty Sons of Thunder vs Columbus Capitals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>vs St. Louis Brown Stockings</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Iron Horses of the Erie Railway vs Great Black Swamp Frogs BBC</td>
<td>Black Flags of Drovertown vs Deep River Grinders</td>
<td>Monarchs BBC vs Hog and Hominy Picked 9</td>
<td>Akron Black Stockings vs Arizona 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Ohio Village Muffins – O squad vs Detroit BBC</td>
<td>Columbus Capitals vs Filmore Fungi</td>
<td>Cincinnati Buckeyes vs Volunteers of the Ohio 9th</td>
<td>Addison Mountain Stars vs Indianapolis Blues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Rochester Grangers vs Akron Black Stockings</td>
<td>St. Louis Brown Stockings vs Monarchs BBC</td>
<td>Frosty Sons of Thunder vs Great Black Swamp Frogs BBC</td>
<td>Minnesota Union vs Iron Horses of the Erie Railway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>Ohio Village Muffins – V squad vs Hog and Hominy Picked 9</td>
<td>Detroit BBC vs Indianapolis Blues</td>
<td>Addison Mountain Stars vs Deep River Grinders</td>
<td>Black Flags of Drovertown vs Filmore Fungi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Volunteers of the Ohio 9th vs Monarchs BBC</td>
<td>Columbus Capitals vs Arizona 9</td>
<td>Minnesota Union vs Rochester Grangers</td>
<td>Frosty Sons of Thunder vs St. Louis Brown Stockings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>Iron Horses of the Erie Railway vs Indianapolis Blues</td>
<td>Hog and Hominy Picked 9 vs Great Black Swamp Frogs BBC</td>
<td>Cincinnati Buckeyes vs Deep River Grinders</td>
<td>Akron Black Stockings vs Ohio Village Muffins – O squad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Arizona 9 vs Filmore Fungi</td>
<td>Addison Mountain Stars vs Detroit BBC</td>
<td>Black Flags of Drovertown vs Ohio Village Muffins – V squad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Schedule of Matches

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>MUFFIN MEADOW</th>
<th>CAPITOLINE GROUNDS</th>
<th>UNION GROUNDS</th>
<th>ELYSIAN FIELD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
<td>Minnesota Union vs St. Louis Brown Stockings</td>
<td>German Village 9 vs Tippecanoe Canal Jumpers</td>
<td>Columbus Buckeyes vs Detroit BBC</td>
<td>Monitor BBC of Chelsea vs Fillmore Fungi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Ohio Village Muffins – O squad vs Rochester Grangers</td>
<td>Hog and Hominy Picked 9 vs Deep River Grinders</td>
<td>Cincinnati Red Stockings vs Mansfield Independents</td>
<td>Fulton Mules vs Frosty Sons of Thunder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Ohio Village Muffins – V squad vs Arizona 9</td>
<td>Tippecanoe Canal Jumpers vs Minnesota Union</td>
<td>Black Flags of Drovertown vs Addison Mountain Stars</td>
<td>St. Louis Brown Stockings vs Indianapolis Blues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Fillmore Fungii vs Mansfield Independents</td>
<td>Detroit BBC vs Fulton Mules</td>
<td>Rochester Grangers vs Cincinnati Red Stockings</td>
<td>German Village 9 vs Frosty Sons of Thunder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>Monitor BBC of Chelsea vs Black Flags of Drovertown</td>
<td>Hog and Hominy Picked 9 vs Indianapolis Blues</td>
<td>St. Louis Brown Stockings vs Columbus Buckeyes</td>
<td>Minnesota Union vs Deep River Grinders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Ohio Village Diamonds vs Ladies Club</td>
<td>Detroit BBC vs Arizona 9</td>
<td>Addison Mountain Stars vs Mansfield Independents</td>
<td>Ohio Village Muffins – O squad vs Fillmore Fungii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>Tippecanoe Canal Jumpers vs Fulton Mules</td>
<td>Monitor BBC of Chelsea vs Cincinnati Red Stockings</td>
<td>Hog and Hominy Picked 9 vs Black Flags of Drovertown</td>
<td>Frosty Sons of Thunder vs Ohio Village Muffins – V squad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Deep River Grinders vs Ohio Village Muffins – O squad</td>
<td>Arizona 9 vs Addison Mountain Stars</td>
<td>Indianapolis Blues vs Columbus Buckeyes</td>
<td>Rochester Grangers vs German Village 9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SPECIAL THANKS

FIELD SETUP
Rudy Frias

GAME SCHEDULING
Andy Akers

HOSPITALITY & LUNCH SERVICE
Gretchen Collins, Lauren Strand
and the Hospitality Team

OHIO HISTORY CONNECTION COORDINATOR
Susan Brouillette

OHIO CUP PROGRAM
Marketing Department at the
Ohio History Connection

LEADERSHIP
Muffins and Diamonds Advisory Board

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

Annual general operating support provided by

Ohio Village operating support sponsored by
Beer Service Hours  
*American House Hotel & Tavern*  
Sat. • 11 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Sun. • 1–4 p.m.

Food Trucks Hours  
*Located near 17th Ave. fields*  
Sat. & Sun. • 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

Lunch Serving Times  
*American House Hotel*  
Sat. & Sun. • 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Hospitality Room Hours  
Sat. & Sun. • 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

Hospitality Tent Hours  
*Located near 17th Ave. fields*  
Sat. & Sun. • 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Soda and water are for sale in the Ohio Village Emporium and from food trucks in Ohio Village and near the 17th avenue fields.

**“TIP YOUR HAT” TO OHIO CUP SPONSORS**

The Wasserstrom Companies  
2777 Silver Dr.  
Columbus, OH 43211

The Ohio Village Muffins & Diamonds (players and families)

**VISIT THESE VENDORS**  
*(stationed in Ohio Village)*

Stockbridge Sewing Works  
Phoenix Bats

*Base ball games and outdoor activities weather dependent*

For general information about the Ohio History Connection, call 614.297.2300 or 800.686.6124 or visit ohiohistory.org.