

PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL MILESTONES

Chronological History & Legacy

1869 First Professional Team

The Cincinnati Red Stockings become the first openly all-professional baseball team.

1876 National League Founded

The National League of Professional Base Ball Clubs is established, replacing the National Association.

1903 The First World Series

The Boston Americans defeat the Pittsburgh Pirates in the inaugural modern World Series.

1936 Hall of Fame Inauguration

The first class is elected to Cooperstown, featuring Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth, Honus Wagner, Christy Mathewson, and Walter Johnson.

1947 Breaking the Color Barrier

Jackie Robinson starts at first base for the Brooklyn Dodgers, ending racial segregation in MLB.

1973 Designated Hitter Rule

The American League adopts the DH rule, changing offensive strategy forever.

2023 The Pitch Clock Era

Major League Baseball introduces a pitch timer and larger bases to increase the pace of play.