



# irigo Vintage Base Ball Club

## 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY BASE BALL TERMS

- 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2<sup>ND</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> Base-tenders: names for basemen
- Ace or Tally: runs
- Ballist: ball players
- Baulk: interruption of the hurlers motion, results in a ball for the striker and a base for all runners
- Behind: catcher
- Bull Pen: the area along the foul lines where the cranks sat
- Captain: the team's leader (who usually played as well); there was no manager as yet
- Chafing: to complain about an umpire's decision; usually resulted in a fine of up to 25 cents
- Change Player: a reserve player
- Cloud Hunter: a fly ball
- Crankism: a spectator's normal oddball pessimism
- Cranks, Rooters or Bugs: spectators; "Fan" was not used until 1889. Also Crankess (female)
- Daisy-Cutter: a ground ball; also – bug-bruiser, grass-clipper, skimmer, ant-killer
- Dead: the term for "out"
- Dew Drop: slow pitch
- Diamond: infield
- Flapdoodle: an expression meaning nonsense; also – fish story, humbug, folderol, go tell it to the marines, flumdiddle, fiddle-sticks, pshaw, whopper
- Foul Tick: a struck ball which first touches the ground in foul territory
- Four-bagger: a hit which stays within the field of play but the striker is able to reach home; a home run is a hit which travels beyond an outfield barrier.
- Garden: outfield
- Hit Descriptions: Knock, Hammer, Stinger, Stunner (hard hits), Line Ball, Line Drive, Fungo (a scratch hit), Sucker (a bloop hit), Red-Hot (extremely fast), Brander
- Home Base: one-foot diameter iron plate; began being called home plate in 1869
- Hurler: pitcher
- In the Hole or In the Hold: the striker next up
- Left-, Mid & Right Scouts: outfielders
- Mascot: batboy (term used in 1909)
- Muff: error; also – juggle, boot, mug a ball, loose fielding
- Muffin: a player of lesser talent; also – milkboy, boyo, cheese (braggat), sharp (gamblers and their ilk), pinchpenny
- Nine: team; also Match Nine, Club or Side
- Short Scout: Shortstop
- Striker: Batter
- Swell: a fancy gentleman, a compliment; also square (proper), hunky (OK), having pluck, ginger or muckle (determination, courage or resolve), cuts a dash (very handsome)

- Three Hands Dead: the side is retired
- Thunderation: an exclamation of anger or frustration; also blame my buttons, botheration, by thunder, confounded, dog my cats, doggone it, drat, got to thunder, good gravy, land sake, mad as a wet hen, lordy, sake's alive, what the blazes, ye gods!

## 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY BASE BALL EXPRESSIONS

- “Striker to the line!” – Batter up!
- “Foul ticks count for nothing” – Foul balls are not strikes
- “Strike well, sir!” or “Strike well, Mr. Casey!” – Encouragement to the striker
- “Well struck, sir!” or “Well struck, Mr. Sullivan!” – Nice hit!
- “We need a well placed daisy-cutter, Mr. Bray!” – We need a ground ball!
- “Leg it!” – Run it out!
- “The batter is dead!” – The batter is out!
- “Well fielded, sir!” or “Well fielded, Mr. Rohman!” – Nice play!
- “Well hurled, Mr. Johnson.” – Nice pitch.
- “That pitcher is tossing nothing but Jimjams.” – The pitcher is wild.
- “How many muffs will this team make?” – How many errors will the club make?
- “Tally me one sir.” – A player says this to the score keeper to get a run tallied.

## 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY BASE BALL PLAYER NICKNAMES

Roadblock, Iron Chest, Lucky, Lefty, Coot, Farm Boy, Cowpie, Anvil, The Preacher, Stonewall, Stone Hands, Death to Flying Things, Kid, Sailor, Doc, Cue Ball, Scooter

## DIRIGO VINTAGE BASE BALL CLUB OF AUGUSTA

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

Website: [www.dirigobaseball.org](http://www.dirigobaseball.org)

Email: [dirigobaseball@hotmail.com](mailto:dirigobaseball@hotmail.com)

Plus...Find us on Facebook and become a fan!!!!