

A Look Back at Louisiana Minor Leagues

Cajuns, Red Sticks, Rice Birds, Berries, Creoles, Oyster Shuckers, Sugar Boys and Gassers. These might be the names of South Louisiana music groups. In fact, they have something in common with Pelicans, Zephyrs and Captains. They were nicknames of minor league baseball clubs in Louisiana towns and cities, some going back as far as the turn of the century.

While the New Orleans Zephyrs (Pacific Coast League) and Shreveport Captains (Texas League) are the only Louisiana-based minor league baseball clubs of today, the Evangeline League and the Cotton States league were two of the more prominent leagues of yesteryear. Their teams were comprised of towns like Hammond, Thibodaux, Rayne, New Iberia and Abbeville. Although these were Class C and D leagues during their existence, some would say they represented a time when minor league baseball was in its heyday.

The following is a listing of the various minor leagues which had clubs in Louisiana. The teams listed for each league did not necessarily play each year.

League Name	Class	Yrs. of Louisiana Teams	Louisiana Teams
Arkansas State League	D	1909	Monroe
American Association	AAA	1977 1993-1997	New Orleans
Cotton States League	C, D	1902-1906 1908, 1912 1910-1913 1924-1932 1937-1941 1950-1955	Alexandria, Baton Rouge, DeQuincy, Lake Charles, Monroe, Monroe-West Monroe, New Orleans, Opelousas
Dixie Association	C	1971	Shreveport
Dixie League	C	1933	Baton Rouge, Shreveport
East Dixie League	C	1934	Baton Rouge, Shreveport
Evangeline League	C, D	1934-1942 1946-1957	Abbeville, Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Crowley, Hammond, Houma, Jeanerette, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Monroe-West Monroe, New Iberia, Opelousas, Rayne, Thibodaux
Gulf Coast League	B,C,D	1907-1908 1950-1953	Alexandria, Crowley, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Leesville, Monroe, Morgan City, Opelousas
Gulf States League	A	1976	Baton Rouge, Lafayette
Louisiana State League	D	1920-1922	Abbeville, Alexandria, Lafayette, New Orleans, Oakdale, Rayne
Southern Association	A, A1, AA	1901 1902-1961	New Orleans, Shreveport
Southern League	N/A	1887-1889 1892-1896, 1889	New Orleans, Shreveport

continued on pg.7

A Look Back at Louisiana Minor Leagues

Cajuns, Red Sticks, Rice Birds, Berries, Creoles, Oyster Shuckers, Sugar Boys and Gassers. These might be the names of South Louisiana music groups. In fact, they have something in common with Pelicans, Zephyrs and Captains. They were nicknames of minor league baseball clubs in Louisiana towns and cities, some going back as far as the turn of the century.

While the New Orleans Zephyrs (Pacific Coast League) and Shreveport Captains (Texas League) are the only Louisiana-based minor league baseball clubs of today, the Evangeline League and the Cotton States league were two of the more prominent leagues of yesteryear. Their teams were comprised of towns like Hammond, Thibodaux, Rayne, New Iberia and Abbeville. Although these were Class C and D leagues during their existence, some would say they represented a time when minor league baseball was in its heyday.

The following is a listing of the various minor leagues which had clubs in Louisiana. The teams listed for each league did not necessarily play each year.

League Name	Class	Yrs. of Louisiana Teams	Louisiana Teams
Arkansas State League	D	1909	Monroe
American Association	AAA	1977 1993-1997	New Orleans
Cotton States League	C, D	1902-1906 1908, 1912 1910-1913 1924-1932 1937-1941 1950-1955	Alexandria, Baton Rouge, DeQuincy, Lake Charles, Monroe, Monroe-West Monroe, New Orleans, Opelousas
Dixie Association	C	1971	Shreveport
Dixie League	C	1933	Baton Rouge, Shreveport
East Dixie League	C	1934	Baton Rouge, Shreveport
Evangeline League	C, D	1934-1942 1946-1957	Abbeville, Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Crowley, Hammond, Houma, Jeanerette, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Monroe-West Monroe, New Iberia, Opelousas, Rayne, Thibodaux
Gulf Coast League	B,C,D	1907-1908 1950-1953	Alexandria, Crowley, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Leesville, Monroe, Morgan City, Opelousas
Gulf States League	A	1976	Baton Rouge, Lafayette
Louisiana State League	D	1920-1922	Abbeville, Alexandria, Lafayette, New Orleans, Oakdale, Rayne
Southern Association	A, A1, AA	1901 1902-1961	New Orleans, Shreveport
Southern League	N/A	1887-1889 1892-1896, 1889	New Orleans, Shreveport

continued on pg.7