

# STRAT-O-MATIC® NEWS

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Winter 2015

## Relive a Season That Had it All

### ***2014 Baseball: Record-Setters, No-Hitters and a Memorable Game 7***

We like tight division races and seven-game World Series. Got both.

We like no-hitters and strikeout pitchers. Got five no-nos and dozens of power arms.

We like making history with legendary performances and record-setting stats. Got the numbers.

We like young superstars — stud rookies and do-it-all 20-somethings we can draft and hold. Got tons of ‘em.

And soon, all of the cheese-throwing, fence-swinging and base-swiping action will be ready for your dice-rolling and keystroking with Strat-O-Matic’s league-leading recreation of the 2014 Major League season.

There’s something — actually, there’s a whole lot — for everyone in this memorable season. San Francisco established a modern-day dynasty by winning its third World Series in five years. With blazing speed and unequalled defense (how do *six* 1-rated position players sound?), Kansas City raced through the American League playoffs and took the Giants to a seventh game before Madison Bumgarner achieved World Series legend status.

A highly competitive regular season had tight division races, strong Wild Card teams, and few mismatches (no team won 100 or lost 100).

It had batting and pitching stars — sluggers like Baltimore’s Nelson Cruz (40 HR) and aces like the Dodgers’ Clayton Kershaw, who won the NL Cy Young and MVP award with an all-time great season: 21-3, 1.77 with 239 Ks and an 0.857 WHIP.

The rookies of the year — White Sox’

Jose Abreu (.317-36-107) and Mets pitcher Jacob deGrom (2.49 ERA) — continue the slugging and power-pitching theme. deGrom fanned the first eight men he faced in a game, tying a record.

Emerging stars included Houston’s batting champ Jose Altuve (.341) and Pittsburgh’s super utility man Josh Harrison (.315), Cleveland’s Cy Young starter Cory Kluber (18-9, 2.44 with 269 Ks) and the Yankees’ 90-inning reliever Dellin Betances (5-0, 1.44 ERA, 0.778 WHIP and 135 Ks). Altuve, Dee Gordon and Billy Hamilton all topped 55 stolen bases.

They join such young-but-established superstars as AL MVP Mike Trout, NL home run champ Giancarlo Stanton and do-everything Andrew McCutchen, who became the second center fielder in history to reach the .300/.400/.500 split for a third consecutive season, following Mickey Mantle.

Milwaukee’s Jonathan Lucroy broke the Major League record for doubles by a catcher (46 of his franchise-best 53) and Seattle’s Mike Zunino set a franchise record for catchers by belting 22 homers. Pittsburgh’s Neil Walker set a club record for second basemen with 23 homers.

With almost 16 strikeouts per game, pitchers owned a lot of glory.

Chris Sale (12-4, 2.17) was a Cy Young contender. David Price led 13 200-K pitchers with 271. Kershaw pitched 41 straight scoreless innings. Johnny Cueto was Kershaw-esque at 20-9, 2.25 with 242 Ks and a .194 opponent batting average. Yusmeiro Petit retired 46 straight batters. Tampa Bay’s staff threw 22 shutouts, most since the ‘72 A’s.

Craig Kimbrel set the Braves record with 47 saves and became the first in MLB history with at least 40 saves in each of his first four full seasons. Aroldis Chapman K’d 17.7 men per 9 innings. Sean Doolittle had a no-less amazing 89 Ks and 8 walks in 63 IP.

### ***Pre-orders: Jan. 21 Opening Day: Feb. 6***

Strat-O-Matic’s new baseball season, the Ratings Book that precedes it and Opening Day in Glen Head, NY in early February are always the three most anticipated days in the Strat-O-Matic year.

But this winter will be one of Strat-O-Matic’s biggest ever. Check it out:

■ The *FREE* online draft component in Strat-O-Matic Baseball 2015.

■ Not one, but *TWO* classic deluxe baseball seasons — 1969 and 1953.

■ Not one, but *SIX* specialty computer baseball items from the Update Team — the 1873 National Association, 2014 Japanese Leagues and FOUR Negro Leagues seasons.

■ A new set of 42 players for the second edition of the popular Baseball Express game.

■ A Hall of Fame 2015 roster for the Windows game, adding the most recently inducted players.

■ Perhaps most prominent of all, the new Strat-O-Matic logo, which already appears here and on the hot new Logo T-Shirt.

