

## MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL<sup>TM</sup>

{Appendix 1.1, to Sports Facility Reports, <u>Volume 14</u>}
Research completed as of August 4, 2013

#### **INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE (AAA)**

**Team: Buffalo Bisons** 

**Affiliate**: Toronto Blue Jays (2013) **Principal Owner**: Robert E. Rich, Jr.

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Coca-Cola Field

Date Built: 1988

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$42 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE**: The park features one of the largest HD video boards in all of minor league baseball, measuring 80 feet by 33 feet. Additionally, the stadium added a new Hall of Fame Room and redesigned the Pettibones Grille.

The Buffalo Bisons are no longer the AAA affiliate for the New York Mets. They are now the AAA affiliate for the Toronto Blue Jays.

In April 2013, the team and the city agreed to a one-year lease extension, in which the city will pay \$131,263 in stadium-related costs and \$315,000 in stadium improvements. The city also noted that the stadium needs to begin hosting more events when the Bisons are not playing.

Team Value: \$26 million (Revenue: \$7.5 million; Operating Income: \$1.1 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In 2008, the Bisons agreed to a ten-year naming rights deal with the Coca-Cola Company.

## **Team: Charlotte Knights**

**Affiliate**: Chicago White Sox (1999)

Principal Owner: Bill Allen & Don Beaver

Team Website

Stadium: Knights Stadium

Date Built: 1990

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE**: The Knight's new \$54 million stadium, BB&T Ballpark, is currently under construction and is projected to open in April 2014. It is estimated that the Knight's move from Fort Mill to Charlotte will triple their annual revenue (projected \$10–12 million in sales). BB&T Corporation has committed to a long-term, unspecified naming-rights deal. Additionally, Carolina HealthCare System, Piedmont Natural Gas Co. Inc. and Chick-fil-A have signed deals with the team for advertising, tickets and other rights at BB&T Ballpark. So far, corporate buyers are purchasing some of the 975 club seats and 22 suites (ranging from \$15,000 to \$50,000 with a required seven to ten year commitment). During the upcoming off-season, the team is planning to hire ten to twelve new employees.

The new ballpark will have a capacity of 10,000 people and seating for 8,800 people, which is a 1,200 reduction from Knights Stadium. The stadium is funded by \$16 million dollars of public investment from the city and county, as well as a \$1-per-year lease on a \$24 million county-owned site.

The Knight's bid for a new stadium has been plagued by Attorney Jerry Reese's various lawsuits fighting against the proposed stadium. He has alleged that it is illegal for the stadium to be funded by the city's occupancy tax or municipal service tax.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: No naming rights agreements are currently in place, but the Knights are counting on a naming rights deal to help finance the new stadium.

## **Team: Columbus Clippers**

**Affiliate**: Cleveland Indians (2009)

Principal Owner: Franklin County, Ohio

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Huntington Park

Date Built: 2009

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$49 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In September 2012, Franklin County commissioners approved a settlement of \$35,000 in a lawsuit brought by TP Mechanical Contractors Inc. alleging that the county improperly rejected its bid to install plumbing and climate-control equipment at Huntington Park.

Team Value: \$32 million (Revenue: \$10 million; Operating Income: \$4.5 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In February 2006, Huntington National Bank entered into a twenty-three-year, \$12 million naming rights agreement for the Clippers' new ballpark to be called Huntington Park. Other major corporate sponsors include The Columbus Dispatch, paying \$6 million for scoreboard naming rights, and Nationwide Insurance & Nationwide Realty for concourse naming rights at a cost of \$6 million.

#### **Team: Durham Bulls**

**Affiliate**: Tampa Bay Rays (1998)

**Principal Owner**: Capitol Broadcasting Co.

Team Website

Stadium: Durham Bulls Athletic Park

Date Built: 1995

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$16 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE**: During the 2013 season, the Diamond View III, the final piece of the Diamond View trilogy of buildings will be completed. The building will feature office and retail space and restaurants. On July 4, 2013, the Bulls set a new attendance record with a total of 11,754 fans. Additionally, Durham Bulls Athletic Park ranked second in PETA's list of the most vegetarian-friendly ballparks.

In 2013, the Durham Bulls signed a new lease with the City of Durham for the Durham Bulls Athletic Park which is good until 2033, with two additional five-year options for renewal. Under the new agreement, the Durham Bulls are responsible for operating costs and expenses, maintenance and repair costs up to \$200,000 and all utility costs. The city will cover about \$6 million of deferred maintenance costs and \$8 million of improvements requested by the Bulls (the Bulls are contributing \$2 million to the improvements and will cover any cost overruns). Under the agreement, the profit-share split will continue to be sixty percent to PFM/Nederlander and forty percent to the City. (The City's share of the profit will continue to be used for capital replacement, debt service, maintenance and repair of the facility. The City currently owns the stadium.)

Team Value: \$24 million (Revenue: \$6.8 million; Operating Income: \$0.5 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There are currently no naming rights for the Durham Bulls Athletic Park.

#### **Team: Gwinnett Braves**

**Affiliate**: Atlanta Braves (1966)

Principal Owner: Atlanta Braves (Liberty Media)

Team Website

**Stadium**: Coolray Field

Date Built: 2009

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$64

**Facility Financing:** The Gwinnett County incurred about \$77.5 million of debt that will be paid back over thirty years. Additionally, rental-car tax, as well as taxpayer money, has been

earmarked to pay off stadium debt.

