

## Formation of the Negro Southern League

On March 2, 1920 several baseball executives met in Atlanta, Georgia and formed the Negro Southern League. Team owners representing the following cities attended the meeting: Atlanta, Birmingham, Chattanooga, Greenville, Jacksonville, Knoxville, Montgomery, Nashville, New Orleans and Pensacola.

Baseball executives that attended the meeting in Atlanta were:

<b>Executive</b>	<b>Team</b>
W.J. Shaw	Atlanta
Frank M. Perdue	Birmingham
J. Barber	Birmingham
Mal Carter	Chattanooga
Henry Brinson	Chattanooga
Dr. O.M. Thompson	Greenville (SC)
J.R. Kennedy	Greenville (SC)
Godfrey Williams	Jacksonville
W.M. Brooks	Knoxville
Monroe D. Young	Knoxville
Henry Hannon	Montgomery
J.W. White	Nashville
Marshall Garrett	Nashville
Fred Caulfield	New Orleans
Dan Brown	Pensacola

During the meeting, the following baseball executives were elected to Negro Southern League positions:

	<b>Team</b>	<b>Position</b>
Frank W. Perdue	Birmingham	President
R.H. Tabor	Nashville	Vice-President
W.M. Brooks	Knoxville	Secretary
W.J. Shaw	Atlanta	Treasurer

Each team paid a \$ 200 franchise fee to the “league.”

One of the main rules passed by the team owners was to limit each team’s roster to a maximum of 14 players.

The season was scheduled to start on April 29<sup>th</sup> and conclude play on September 19<sup>th</sup>.

# SOUTHERN BASEBALL LEAGUE IS FORMED

## Ten Cities Are Represented at the Meeting; Circuit Is to Join the National League in 1921

Atlanta, Ga., March 2.—Getting inspiration from the National Western Baseball Circuit, recently organized at Kansas City, Mo., with "Rube" Foster as acting president and secretary, a baseball meeting was held here March 2 for the purpose of organizing a Southern Circuit. The following cities were represented:

Nashville, Birmingham, Knoxville, Chattanooga, Greenville, S. C.; Atlanta, Jacksonville, Montgomery, Pensacola and New Orleans. Among the baseball men who have stated that they would be in attendance are W. M. Brooks and Monroe D. Young, of Knoxville; Mal Carter and Henry Brinson, of Chattanooga; J. W. White and Marshall Garrett, of Nashville; Dr. O. M. Thompson and J. H. Kennedy, of Greenville; F. M. Furdus and F. L. Barber, of Birmingham; Henry Hannon, of Montgomery; Dan Brown, of Pensacola; Godfrey Williams, of Jacksonville, and Fred Caulfield, of New Orleans, and W. J. Shaw.

### Support of White League

The organization of this league has the support of the leading men in the Southern League. The plan is for this league to work in conjunction with the Southern League (white), the games being scheduled in a town where there

is a Southern League team only on dates when the white teams are on the road.

There is talk of having "Rube" Foster, Dave Wynn and Cary B. Lewis of the Chicago Defender, come here and give impetus to the league and help make it a big success in the start. It is likely that the Southern League will in the near future become a part of the National Negro Baseball League, which "Rube" Foster has in mind 1921.

L. H. Lautler, who represented the local team, stated to a Defender reporter that he "expected the league to be a big financial success. That the Defender would be a big factor in making it a "go." Other meetings will be held to keep the fever high. All of the baseball magnates who attended had great praise for the sport page of the Chicago Defender.

## Southern League Formed

Montgomery, Ala., April 12.—Final plans for the completion of the proposed Negro Southern Baseball league resulted in the formation of an eight club circuit, with a bright prospect of 10 cities composing the final arrangement of the organization. A bird's-eye view of the league reveals excellent grounds for the success of the venture; the cities selected appear to be about evenly balanced in population, have good transportation facilities and are not too long a distance removed from each other for a heavy mileage to cut serious inroads, and thus weigh heavily against the proper financial progress of the promoters. C. I. Taylor, who was cited for conspicuous service through putting into being a like organization in the northwest, was a deeply interested participant in the final arrangements, and his words of wisdom went a long way towards encouraging options on franchises. The following cities qualified for franchises in the new league: Birmingham, Nashville, Knoxville, Atlanta, Pensacola, Montgomery, New Orleans, Jacksonville. A committee on the arrangement of a schedule hopes by the end of the week to have their dates allotted, as the opening day is set for April 29.

The teams that competed in the inaugural season of the Negro Southern League and the final order of standing were as follows:

<b>1920</b>	<b>Games</b>	<b>Record</b>	<b>Pct.</b>
Memphis Red Sox	37	27-10	.730
Knoxville Giants	76	55-21	.724
Montgomery Grey Sox	86	47-39	.547
Atlanta Black Crackers	84	45-39	.536
Birmingham Black Barons	82	43-39	.524
New Orleans Caulfield Ads	82	43-39	.524
Nashville White Sox	80	40-40	.500
Jacksonville Stars	44	18-26	.409
Chattanooga	30	11-19	.367
Louisville	29	5-24	.172

The Nashville White Sox defeated the Montgomery Grey Sox four straight games in a Play-Off Series. The White Sox won the games by scores of 2-1, 3-2, 2-1 and 3-1 to claim the 1920 Negro Southern League championship title.