All of this in addition to recently released 20 new superstars in Strat-O-Matic Online’s All-Time Greats set.

It’s only right that this extraordinary lineup and Opening Day kickoff just five days after the Super Bowl. There’s not much longer to wait.

***Unlike in years past, pre-orders for Opening Day pickup will begin the same day as all other pre-orders. However, those coming for Opening Day pickup don’t have to rush to be among the first to call.***

***Time to order the Baseball  
Ratings Book — see page 2***

***Classic Doubleheader:  
1969, 1953 seasons — page 2***

***FREE Online Draft in new  
Windows Baseball — page 3***

# Classic Baseball in Super Advanced

## 1969: Greats at Their Best

Since Strat-O-Matic gamers love stats, let's count the reasons to enjoy the 1969 baseball season — the latest set to be updated from Advanced to Super Advanced for both the board game and Windows game:

Play it again for the Miracle Mets, amazing World Series winners after its first seven years were spent in or near the National League cellar. Or to redeem the American League champs, the 109-win Baltimore Orioles with Frank Robinson, Boog Powell and the deepest pitching staff in the Majors.

Play it again to experience the first year of division play and the first for new franchises in Kansas City, Seattle, Montreal and San Diego.

Play it again to relive the very best seasons of some of the very best ballplayers ever — Tom Seaver, Reggie Jackson, Pete Rose, Willie McCovey, Harmon Killebrew — and for such other top stars of the day as Frank Howard, Rico Petrocelli, Rico Carty and Mike Cuellar. Not to mention the near-bests of all-time greats Hank Aaron (44 HR), Carl Yastrzemski (40 HR), Roberto Clemente (.345), Tony Perez (.294-37-122), Juan Marichal, Gaylord Perry and Phil Niekro.

In all, seven men hit 40 or more homers, eight stole 40 or more bases and 15 pitchers won at least 20 games and a dozen starters had ERAs below 2.50 (but none below 2.00). The offense-defense balance had been restored in the season after The Year of the Pitcher.

Play it again to pilot the Yankees in their first season without Mickey Mantle; or the Cubs' 92-win challenge to the Mets; or the NL West-champion Braves, who won their first title since moving from Milwaukee to Atlanta; Milwaukee Washington Senators' 86 wins — their first winning season since rejoining the AL in 1961.

## 1953: Dodger Dream Team

No one who ever cut his Strat-O-Matic teeth on the one-sided Oldtimer great teams has forgotten the 1953 Brooklyn Dodgers, with its high-power, high-average lineup that had speed and five 1-rated defenders. This most-loved, most-feared outfit with Jackie Robinson, Duke Snider, Roy Campanella, Gil Hodges, Pee Wee Reese and Carl Furillo won 105 games and dominated the National League like few others.

But MVP Campanella (.312-41-142), MVP-worthy Snider (.336-42-126), batting champ Furillo (.344-21-105), Robinson (.329), Hodges (.302-31-122) and company are far from the only attractions now that Strat-O-Matic is making the entire 1953 season in Super Advanced form for the board and Windows games.

After all, the 99-win New York Yankees won the World Series with Yogi Berra (.296-27-108) leading a balanced lineup and league ERA leader Eddie Lopat (16-4, 2.42) heading a deep pitching staff.

The Yankees dominated the AL despite MVP Al Rosen (.336-43-145) of Cleveland, who missed a Triple Crown by a single batting average point. Batting champ Mickey Vernon (.337-15-115) had an MVP-worthy season, too. But perhaps the lustiest hitting card will be that of Ted Williams, who hit .407/.509/.901 with 13 HR and 34 RBIs in just 91 at-bats.

The AL season had such highlights as Mickey Mantle's 565-foot home run in Washington and St. Louis Browns rookie Bobo Hollo- mon, who threw a no-hitter in his Major League debut.

Back in the NL, Milwaukee's Eddie Mathews (.302-47-135) and Warren Spahn (23-7, 2.10), St. Louis' Stan Musial (.337/.437/.609) and Philadelphia's Robin Roberts (23 wins, 2.75) had mega seasons and the league had four of the season's six 40-HR men.