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In July 2013, CoolRay Field hosted a viewing of the documentary "American Made Movie," as it kicked off its thirty-two-city tour. The documentary "examin[ed] the factors contributing to the decline of the American manufacturing workforce and the integral role consumerism plays in getting the economy back on track," and was produced by a Gwinnett philanthropist. Additionally, in May 2013, a wedding was held at the park for the first time in CoolRay Field's history.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In 2010, the Gwinnett Braves signed a sixteen-year, \$4.5 million naming rights agreement with Atlanta-based Coolray Heating & Cooling. The deal will expire in 2026.

#### **Team: Indianapolis Indians**

**Affiliate**: Pittsburgh Pirates (2005) **Principal Owner**: Indians, Inc.

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Victory Field **Date Built**: 1996

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$20 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Victory Field hosted the Second Civil Rights Game in July 2013. Additionally, in May 2013, Indianapolis opened an eight-mile bike and pedestrian path that connected Victory Field to the city's five downtown cultural districts, Victory Field also hosted various high school and college games.

Team Value: \$32 million (Revenue: \$10 million; Operating Income: \$3 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The Indians have not sold the naming rights to Victory Field. Instead, the stadium is called Victory Field to commemorate the U.S. victory in World War II.

#### **Team: Lehigh Valley IronPigs**

**Affiliate**: Philadelphia Phillies (2007)

Principal Owner: Joseph Finley and Craig Stein

Team Website

Stadium: Coca-Cola Park

Date Built: 2008

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$49 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE**: During the 2012 season, 688,821 fans visited Coca-Cola Park which set a record for the park and was the most frequented venue in Minor League Baseball for the third consecutive season. The IronPigs were awarded the Bob Freitas Award for AAA teams in late 2012. In 2013, Coca-Cola Park hosted the third annual PBS MicroBrew Festival. Additionally, Aw Shucks Roasted Corn, a Coca-Cola Park food favorite, advanced to the Final Four in the Local Legends category of minor league baseball's Food Fight contest. Two new seating areas were added for the 2013 season, adding almost an additional 200 seats. The Park added new concession options as well, including a frozen yogurt shop and Mexican food stand. Coca-Cola Park will host the 2013 Gildan Triple-A National Championship game.

Most notably, the Park added the first and only hands-free video game controlled by urine flow in a North America sporting venue. The game is a downhill skiing challenge in which the object is to hit animated penguins for bonus points. Top scores achieved on the game are then posted on video screens throughout the ballpark. The game will be changed throughout the season and include "Art Splash" (a painting game) and "Clever Dick" (a true/false trivia game answered by "going" left or right). The game is sponsored by Lehigh Valley Health Network to raise prostate cancer awareness. The women's bathrooms do not offer the same gaming opportunities as the men's bathrooms do; however, the stalls in the women's restrooms feature video screens that display the men's scores.

Allentown's mayor, Ed Pawlowski, posited that Coca-Cola Park is the highest-attended minor-league stadium in the country, which may have account for the Philadelphia Flyers decision to relocate their minor league team, the Phantoms, to Allentown in September 2014.

Team Value: \$33 million (Revenue: \$10 million; Operating Income: \$3 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In 2007, the Lehigh Valley IronPigs signed a ten-year naming rights agreement with Coca Cola. Financial details were not disclosed.

#### **Team: Louisville Bats**

**Affiliate**: Cincinnati Reds (2000)

**Principal Owner**: Louisville Baseball Club, Inc. (Rick Sweet)

Team Website

Stadium: Louisville Slugger Field

Date Built: 2000

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: \$27.8 (initial), \$39 (final)

**Facility Financing**: The field was financed through a partnership between the City of Louisville, the Bats, Hillerich & Bradsby, the Brown Foundation, Humana Inc., and the Humana

Foundation. Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Louisville Slugger Field was named a top twenty ballpark by USA Today, and is in the running for the top spot which will be announced on August 14, 2013. Additionally, the Bats mascot Buddy Bat released his first children's book. The Bats welcomed Jim Riggleman as their new manager in 2013 as well. In early 2013, the Cincinnati Reds extended its affiliation agreement with the Bats through 2016.

Team Value: \$29 million (Revenue: \$8.2 million; Operating Income: \$1.1 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Hillerich & Bradsby, makers of the famous Louisville Slugger baseball bat, paid \$2 million for lifetime naming rights to the Stadium.

#### **Team: Norfolk Tides**

**Affiliate**: Baltimore Orioles (2007)

Principal Owner: Tides Baseball Club, LP

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Harbor Park **Date Built**: 1993

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$16

Facility Financing: Harbor Park was financed through rent from the Tides and revenue from

non-sports events held at the park.

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** The park added a Salute to Pork Challenge for the 2013 season. The challenger attempts to consume five-pounds of four different pork items in one-hour. If the challenger succeeds, the meal is free, he receives four tickets to a future Tides game, and his picture is displayed on the Wall of Fame.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There is currently no naming rights agreement in place.

