



Email: newforestbaseball@outlook.com

Website: www.newforestbaseball.co.uk

NEW BASEBALL CLUB LAUNCHED IN THE FOREST

With the sport of baseball growing across the United Kingdom, the New Forest now has its own team.

The New Forest Thunder Knights have registered as members of the British Baseball Federation and will compete at the Single A level in the South West and Wales League in 2023.

Formed by a group of friends who have previously played locally, the team will initially play its home games in Southampton, whilst searching for a more permanent home in the Forest.

With a mix of men and women the founders of the team have set out to create an inclusive club that welcomes players of all ages and experiences. Currently the squad is made up of players who have played at every level in the UK through to those who are complete beginners.

The main ethos of the club will be kept simple, to expand knowledge of the game of baseball in the New Forest and the surrounding areas and for every member of the club to enjoy themselves whilst playing or training.

Assistant General Manager, Sam Williams, said:

"We're really excited to bring baseball to the New Forest and Southampton this year. There's huge potential for the sport both in the local area and across the United Kingdom."

"Our aim is to enjoy ourselves on and off the field and to create an atmosphere in which everyone feels happy, safe and supported to play this fantastic sport."

Pre-season training is now underway as the Knights look to make a run at the Severn Division in their first season. They'll travel to nearby Bournemouth, as well as Cardiff and Bristol to play against their divisional rivals in 2023. Matchups with teams from Newquay, Taunton and Weston-Super-Mare are also on the cards.

The Knights have already secured their first sponsor, with American Baseball Journal, *The Twin Bill* providing funding for the team to purchase match balls ahead of the season. Further sponsors are being sought in order to help with equipment and the cost of field hire, and the club would welcome any contact from interested organisations.

With the Chicago Cubs and St. Louis Cardinals playing in the MLB International Series in London later this year, and Team GB's participation in the upcoming World Baseball Classic, the sport has never been more popular in the UK. The Knights are looking to capitalise on the interest generated by these events to grow the sport of baseball and secure the long term future of the club.



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Anyone interested in more details is welcome to contact the club via social media ([Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [Twitter](#)) or email (newforestbaseball@outlook.com).

Further Information:

- The New Forest Thunder Knights will play in the South West and Wales Baseball League, as well as the British Baseball Federation's Summer Cup;
- The club is open to both men and women, and league games feature mixed squads;
- Further information can be found at newforestbaseball.co.uk

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