## Win More Games with The Baseball Ratings Book

Every game and every season of Strat-O-Matic Baseball is won and lost because of a series of decisions, large and small. Who should be your starting pitcher in this hitter-friendly park? Who should pinch-hit against left-handers? Who should bat third in the lineup? Sixth? Does this trade do enough to help me? Even at the end of the season, the questions never end and decisions must be made on the best information available.

Strat-O-Matic's Baseball Ratings Book is the best information you can find. It is the only guide with the official data from Strat-O-Matic. The only guide with all the carded and computer-only players. No other source provides as many ratings.

Experienced gamers talk about "chances" of getting on base, hitting a homer or other results. These charts give you that informa-

tion at a glance, saving you hours of number-crunching. It's the detail you need to decide who should play, who to draft or trade, and what strategy to use.

When you roll three dice, there are 216 possible combinations, 108 on the pitcher's card and 108 on the hitter's card. Each column has 36 chances. You might look at the 2-12 listed results on a card and ask, "How can that be when each column only shows 11 results?" The answer, of course, is that the 2-12 rolls do not have equal value. The only way to get a 2 result is by rolling snake-eyes, so a homer on the 2 roll has only one chance in 216 of happening. A homer on the 7 roll has six chances in 216 of happening. Counting chances is further complicated when you consider lefty-righty combinations and split chances.

The charts from a past season below show how the Ratings Book does the number-crunching for you. If you have a runner on first and you want to know the chances of a double play, you see that Grace has 22 chances of a double play against a lefty pitcher, and Orosco has 4 double-play chances against a left-handed batter. Add them and you get 26 out of 216 chances for a double play in that situation. Do you stick with Grace? With the Ratings Guide, you can make an informed decision.

The charts even show such ratings as ballpark homerun chances (BP), clutch, hold and endurance, as well as complete fielding data for all of each player's rated positions.

Since the Ratings Book is published weeks before the cards and computer rosters come out, you can best be prepared by ordering the 2014 season book now.

CHICAGO-N		VS. LEFTHANDERS										VS. RIGHANDERS																			
HITTERS	AB	SO	BB	HIT	OB	TB	HR	BP	CL	DP	SO	BB	HIT	OB	TB	HR	BP	CL	DP	STEALING		STL	SPD	B	H	FIELDING					
Grace,M*	547	0	8	31.2	39.2	39.5	1.4	w	+1	22	0	11	36.7	47.7	49.8	0.9	1	+1	20	4/11 (13-4)		E	11	D	B	1b-1e5					
PITCHERS		VS. LEFTHANDERS										VS. RIGHANDERS										ENDURANCE									
BALT	IP	SO	BB	HIT	OB	TB	HR	BP	DP		SO	BB	HIT	OB	TB	HR	BP	DP				HO	BK	WP	F	BAT/BUNT	ST	SP			
Orosco,J*	56	28	20	7.2	27.2	16.0	1.6	2	4	34	8	5.3	13.3	7.7	0.8	1	5	+3	R(1)		-5	0	7	2-15	1WR-C	E	10				



## Online Draft in Strat-O-Matic Baseball 2015

One of the most significant features ever for the Windows baseball game will be arriving soon – a *free* Online Draft service.

Draft leagues can choose a traditional, linear draft or a serpentine draft order. They may choose a draft with no time limit between picks or set intervals of 30, 45, 60, 90, 120 or 150 seconds. Managers can watch the draft live online, and live-chat their comments. Or, if a manager is summoned away, he can assign a preference list for the computer to choose for him.

In the case of a tardy league member, the draft can still keep moving: Either the computer will pick the best player available (in a timed draft), or the league commissioner can make the pick for the absent coach.

Online draft should be easy to use. The commish creates or updates the league, places the eligible players in the free-agent pool, then uploads the file to the SOM server (where the draft is conducted) and launches the Online Draft mode. Each draft participant uses his Strat-O-Matic website sign-in and password. Draft picks are viewed by league members live, in real time. When the draft is complete, the commish downloads the draft file and uses an import function to add all the drafted players on their correct teams.