#### **Team: Pawtucket Red Sox**

**Affiliate**: Boston Red Sox (1973)

**Principal Owner**: Pawtucket Red Sox Baseball Club Inc. (Ben Mondor)

Team Website

**Stadium**: McCoy Stadium

**Date Built**: 1942 (renovation in 1999)

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$1.2 (\$16 for renovation)

Facility Financing: \$500,000 for the original stadium came from the federal government's

WPA program. The rest of the funding came from other sources.

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** The Pawtucket Red Sox received the State's Safe Place for Teens to Work Award in April 2013. In December 2012, Gary DiSarcina became the new manager of the Red Sox.

Team Value: \$25 million (Revenue: \$6.2 million; Operating Income: \$0.02 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: McCoy Stadium is named in honor of Thomas P. McCoy, former mayor of Pawtucket, Rhode Island. The stadium was dedicated on June 6, 1946, and re-dedicated on July 5, 1992.

#### **Team: Rochester Red Wings**

**Affiliate**: Minnesota Twins (2003)

Principal Owner: Rochester Community Baseball, Inc.

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Frontier Field

Date Built: 1996

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$35.3 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Frontier Field hosted a casting call for "The Amazing Spider-Man 2" in April 2013 as part of the movie's filming in Rochester. In June 2013, two former Syracuse University basketball players, Lawrence Moten and Roosevelt Bouie, signed autographs before the Red Wings' game. In December 2013, the Rochester Americans (the Buffalo Sabres' AHL affiliate) will play an outdoor game at Frontier Field.

Team Value: \$22 million (Revenue: \$6.1 million; Operating Income: -\$0.2 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In 1996, Frontier Telephone entered into a twenty-year, \$3.5 million naming rights agreement.

#### Team: Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders

**Affiliate**: New York Yankees (2007) **Principal Owner**: SWB Yankees LLC

Team Website

Stadium: PNC Field

Date Built: 1989 (renovated 2012)

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$25 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In April 2012, the Lackawanna County Multi-Purpose Stadium Authority sold the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Yankees to SWB Yankees LLC for \$14.6 million. Prior to the sale, the team was publically owned for twenty-six years. As part of this sales agreement, SWB Yankees LLC agreed to a thirty-year lease with PNC Field. Luzerne County brought suit against Lackawanna County after the sale of the team to claim half of the proceeds from the sale. Lackawanna County counter-sued claiming that Luzerne owes it over \$10 million in stadium maintenance costs. In addition, the Yankees became the RailRiders in November 2012 after fans voted for its new name. In early May 2013, a wrap party for the Scranton-based TV-show "The Office" was held at PNC Field.

The RailRiders debuted their new stadium at the beginning of the 2013 season. The new stadium was built around the existing field and cost \$43.3 million. The park is one-level with suites, party decks, and a new HD scoreboard.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: On February 1, 2007, PNC Financial Services Group bought the naming rights to Lackawanna County Stadium from the county for nearly \$1.1 million through the 2009 season. PNC now has a yearly renewal option for up to an additional seven years.

## **Team: Syracuse Chiefs**

**Affiliate**: Washington Nationals (2009)

**Principal Owner**: Community Owned Baseball Club of Central New York, Inc.

**Team Website** 

Stadium: NBT Bank Park

Date Built: 1997

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$16 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** The Onondaga County Legislature extended the team's option to purchase the stadium for \$2.8 million until the end of 2015.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In 2005, Alliance Bank signed a twenty-year, \$2.8 million naming rights deal with the Syracuse Chiefs. The deal is set to expire after the 2025 season. In 2013, the park's name was changed to NBT Bank Park.

#### **Team: Toledo Mud Hens**

**Affiliate**: Detroit Tigers (1987)

Principal Owner: Toledo Mud Hens Baseball Club, Inc.

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Fifth Third Field

Date Built: 2002

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$39.2 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Team Value: \$29 million (Revenue: \$8.9 million; Operating Income: \$2.6 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The Toledo Mud Hens have a fifteen-year, \$5 million naming rights deal with Fifth Third Bank that will expire after the 2016 season.

#### **MEXICAN LEAGUE (AAA)**

# Team: Rieleros de Aguascalientes (Aguascalientes Railroad Workers)

**Principal Owner**: Constructora Maiz Mier

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Parque Alberto Romo Chávez **Date Built**: 1975 (Remodeled 2004)

Facility Website: N/A

NAMING RIGHTS: Named for former Mexican League pitcher Alberto Romo Chávez.

#### **Team: Piratas de Campeche (Campeche Pirates)**

**Principal Owner**: Gabriel Escalante Castillo

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Estadio Nelson Barrera Romellón

**Date Built**: 2001 Facility Website

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The stadium is named after the Mexican League's home run king, Nelson

Barrera.

## Team: Delfines de Ciudad del Carmen (Carmen Dolphins)

Principal Owner: Virgilio Ruiz Issasi

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Estadio Resurgimiento

**Date Built**: 1967 Facility Website: N/A

**NAMING RIGHTS: N/A** 

Team: Vaqueros Laguna (Laguna Cowboys)

**Principal Owner**: Ricardo Martin Bringas

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Estadio de la Revolución

Date Built: 1932

Facility Website: N/A

**NAMING RIGHTS: N/A** 

#### Team: Diablos Rojos del Mexico (Mexico City Red Devils)

Principal Owner: Alfredo Harp Helú

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Foro Sol Date Built: 2000 Facility Website

UPDATE: On March 28, 2013, the Mexico City Red Devils played an exhibition game against

the Texas Rangers at Rangers Ballpark.

