

Pre-Civil-War Town Ball Games Played in Cincinnati

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Acronyms:

NYC = *New York Clipper*

PSOT = *Porter's Spirit of the Times*

1858			
1 Jun (Tue)	Cincinnati, Ohio	J. S. Claypoole's side 145 S. Robinson's side 71 (town ball – Gymnasts Town Ball Club intraclub game)	(1) "Town Ball in Cincinnati," <i>NYC</i> , [?] June 1858
3 Jun (Thu)	Cincinnati, Ohio Near the Brighton House	Milton Holt's side 106 Ambrose Cook's side 89 (town ball – Excelsior Town Ball Club intraclub game)	(1) "Town Ball," <i>NYC</i> , [?] June 1858
24 Jun (Thu)	Cincinnati, Ohio	S. H. Taylor's side 95 Walt. Smith's side 66 (town ball – intra-club game?)	(1) "Town Ball in Cincinnati," <i>NYC</i> , vol. 6, no. 10 (26 Jun 1858), p. 79, col. [xx]
26 Jun (Sat)	Cincinnati, Ohio	Holt's side 106 Cook's side 89 (town ball – Excelsior Club intra-club game)	(1) "Town Ball in Cincinnati," <i>NYC</i> , vol. 6, no. 12 (10 Jul 1858), p. 91, col. [xx]
1 Jul (Thu)	Cincinnati, Ohio	J. S. Claypoole's side 145 S. Robinson's side 71 (town ball – 4 innings - Gymnasts Club intra-club game) <i>(PSOT</i> : "Our correspondent says that the club designs to challenge the Excelsior Town Ballers to a grand public trial of skill.")	(1) [untitled], <i>NYC</i> , [?] Jul 1858 (2) "Ball Play at Cincinnati," <i>PSOT</i> , vol. 4, no. 20 (17 Jul 1858), p. 309, col. 2
15 Jul (Thu)	Cincinnati, Ohio	De Beck's side 105 W. Smith's side 86 (town ball – Gymnasts Club intra club game of 4 innings, with some	(1) "Town Ball in Cincinnati," <i>NYC</i> , [?] Jul 1858

		Excelsior Club members participating) (<i>NYC</i> : “The rules of the two clubs are essentially unlike, but arrangements are being made to reduce them to a similarity, so that the relative strength of both clubs may be tested.”)	
19 Jul (Mon)	Cincinnati, Ohio	B. Holt’s side 146 M. Holt’s side 135 (town ball – Excelsior Town Ball Club 4-inning intra-club game, with a half dozen from the Gymnasts Club participating)	(1) “Town Ball in Cincinnati,” <i>NYC</i> , [?] Jul 1858
22 Jul (Thu)	Cincinnati, Ohio “beyond Brighton”	Watt. Smith’s side 131 Whitaker’s side 113 (town ball – Gymnasts Town Ball Club 4-inning intra-club game with several members of the Excelsior Club participating.) (<i>NYC</i> : “They played for the first time under their new code of bye laws, which are much more stringent than the old rules. The corners, five in number, are sixty feet apart, and it is sixty feet from the batsman’s goal to the first corner, so that the run for a score is 120 yards. A ball must be caught flying, and the catcher and the giver are not permitted to throw a ball at a runner when they are not on their respective goals. A batsman is also required to run every time he strikes a ball. ... The scoring was excellent, considering that it was the first match played by the club under the new rules, and the number (eleven) engaged on each side. ... The new rules closely resemble those in vogue in the East.”)	(1) “Another Match,” <i>NYC</i> , [?] Jul 1858
24 Jul	Cincinnati, Ohio	A. Cook’s side 167	(1) “Match of Town Ball by the

(Sat)		Milton Holt's side 119 (town ball – Excelsior Town Ball Club 4-inning intra-club game)	Excelsiors,” <i>NYC</i> , vol. 6, no. 16 (7 Aug 1858), p. 126, col. [xx]
7 Aug (Sat)	Cincinnati, Ohio “at the usual place”	Cook's side 221 Hoy's side 194 (town ball – Game played by individuals selected from the Excelsior Town Ball Club and five members of the Gymnasts Club, both from Cincinnati)	(1) “Town Ball,” <i>NYC</i> , vol. 6, no. 18 (21 Aug 1858), p. 143, col. [xx]
14 Aug (Sat)	Cincinnati, Ohio Excelsior grounds near Brighton House	A. Cook's side 192 Wm. Holt's side 139 (town ball – Excelsior Club 4-inning intra-club game)	(1) “Town Ball,” <i>NYC</i> , vol. 6, no. 18 (21 Aug 1858), p. 143, col. [xx]
19 Aug (Thu)	Cincinnati, Ohio	Bickham's side 153 runs, 12 outs Whitaker's side 131 runs, 11 outs (town ball – Gymnasts Town Ball Club 4-inning intra-club game, with 14 on a side)	(1) “Another Match of Town Ball,” <i>NYC</i> , vol. 6, no. 19 (28 Aug 1858), p. 151, col. [xx]
26 Aug (Thu)	Cincinnati, Ohio	Bickham's side 190 Smith's side 172 (town ball – Gymnasts Town Ball Club 3-inning intra-club game)	(1) “Town Ball in Cincinnati,” <i>NYC</i> , vol. 6, no. 20 (4 Sep 1858), p. 159, col. [xx]
3 Oct (Fri?)	Cincinnati, Ohio “near the race course, back of Newport”	Piner's side 218 J. P. Jackson's side 216 (town ball – Kentucky Ball Club intra-club game)	(1) “Town Ball in Cincinnati, O.,” <i>NYC</i> , vol. 6, no. 25 (9 Oct 1858), p. 197, col. [xx]
Prior to 16 Oct	Newport, Ky. Kentucky grounds	Kentucky (Newport) 135 Excelsior 101 (town ball - 4 innings) (<i>PSOT</i> : “The second match game of ‘town-ball’ was played by fifteen of the Excelsior Club against fifteen of the Kentucky Club, of Newport, on the grounds of the latter. The game was witnessed by a large number of ladies and gentlemen, ... The Excelsior Club, by their Umpire, Mr. James H. Walker, presented their successful	(1) “Out-Door Sports: Base Ball: Base-Ball in Cincinnati,” <i>PSOT</i> , vol. 5, no. 7 (16 Oct 1858), p. 100, col. 3

		competitors with a beautiful ball and bat, prepared for the occasion, which was received by the leader of the Kentucky Club, Mr. J. P. Jackson, in a neat and appropriate speech. The utmost good feeling and harmony prevailed throughout the game, and the Excelsiors promised the victors another opportunity to try their skill.”)	
1859			
10 Sep (Sat)	Newport, Kentucky	Bachelors 79 Benedicts 50 (town ball – Kentucky Town Ball Club 4-inning intra-club game)	(1) “Town Ball,” <i>NYC</i> , [?] Sep 1859