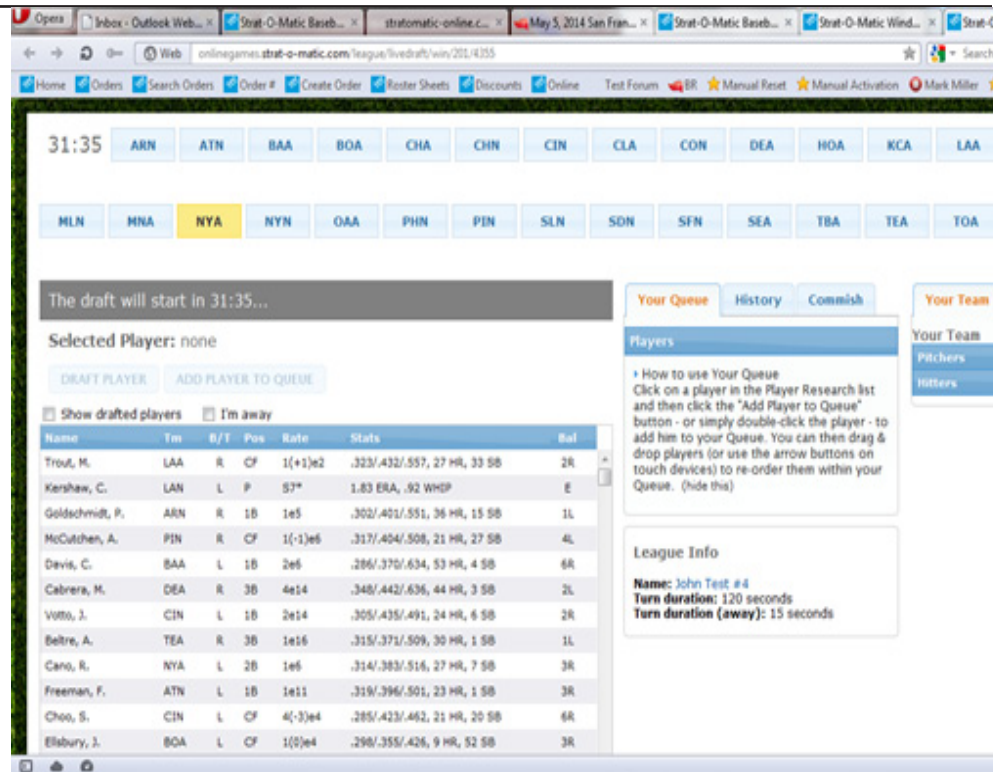
Draft participants will be able to see the entire list of drafted players and undrafted players. When evaluating a potential pick, the draft screen will display each player's name, his bat/throw hand, his position and fielding rating, his actual stats and his SOM balance rating.

### CARD IMAGE INTEGRATION OF BALLPARK EFFECTS

Not drafting soon? Strat-O-Matic Baseball 2015 offers many other improvements.

If you use the card image option (most Windows gamers do), the ballpark effects are now integrated into the card image displayed on the Game Screen Layout. Instead of the original (advanced) card result, the actual ballpark effects result is shown on the cards (e.g. a ballpark with Homerun 1-9 will show N-HR 1-9 whenever a dice roll lands on a diamond). Those results will display in yellow to signal the change.

"This will make it easier to evaluate the current batter and pitcher and will make more sense when the ballpark result is rolled with the dice," the Help file notes. If you want to see the original reading, no worries:



View the player's original card image by clicking on the player's name to display his notebook.

### CONVENIENT AND SMART

Your custom league can now handle 36 teams, up from 30. Very handy for gamers who like to set up 32-team tournaments, or who love eight-team divisions.

An optional Condensed Play Log shows every at-bat outcome shown in abbreviated fashion with such suffixes as -G for ground out, -K for strikeout, -W for walk, -SI for single and so on.

Copy a pinch-running pecking order to another. For example, your order vs. Standard Righties can be copied vs. Reverse Righties without having to start over from scratch. Then rearrange as you please.

Lineups may be set for use only in games using the designated hitter. It's in Draft League Mode, but also works very nicely for replays where National League teams use the DH only in American League parks.

Send your bullpen on the road in CM-managed leagues with more confidence thanks to a new setting called "Always remove reliever at end of inning." Before that specialty-reliever can get into trouble, the CM always will remove this pitcher after the current inning ends. This also emulates modern-day managers who assign inning-by-inning roles to their bullpen staff.

Draft-O-Matic logic will be sharper too, placing more value on overall skill rather than focusing exclusively on fitting an available role on the team.