**NAMING RIGHTS: N/A** 

## Team: Petroleros de Minatitlan (Minatitlan Oilers)

**Principal Owner:** N/A

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Parque 18 de marzo de 1938

**Date Built**: 1992 Facility Website

NAMING RIGHTS: The stadium was named to commemorate the day when President Lázaro

Cárdenas announced that the oil industry in Mexico would be nationalized.

## Team: Acereros de Monclova (Monclova Steelers)

Principal Owner: Donaciano Garza Gutierrez

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Estadio Monclova

**Date Built**: 1974 Facility Website

## Team: Sultanes de Monterrey (Monterrey Sultans)

Principal Owner: Jose Maiz Garcia

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Estadio de Beisbol Monterrey

**Date Built**: 1990 Facility Website

UPDATE: Dutch DJ Tiesto attended a Sultans game in 2013 before cancelling his tour in the

country. In July 2013, The Voice... Mexico held auditions at the stadium.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A

#### Team: Guerreros de Oaxaca (Oaxaca Warriors)

Principal Owner: Luis Narchi Karam

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Estadio de béisbol Eduardo Vasconcelos

**Date Built**: 1950 <u>Facility Website</u>

**UPDATE:** The Mexican League All-Star Game and Home-Run Derby were held at the Estadio

de béisbol Eduardo Vasconcelos in 2013.

NAMING RIGHTS: The stadium is named after former Governor of Oaxaca, Eduardo

Vasconcelos.

## Team: Pericos de Puebla (Puebla Parrots)

**Principal Owner**: Ricardo Henaine Mezher

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Parque Hermanos Serdán

**Date Built**: 1973 <u>Facility Website</u>

**UPDATE:** The Parrots began a campaign allowing fans to become partners of the team, which

would give them certain privileges with the Parrots and the stadium.

## Team: Tigres de Quintana Roo (Quintana Roo Tigers)

Principal Owner: Carlos Peralta Quintero

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Estadio Beto Ávila

**Date Built**: 1996 Facility Website

NAMING RIGHTS: The stadium is named after former Mexican League and Major League

Baseball star Beto Ávila.

#### Team: Broncos de Reynosa (Reynosa Broncos)

**Principal Owner:** N/A

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Estadio Adolfo López Mateos

**Date Built**: 1963
Facility Website

NAMING RIGHTS: The stadium was named after Adolfo López Mateos, who was President of

Mexico from 1958-64.

## Team: Saraperos de Saltillo (Saltillo Saraperos)

**Principal Owner**: Juan Manuel Ley Lopez

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Parque Francisco I. Madero

**Date Built**: 1963 Facility Website

**UPDATE**: The stadium has a video screen and a capacity of 16,000 people. The park

implemented new security measures beginning in the 2012 season after an issue with guns.

#### Team: Olmecas de Tabasco (Tabasco Olmecs)

**Principal Owner:** N/A

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Parque Centenario 27 de febrero

**Date Built**: 1964 Facility Website

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A

## Team: Rojos del Aguila de Veracruz (Veracruz Red Eagles)

**Principal Owner:** N/A

Team Website

Stadium: Parque Deportivo Universitario Beto Ávila

**Date Built**: 1992 Facility Website

UPDATE: The team and its manager are currently dealing with issues involving bribes and

betting.

**NAMING RIGHTS: N/A** 

## **Team: Leones de Yucatan (Yucatan Lions)**

**Principal Owner:** N/A

Team Website

Stadium: Estadio Kukulcán

**Date Built**: 1982 Facility Website

#### PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE (AAA)

## **Team: Albuquerque Isotopes**

**Affiliate**: Los Angeles Dodgers (2009)

Principal Owner: Albuquerque Baseball Club, LLC

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Isotopes Park

Date Built: 2003

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$30 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2013, a rebuilt Isotopes Park was unveiled. The new park cost \$25 million and about 20% of the old park was retained (essentially the lower bowl area). The new park includes a 360-degree concourse, drive-in area allowing fans to watch the game from their cars, a grandstand, and two levels of suites. The suites, which cost \$28,000-a-year, are sold out until 2023. On average the Isotopes pay about \$1.8 million to the city which includes \$750,000 for rent. Isotopes Park was names to PETA's top ten most vegetarian-friendly minor league ballparks list in 2013. In late July 2013, Isotopes Park experienced flooding after heavy rains.

Team Value: \$30 million (Revenue: \$9 million; Operating Income: \$2 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There are currently no naming rights agreements for Isotopes Park.