### EVER MORE STATS

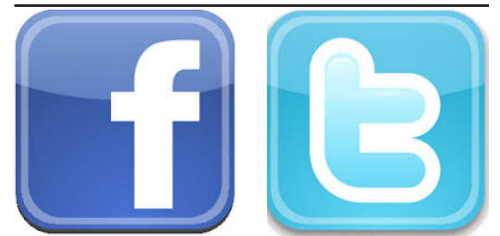
Evaluate players better with new tools such as WAR (wins over replacement value) WHIP (walks and hits per innings pitched) and other sabermetric-type stats.

Batter and pitcher notebooks now display Slugging on the Hitting and Pitching tabs.

Box scores now list Team RISP. For example, "2-for-7" means the team had two hits in seven times at bat with runner(s) in scoring position.

The pre-game Game Notes have more statistical info about games already played in the current series — winning and losing pitchers (and their updated records) and the reliever who earned a save.

Addressing a minor annoyance for perfectionists, the Awards Voting Report will now display All-Star, Gold Glove, and Silver Slugger awards based upon the positions that players were used in replays instead of their real-life primary positions.



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**Follow us on Twitter (@StratOMatic)**

# The Story of -O-: SOM's New Logo

The most recognizable name in sports strategy simulation games has a new face.

Strat-O-Matic's new logo emphasizes the "O" in a dynamic new way.

Expect to see it in the company's full name and as a stand-alone symbol, as is the case in the design of the Strat-O-Logo T-shirt below.



Expect to see it in more places and in more color combinations as the company integrates the new logo on its website and on its products and promotional materials.

Soon the -O- will be the universal sign language for Strat-O-Matic gamers. You can be on the cutting edge of this movement with your pre-order of the T-shirt, which will be available with other Opening Day products and sells for \$19.99 (+\$1.00 for 2XL and up).

Pre-orders begin Jan. 21.

Here's how SOM describes its decision to emphasize the "O":

"The '-O-' mark represents a bond between

our long-time, loyal customers and our new generation of passionate sports gamers. The "-O-" also symbolizes the infinite possibilities of realistic game simulations and season recreations only made possible through Strat-O-Matic's exclusive in-depth research and data."

THE ORIGINAL FANTASY SPORTS GAMES

**STRAT-O-MATIC®**

The logo is the inspiration and creation of Katja Maas Design.

Maas attended Charles Rennie Mackintosh's prestigious Glasgow School of Art in Scotland and worked for 10 years as an associate of the world-renowned graphic designer Milton Glaser, creator of the famous "I ♥ NY" logo.

The "O" in Strat-O-Matic has always been a vital part of its name recognition (Strat-O, Draft-O-Matic, Swap-O-Matic and more). Now it's inevitable that the "O" will spawn its own Strat-O language.

How soon will it be until the SOM world begins using "O-mazing," and "O-tta here!"

## Joining and Recruiting Easier with League Registry

Already home to more than 275 leagues in all four Strat-O-Matic sports, the League Registry page on the game company's website now has an easy-to-use sort function that permits gamers to find leagues throughout the country sorted by sport, league type (Windows or board game), and league option (current or retro, stock teams or draft). For Windows leagues, an option specifies whether the league uses Netplay.

The popular League Finder Page allows gamers to post ads requesting to join leagues, advertising an opening in their leagues or announcing upcoming Strat-O-Matic tournaments.

To register a league, email [corporateinfo@strat-o-matic.com](mailto:corporateinfo@strat-o-matic.com) with the following info:

- League Name (specify sport)
- League Type (board game or Windows)
- League Option (current stock, current draft or retro. For Windows leagues, also indicate YES/NO to Netplay)
- City/State (for board-game leagues only)
- Number of teams in your league
- Number of years your league has been in existence
- League URL (if available)
- League contact person
- League email address

Baseball always has dominated the Strat-O-Matic world and the League Registry included more than 200 baseball leagues as of early January. Football (27 leagues), hockey (21 leagues) and basketball (15) also are represented.

"The success, efficiency and usefulness of the Strat-O-Matic League Registry Page is largely dependent on your participation," the game company invites.

"So if you are currently part of a league (even if you are not looking for new members), please register with us on the site!"

## Protect Computer Codes, Organize Card Collections

Strat-O-Matic customers can catalog their purchases in secure, individual storage areas on the game company website.

The voluntary system is designed to permit gamers to record the authorization codes for the Windows games and rosters they have purchased prior to Strat-O-Matic's E-Delivery system.

Having the codes cataloged online eliminates the worry about losing them.

Each gamer's account area already stores the codes of E-Delivery products. Additionally, gamers will enter the codes from their authorization-code cards (from before E-Delivery). Once the codes are submitted, the system validates that they were entered correctly.

The entry system is information storage only. However, a side benefit allows gamers to catalog all of their board games and card sets as a way of organizing their inventory. For long-time and multi-sport gamers,

that can represent a substantial library.

## Discounts for School Sales

Your classroom or youth group can build relationships by playing Strat with deeply discounted games.

The innovative Strat-O-Matic After School Program offers your choice of Baseball Selector Sets (game with five current teams of your choice) at 50 percent off or the Baseball Express game (ideal for younger kids) at 40 percent off.

Selector sets are \$10 each for a minimum of six games. Baseball Express is \$6 each for a minimum of 10 games.

The program is for schools and such youth groups as those affiliated with YMCAs, JCCs, churches, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

For orders/questions, email [corporateinfo@strat-o-matic.com](mailto:corporateinfo@strat-o-matic.com).





## 42 New All-Stars in Baseball Express 2nd Edition Game

If you missed out on the sold-out premiere edition of Strat-O-Matic Baseball Express, here's your chance to find out what the excitement is all about.

If you are among the thousands who had the thrill of playing with the first edition's 42 all-star players, here's your chance to add to your collection.

Baseball Express, often referred to as "Strat-O-Matic Baseball for Kids," is a super-easy play version that introduces beginners of any age to the magic of Strat-O-Matic Baseball at the irresistible entry price of \$9.99.

Ideal for playing solo or head-to-head, Baseball Express is easy to learn, yet challenging enough to entertain for hours.

The game is complete with 42 player cards, three six-sided dice, one 20-Sided Die, four game markers, instructions and a playing tray that makes this a handy travel game as well.

The new players are the brightest stars of today's game: MVPs Mike Trout and Clayton Kershaw, plus Felix Hernandez, Giancarlo Stanton, Andrew McCutchen, Buster Posey, Madison Bumgarner, Aroldis Chapman ... 28 batters and 14 pitchers in all.

Altuve, Jose – 2B  
 Andrus, Elvis – SS  
 Bautista, Jose – RF, 3B, CF, 1B  
 Bumgarner, Madison – SP  
 Cabrera, Miguel – 1B, 3B  
 Cano, Robinson – 2B  
 Carpenter, Matt – 3B, 2B, 1B, RF, LF  
 Chapman, Aroldis – RP  
 Darvish, Yu – SP  
 Desmond, Ian – SS  
 Donaldson, Josh – 3B  
 Freeman, Freddie – 1B  
 Goldschmidt, Paul – 1B  
 Gomez, Carlos – CF  
 Gonzalez, Carlos – LF, RF, CF  
 Gonzalez, Gio – SP  
 Gray, Sonny – SP  
 Harper, Bryce – LF, CF, RF  
 Harvey, Matt – SP  
 Hernandez, Felix – SP  
 Kershaw, Clayton – SP  
 Kimbrel, Craig – RP  
 Longoria, Evan – 3B  
 Molina, Yadier – C, 1B  
 McCutchen, Andrew – CF  
 Pedroia, Dustin – 2B  
 Perez, Sal – C  
 Phillips, Brandon – 2B  
 Posey, Buster – C, 1B  
 Price, David – SP  
 Puig, Yasiel – RF, CF, LF  
 Sale, Chris – SP  
 Scherzer, Max – SP  
 Simmons, Andreton – SS  
 Stanton, Giancarlo – RF  
 Strasburg, Stephen – SP  
 Trout, Mike – CF, LF, RF  
 Tulowitzki, Troy – SS  
 Votto, Joey – 1B  
 Wainwright, Adam – SP  
 Wieters, Matt – C  
 Wright, David – 3B

## Hall of Fame 2015 Adds 12 Superstars for Windows Game

Just when it looked like overcrowded ballots would create a slow drip of inductees to the Baseball Hall of Fame, voters have elected seven players in the past two years.

And Strat-O-Matic has risen to the occasion with a new Hall of Fame 2015 roster for computer gamers. That doubles the pace of Hall of Fame releases, which previously occurred in 2000 and 2010.