## Team: Colorado Springs Sky Sox

**Affiliate**: Colorado Rockies (1993)

Principal Owner: Elmore Group, LLC (David G. Elmore)

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Security Service Field **Date Built**: 1988 (Renovated in 2005)

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$3.7 (\$6.5 for the renovation)

**Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** As a new measure in the 2013 season, Security Service Field opted to ban smoking at all events held at the stadium. There is talk about a potential new stadium located in downtown Colorado Springs at an estimated cost of \$60 million. The move would be part of a revitalization effort. Along with the talk of a new stadium, there are concerns regarding the Rockies affiliation with the Sky Sox which currently ends in 2014.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Security Service Credit Union entered into a twelve-year naming rights agreement beginning in 2005. Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

**Team: Fresno Grizzlies** 

**Affiliate**: San Francisco Giants (1998) **Principal Owner**: Fresno Baseball, LLC

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Chukchansi Park

Date Built: 2002

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$46 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Team Value: \$24 million (Revenue: \$6.3 million; Operating Income: -\$1.6 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: On September 13, 2006, the Fresno Grizzlies announced a fifteen-year, \$16 M naming rights deal for Grizzlies Stadium with Chukchansi Gold Resort & Casino to call the stadium Chukchansi Park. The deal results in an obligation of \$1 million per year over the life of the agreement. In addition, \$1 million of the total investment will be funded in the first year for stadium capital improvements and deferred maintenance.

#### **Team: Iowa Cubs**

Affiliate: Chicago Cubs (1981)
Principal Owner: Michael Gartner

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Principal Park

Date Built: 1992

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$12 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** During the 2012 season, the team welcomed the ten millionth fan to the new Principal Park. Before the start of the 2013 season, the clubhouse facilities were upgraded, including expansion of the locker, shower and restroom areas and the Cubs' fitness room. The batting cage was also expanded during this time.

Team Value: \$24 million (Revenue: \$6 million; Operating Income: -\$0.05 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In August 2004, the Principal Financial Group, Inc. bought the naming rights to Sec Taylor Stadium for \$2.5M and changed the name to Principal Park. The playing field is known as Sec Taylor Field.

## **Team: Las Vegas 51s**

**Affiliate**: New York Mets (2013)

Principal Owner: Summerlin Las Vegas Baseball, LLC

Team Website

Stadium: Cashman Field

Date Built: 1983

**Facility Cost** (\$/Mil): \$26 (including 100,000 sq. ft. convention center and 1,954 seat theatre)

**Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** The 51s are now the minor league affiliate for the New York Mets under a new two-year deal. Also, in October 2012, the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority granted a four-year lease extension to Stars Las Vegas, the (then) owners and current tenants of Cashman Field. (If the team decides to leave the facility within that time, they must give two seasons notice.) However, the deal then changed to a ten-year lease for the stadium with the new owners of the 51s, Summerlin Las Vegas Baseball, LLC. Summerlin Baseball, LLC purchased the 51s for \$20 million. Summerlin Baseball, LLC is currently attempting to solicit funds for a new stadium for the 51s in Summerlin. The proposed \$60 million stadium would be part of a minivillage including 140 stores and 17 restaurants.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The stadium was built in 1983 on land donated by James "Big Jim" Cashman, a Las Vegas community leader and Southern Nevada Pioneer. The stadium is named in his honor

## **Team: Memphis Redbirds**

**Affiliate**: St. Louis Cardinals (1998)

**Principal Owner:** Global Spectrum (Subsidiary of the Philadelphia-based, Comcast Spectator)

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: AutoZone Park

Date Built: 2000

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$46 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** During 2012, the Redbirds installed a Daktronics video board measuring 60 feet by 60 feet (3,600 square feet). The board is now the largest HD board in minor league baseball. Bob Dylan performed at the park in 2013 as part of the Americanarama Festival. AutoZone Park was named to the 2013 top ten list of the most vegetarian-friendly minor league parks by PETA.

The St. Louis Cardinals have expressed a renewed interest in the purchase of the Redbirds. The deal is experiencing complications over the stadium and the debt it carries.

Team Value: \$29 million (Revenue: \$9.5 million; Operating Income: -\$1 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: AutoZone entered into a twenty-five-year, \$4.7 million naming rights deal with the Memphis Redbirds that runs through the 2024 season.

#### **Team: Nashville Sounds**

**Affiliate**: Milwaukee Brewers (2005)

**Principal Owner**: MFP Baseball (Frank Ward)

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Herschel Greer Stadium

Date Built: 1978

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$1 Facility Financing: N/A

**Facility Website** 

**UPDATE:** In 2013, the Huffington Post named Herschel Greer Stadium as having the coolest scoreboard. The scoreboard is a 116-foot guitar. The stadium also hosted the 2013 City of Hope Softball Challenge, a celebrity ballgame to raise cancer research funds.

In 2011, a feasibility study identified three potential sites in Nashville for a new baseball stadium for the Sounds. The study estimated the new park would cost about \$52 million. However, there is resistance between the owners of the team and the city (mayor) over where the stadium should be located.

In late 2012, rumors began circulating about whether the Sounds were going to be put up for sale. Ward later clarified that the team was not for sale, but that they were looking for new investors.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Herschel Greer Stadium was named for a prominent Nashville businessman who was the president of a previous minor league team that played in Nashville.

## **Team: New Orleans Zephyrs**

**Affiliate**: Miami Marlins (2009) **Principal Owner**: Donald Beaver

Team Website

**Stadium**: Zephyr Field **Date Built**: 1997

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$25 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In September 2012, the Marlins extended their affiliation with the Zephyrs through 2014. Also, at the end of the 2012 season, Zephyr Field experienced damage from Hurricane Isaac. Zephyr Field was used as a site for emergency vehicles and first-responders. In 2013, a new integrated LED video and scoring system was installed in Zephyr Field. An exhibition game between the Marlins and the Zephyrs was held at Zephyr Field before the start of the regular 2013 season.

The future of the Zephyrs in New Orleans is unclear. Reportedly, Beaver has been in discussions with Houston Astros owner Jim Crane to sell the franchise. Crane would likely move the team near Houston in 2015. The Zephyrs lease of Zephyr Field ends in 2014.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There are currently no naming rights agreements in place.

## Team: Oklahoma City RedHawks

**Affiliate**: Houston Astros (2011)

Principal Owner: Mandalay Baseball Properties

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark

Date Built: 1998

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$34.2 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** The stadium was renamed "Chickasaw Bricktown Park" in 2012. The RedHawks have been noted in Astros owner Jim Crane's plan of moving a minor league team near Houston. However, the owners of the RedHawks have said they plan to retain ownership. The Astros affiliation with the RedHawks ends in 2014. Additionally, the RedHawks and Clear Channel Media & Entertainment extended their partnership through 2015. The current deal was set to expire after the 2013 season.

Team Value: \$21 million (Revenue: \$6.7 million; Operating Income: \$0.2 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In April 2012, a naming rights agreement was entered into with Newcastle Casino, which is owned by the Chickasaw Nation. Despite changing the stadium's name to Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark, the Chickasaw Nation still has naming rights.

#### Team: Omaha Storm Chasers (formerly the Omaha Royals)

**Affiliate**: Kansas City Royals (1969) **Principal Owner**: Warren Buffett

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Werner Park **Date Built**: 2011

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$36

**Facility Financing**: The thirty-one-acre tract for the stadium and parking was donated by its owners to be the centerpiece of a new development. The county paid just over \$24.6 million for the stadium, and the team covered the rest.

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** The 2013 season opened with a new addition to Werner Park, a statute of Bob Gibson. In June 2013, the Chasers welcomed their one millionth fan in the two plus seasons they have played a Werner Park. In July, Werner Park hosted a game between US Collegiate National Team and the Cuban National Team. Also in July, the Chasers celebrated forty-five seasons in Omaha, which included former player appearances and reduced ticket prices.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Werner Enterprises, a trucking and logistics firm and long-time sponsor of the team agreed to a naming rights deal for \$305,000 per year over five years, with an option to extend the deal.

**Team: Reno Aces** 

Affiliate: Arizona Diamondbacks (1998) Principal Owner: SK Baseball, LLC

Team Website

**Stadium**: Aces Ballpark

Date Built: 2009

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$50

**Facility Financing**: The stadium was publicly financed by the City of Reno.

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Aces Ballpark hosted the 2013 AAA All-Star Game. Teaming up with DaVita Dialysis, the Reno Aces offer low sodium menu options as part of a Delicious by DaVita menus. In the fall, Washoe County will hold a debate over a \$15 million subsidy for Aces Ballpark. After \$50 million in property tax revenue from Reno's redevelopment agency fell through due to the recession, the Reno City Council agreed to \$300 million general fund subsidy for the park as an average \$1 million a year for the next thirty years. In addition, ballpark developers have asked Washoe County for \$15 million to be paid for the stadium over the next thirty years (\$500,000 a year). The money would be used to refinance the current loan ballpark developers have for the stadiums construction. County commissioners have also asked ballpark developers to pay \$1.6 million in back property taxes and penalties owed on the stadium.

Team Value: \$23 million (Revenue: \$7.4 million; Operating Income: \$0.9 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There is currently no naming rights agreement in place for Aces Ballpark.

## **Team: Round Rock Express**

**Affiliate**: Texas Rangers (2011)

Principal Owner: Eddie Maloney, Nolan Ryan, Reese Ryan, Reid Ryan, Brad Sanders, Bret

Sanders, and Don Sanders

**Team Website** 

**Stadium:** The Dell Diamond

Date Built: 2000

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$25

**Facility Financing:** The City of Round Rock contributed \$8.4 million from revenue bonds backed by their hotel-motel tax. The owners of the Round Rock Express, Ryan-Sanders Baseball, paid for the remainder of the stadium's construction cost.

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2012, the Express added a reuse water system to their grounds keeping efforts. Before the start of the 2013 season, a new Daktronics HD LED video board was installed in left-center field. The board measures 36 feet by 55 feet and includes two 6 feet by 99 feet ribbon boards. Two additional premium seating options were added, the Dell Diamond Premium Seats

behind home plate and the 4 Topps at the top of section 123. Hand rails were also added in between sections in the seating bowl to improve fan safety.

Team Value: \$35 million (Revenue: \$12 million; Operating Income: \$5.1 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In 2012, Dell Computers renewed its naming rights for an additional ten years. The deal is set to expire after the 2023 season.

#### **Team: Sacramento River Cats**

**Affiliate**: Oakland Athletics (2000)

Principal Owner: Sacramento River Cats Baseball Club, LLC

Team Website

**Stadium**: Raley Field **Date Built**: 2000

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$40 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Before the 2013 season began, Raley Field received a new playing surface for the first time in fourteen years. The stadium was named to PETA's 2013 list of the top ten most vegetarian-friendly minor league ballparks. Also, in June, the River Cats welcomed their ten millionth fan and held its seventh annual Brewfest. In addition to minor league use, the stadium is also used for various high school and college ball games.