This computer-only release will mark the first of now-annual releases of the Hall of Fame baseball season roster, allowing gamers to purchase the current roster as often as they would like.

Ideal for play against each other or in gamers' custom projects, these Hall of Famers — now 250 strong — are based on each player's seven best seasons and normalized for cross-era play.

The dozen players elected since 2010 are six pitchers and six infielders:

Pitchers Bert Blyleven, Tom Glavine, Randy Johnson, Greg Maddux, Pedro Martinez and John Smoltz.

Infielders Roberto Alomar, Craig Biggio, Barry Larkin, Ron Santo, Frank Thomas and 19th Century third baseman Deacon White.

No Hall of Fame set would be complete without them.

## And the Crowd Goes Wild: All-Time Greats Added to Online Game

Among the coolest things about the community active in Strat-O-Matic Baseball Online are the periodic polls on the game's interactive forum where gamers nominate, then choose which stars will be added to the All-Time Greats player pool.

They've done it again, adding 20 stars from peak seasons, some unavailable elsewhere in the Strat-O-Matic world.

You can check it out here:

<http://onlinegames.strat-o-matic.com/>

### Now playing:

Brady Anderson, 1996  
 Earl Averill, 1936  
 Jose Bautista, 2010  
 Lyman Bostock, 1977  
 Pete Browning, 1887  
 Ken Caminiti, 1996  
 Gary Carter, 1985  
 Kiki Cuyler, 1925  
 Tommy Davis, 1962  
 Cecil Fielder, 1990  
 Shawn Green, 1999  
 Zack Greinke, 2009  
 Charles Johnson, 1997  
 Willie Keeler, 1897  
 Tony Lazzeri, 1929  
 Fred Lynn, 1975  
 Tip O'Neill, 1887  
 Babe Ruth, 1923  
 Edgar Renteria, 2003  
 Troy Tulowitzki, 2011

To use them, just sign up online for an All-Time Greats 8 league. Draft from about 4,500 players in this set or choose to play in leagues from different years or eras.

**EAT.  
SLEEP.  
STRAT.**  
 Strat-O-Matic  
 BASEBALL ONLINE

# Travel Across the Pacific and Through Time

## 1873 National Association: Baseball Legends are Born

Re-live baseball's formative professional years when the game's rules and franchises were still being sorted out.

In the National Association's third season, the Boston Red Stockings won their second straight championship with a 43-16 record. The Philadelphia White Stockings were only four games behind at 36-17, but Boston's squad rich in future Hall of Famers showed their dominance. Pitcher Al Spalding (41-14, 2.99) and batters Deacon White (.392, 77 RBI, 19 SB), George Wright (.387) and Jim O'Rourke (.350, 21 doubles) were destined for Cooperstown. And they weren't even the team's top hitter. That would be Ross Barnes (.431, 125 runs, 60 RBI). Pro-rated over 162 games, Barnes would have scored 338 runs on 373 hits, 84 of them doubles and 30 of them triples, with 162 RBI and 116 SB.

Elsewhere in the league, the White Stockings' pitcher George Zettlein was 36-15, 2.86. The Chicago Athletics' Cap Anson hit .398 and the Baltimore Canaries' Candy Cummings was 28-14, 2.80, completing all 42 of his starts. Five Canaries hit .332 to .380.

## Post-Season Surprises in 2014 Japanese Leagues

With more Japanese Leagues batters and pitchers playing well in the Major Leagues, Strat-O-Matic gamers can get the knowledge edge by using today's Japanese stars. Do it with thrilling pennant races and 46 former Major Leaguers salting the Japanese lineups.

The Yomiuri Giants — the Yankees of the Central League — were 82-61, eight games better than arch-rival Hanshin, but the Tigers shocked all by winning four straight in the playoffs that preceded the Nippon Series championship. That was won by the Fukuoka Hawks, who won the Pacific League by two percentage points over the Orix Buffaloes.