Team Value: \$38 million (\$14 million in revenue; \$7.1 million in operating income)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Raley's, a regional supermarket chain has a twenty-year, \$15 million naming right deal with the River Cats.

#### **Team: Salt Lake Bees**

**Affiliate**: Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim (2001)

**Principal Owner**: Larry Miller

Team Website

**Stadium**: Spring Mobile Ballpark

Date Built: 1994

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$22 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In March 2013, Spring Mobile Ballpark hosted an exhibition game between the Colorado Rockies and the Seattle Mariners. The Bees also hosted a twentieth anniversary celebration of the "Sandlot" with a free showing of the film as well as appearances by various cast members. In July, the Bees welcomed their ten millionth fan.

Team Value: \$28 million (Revenue: \$9.3 million; Operating Income: \$2.9 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The Salt Lake Bees signed a naming rights agreement with Spring Mobile in 2009. The naming rights agreement will be a minimum of five years with options for fifteen years.

#### **Team: Tacoma Rainiers**

**Affiliate**: Seattle Mariners (1995)

**Principal Owner:** Schlegel Sports Group (Kirby Schlegel)

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Cheney Stadium

**Date Built**: 1960 (renovated in 2011)

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$0.940 (\$30 for renovations)

Facility Financing: The stadium was publicly financed by the city, while Ben Cheney provided

\$100,000 for cost overruns.

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Cheney Stadium hosted the Richard Sherman Celebrity Softball Game in July 2013.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The ballpark is named for Tacoma businessman Ben Cheney who was instrumental in bringing a Pacific Coast League team to Tacoma. In 2002, the City of Tacoma hired The Superlative Group, a Cleveland-based marketing company, to find corporate sponsors for the Tacoma Dome, the city's new convention center, Cheney Stadium, and the Broadway Center for the Performing Arts.

#### **Team: Tucson Padres (formerly the Portland Beavers)**

Affiliate: San Diego Padres (2001)

Principal Owner: MountainStar Sports

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Kino Veterans Memorial Stadium

Date Built: 1991

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): N/A

**Facility Financing**: The stadium was built by Pima County as part of a multi-purpose sports complex. It was completely financed, and is still controlled by the Pima County Stadium

District.

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Kino Veterans Memorial Stadium hosted the Desert Diamond Cup, a soccer tournament hosted by FC Tucson, in February 2013. In May, Kino Veterans Memorial Stadium hosted KFMA Day, which included concerts by Cake, The Killers, and other modern rock contemporaries.

MountainStar Sports purchased the Padres in late 2012 for about \$20 million dollars. Currently, a new stadium is being built in El Paso for the Tuscan Padres. The new stadium is set to open in April 2014 and is estimated to cost about \$60.8 million with MountainStar covering costs above the estimated price. MountainStar would have naming rights to the new ballpark and the team would include "El Paso." Included in the El Paso stadium deal is a thirty-year lease with a base rent of \$400,000 per year with an increase of 10% every five years; a fifty-cent ticket surcharge for the city with a ten percent increase every five years; \$24,000 a year payment to the city with a ten percent increase every five years with other parking revenue split between the city and MountainStar; and no non-compete clause is included in the agreement (The El Paso Diablos, an independent minor league baseball team, can continue to play at Cohen Stadium past 2016 if the city agrees to extend their lease.) The Padres are currently playing under a year-to-year lease with Pima County for the Kino Veterans Memorial Stadium. The current contract does not have a relocation clause.

In February 2013, a Texas judge held that El Paso's issuing and obtaining of bonds to finance the new ballpark were "legal and valid."

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The stadium was previously named for the local electric utility, Tucson Electric Power, until the agreement expired in 2010. There are no current naming rights deals.

#### **EASTERN LEAGUE (AA)**

**Team: Akron Aeros** 

**Affiliate**: Cleveland Indians (1989)

**Principal Owner**: Mike and Greg Agganis

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Canal Park **Date Built**: 1997

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$31 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** A new video board was installed for the 2013 season. It is one of the largest free-standing video boards in the minor leagues and in all of AA baseball. The board is 26 feet tall by 68 feet wide. The new board is accompanied by a 6 feet tall by 54 feet wide outfield ribbon. The \$1.65 million dollar changes are part of \$3.5 million in improvements in the next two years. In 2013, the park added the Salute to Epic Meal Time Ballpark Faceoff Winner's creation to their Extreme Eats Menu (a sliced ballpark dog stuffed with a Doritos-dusted mozzarella stick and topped with nacho cheese and marinara sauce).

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There is currently no naming rights agreement in place.

**Team: Altoona Curve** 

**Affiliate**: Pittsburgh Pirates (1999) **Principal Owner**: Robert Lozinak

**Team Website** 

Stadium: People's Natural Gas Field

Date Built: 1999

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$12 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Carlos Garcia, former manager of the Class A Bradenton Marauders, was named the manager of the Curve in early January 2013.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In January 2012, the Altoona Curve and People's Natural Gas entered into a naming rights agreement. The terms of the deal have not been released.