Ex-Major Leaguers Wladimir Balentien (.301, 31 HR), Andruw Jones (24 HR) and Willie Mo Pena (32 HR, 90 RBI) were leading sluggers, but both division MVPs were Japanese pitchers: Chihiro Kaneko (16 wins, 1.98 ERA, 199 Ks) of Orix and Tomoyuki Sugano (12-5, 2.33) of Yomiuri. Potential Major Leaguers: Daisuke Yamai (Chunichi, 13-5, 3.21), Yoshihisa Hirano (Orix, 40 saves), Yoshio Itoi (Orix, .331, 19 HR, 81 RBI, 31 steals), Tetsuto Yamada (Yakult, .324, 29 HR, 89 RBI), Ginji Akaminai (Tohoku Rakuten, .327); Ernesto Mejia (Seibu, 34 HR); Takeya Nakamura (Seibu, 34 HR, 90 RBI); Ryosuke Kikuchi (Hiroshima, .325).

## New Sets Span 4 Decades of Negro Leagues

### 1911: Rube Foster tops Pop Lloyd

Seven Hall of Famers and 11 others from SOM's Negro Leagues Stars set are featured in a three-team pennant race won by Chicago, with Rube Foster (25-7, 1.87) and Pete Hill (1.072 OPS) over New York (Pop Lloyd, Dick Redding, Spot Poles) and St. Louis (Jimmie Lyons, Ben Taylor).

Foster was king of the hill in a league with Smokey Joe Williams (25-12, 2.22), Frank Wickware (26-10, 2.52), Dick Redding (23-13, 2.71) and four other 20-game winners in a six-team league.

### 1922: Five-team race ends in Indy

Thirteen Hall of Famers and 36 others from the Negro Leagues Stars set feature the great Oscar Charleston (1.072 OPS, 22 3b, 22 HR, CF-1) at his best with the champion Indianapolis ABCs.

This slugging 10-team league had catcher Biz Mackey (.978 OPS, 21 3B), Cristobal Torriente (.907 OPS, OF-1) two-way stars Bullet Joe Rogan (1.018 OPS; 24-13, 2.70 ERA) and Double Duty Radcliffe (1.018 OPS) and pitchers Smokey Joe Williams (22-12, 2.81) and Andy Cooper (22-11).

### 1934: Josh, Satch, mighty Crawfords

Enjoy Josh Gibson as a 36-HR slugger, Oscar Charleston (.930 OPS) and Satchel Paige (20-5, 2.20) on the 88-56 Pittsburgh Crawfords who were just good enough to top the Philadelphia Stars (86-58) and Chicago Giants (84-60).

Chicago had Hall of Famers Turkey Stearnes (30 HR, 18 3B, 1.057 OPS; CF-1) and Big Bill Foster (26-9, 2.57). Philly boasted Jud Wilson (.955 OPS) and Slim Jones (24-10, 2.55). Go to Havana to find Martin Dihigo (32 HR, .984 OPS; 11-6, 3.31 pitching).

### 1945: Jackie and future MLB stars

As Major League integration and the end of the Negro Leagues nears, future big-leaguers Jackie Robinson, Roy Campanella, Monte Irvin, Satchel Paige, Don Newcombe, Sam Jethroe and six more played side-by-side with older Negro League all-time greats Josh Gibson (33 HR, 1.023 OPS), Buck Leonard (.340 BA, 1.015 OPS) and Cool Papa Bell (25 SB) — still terrific, but too old for futures in the Majors.

Gibson, Leonard and Bell's Homestead Grays won this year's Negro National League.

*Each specialty set is for Baseball 2015 only; Negro Leagues (stats pro-rated to full seasons) rated for league play or integrated with Major League sets of the same eras.*

## For a Taste of the Good Life, try the preset All-Star and World Series

If your play with current and 20th Century Major League seasons has kept you from enjoying the growing library of seasons and All-Star sets from the 19th Century, Negro Leagues, Japanese Leagues and Cuba, you can still discover baseball history with just a few games from each offering.

One of the big contributions from the Update Team led by Len Durrant and Ken Wenger

is the inclusion of championship series and All-Star games with these sets. That includes game-by-game lineups for all 110 Major League World Series and all 89 Major League All-Star games.

So much more: Four East-West All-Star games for the 1934, 1937, 1942 and 1945 Negro Leagues; Nippon All-Star Series for the four Japanese seasons created by SOM: 1973,

1986, 2013 and 2014.

Other championship series: Eight (1884-90 and 1892) between the American Association and National League, Temple Cup series (1894-97) and several Negro League World Series and Nippon Series.

Best of all, they are included with your purchase of any of these seasons for the Windows game. Install them as you would any season.