## **Team: Binghamton Mets**

**Affiliate**: New York Mets (1992)

Principal Owner: David Maines, William Maines, George Scherer, and Michael Urda

**Team Website** 

Stadium: NYSEG Stadium

Date Built: 1992

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$4.5 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In late 2012, the Binghamton Mets president Michael Urda once again assured that the team was not being sold to a group with plans of relocating the franchise to Ottawa.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: New York State Electric and Gas has a naming rights agreement with the Binghamton Mets for its stadium. Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

#### **Team: Bowie Baysox**

**Affiliate**: Baltimore Orioles (1993)

**Principal Owner:** Maryland Baseball Holding, LLC (Ken Young)

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Prince George's Stadium

Date Built: 1994

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2012, the Baysox celebrated their twentieth season in team history and their twentieth season as the Baltimore Orioles' Class AA Affiliate. In June 2013, Prince George's Stadium hosted a "Star Wars Night."

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There is currently no naming rights agreement in place.

#### **Team: Erie SeaWolves**

**Affiliate**: Detroit Tigers (2001)

Principal Owner: Hank Stickney, Ken Stickney, Peter Guber, and Paul Schaeffer (Mandalay

Sports Entertainment)

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Jerry Uht Park

Date Built: 1995

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** A new batting tunnel was added to Jerry Uht Park in 2013. However, the tunnel failed to live up to the expectations of the SeaWolves and the Eastern League. Players are using a storage building across the street from the stadium until the issues with the tunnel fixed. In September 2012, SeaWolves GM told media sources that he was not going to move the team to Ottawa.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Longtime Erie resident and local benefactor Gerard T. "Jerry" Uht, Sr. established an endowment in 1995 with the Erie Community Foundation (ECF) to perpetually support the new downtown baseball stadium. In response to his generosity, the city named the stadium in his honor.

#### **Team: Harrisburg Senators**

**Affiliate**: Washington Nationals (1991) **Principal Owner**: Senators Partners, LLC

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Metro Bank Park

Date Built: 1987

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE**: After the Boston Marathon bombings, the Senators increased security measures, which included a more extensive method of checking bags. The Huffington Post named Metro Bank Park the ballpark most worthy of a road trip in 2013. The Senators once again hosted the Cowboy Monkey Rodeo in 2013. In July, the stadium hosted the second annual Big 26 Baseball Classic, a showcase between Maryland and Pennsylvania teams.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Commerce Bank signed a fifteen-year, \$3.5 million naming rights deal with the Harrisburg Senators in 2004, and Riverside Stadium was renamed Commerce Bank Park. The ballpark was renamed Metro Bank Park after Commerce Bank was purchased by Metro Bank changed its name.

#### **Team: New Britain Rock Cats**

**Affiliate**: Minnesota Twins (1995)

Principal Owner: New Britain Baseball, Inc.

Team Website

Stadium: New Britain Stadium

Date Built: 1996

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): N/A Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In March 2013, the batting cages at New Britain Stadium caught fire. The fire was considered suspicious. In May, "Dancing with the Stars" performer Tristan MacManus attended the Rock Cats game for a meet and greet with fans. In July, four individuals were arrested after breaking into New Britain Stadium, stealing concessions, and taking a swim around midnight. Also in July, New Britain filed a suit against Berlin alleging that Berlin's 2012 tax revaluation is wrong, unlawful, and excessive. The disputed land includes the grandstand and parking lot of New Britain Stadium. New Britain Stadium hosted the Eastern League All-Star Game. On July 3, New Britain Stadium held a naturalization ceremony prior to the Rock Cats game.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There is currently no naming rights agreement in place.

## **Team: New Hampshire Fisher Cats**

**Affiliate**: Toronto Blue Jays (2003) **Principal Owner**: Arthur P. Solomon

**Team Website** 

**Stadium:** Northeast Delta Dental Stadium

Date Built: 2005

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$20

**Facility Financing**: The stadium was privately financed.

Facility Website

**UPDATE**: In late 2012, a new fire alarm system was installed in Northeast Delta Dental Stadium after the old system was damaged in by a power surge during a snowstorm. The stadium will host the third annual CHaD Battle of the Badges Autumn Baseball Classic in September 2013.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Beginning in 2011, the stadium is known as Northeast Delta Dental Stadium as part of a long-term partnership that includes, among other things, fundraising for the local Children's Hospital. Financial details were not disclosed.

#### **Team: Portland Sea Dogs**

**Affiliate**: Boston Red Sox (2003)

**Principal Owner**: Daniel Burke (Portland, Maine Baseball, Inc.)

Team Website

Stadium: Hadlock Field

Date Built: 1994

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): N/A Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2013, the Sea Dogs celebrated their twentieth year in Portland. In January, the Sea Dogs and the Boston Red Sox agreed to a four-year extension of their Player Development Contract. The extension runs through the end of 2018.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Hadlock Field is named after Edson Hadlock, Jr., a baseball coach at Portland High School from 1950–1978.

#### **Team: Reading Fightin Phils**

**Affiliate**: Philadelphia Phillies (1967) **Principal Owner**: Philadelphia Phillies

**Team Website** 

Stadium: FirstEnergy Stadium

**Date Built**: 1951 (renovations in 2011)

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$0.656 (\$10 for renovations)

Facility Financing: The Stadium was publicly financed by the City of Reading.

Facility Website

**UPDATE**: In late 2012, the Reading Phillies announced their name would become the Reading Fightin Phils and a new logo (an ostrich with clenched dukes) as part of a rebranding effort by the team. Also, Reading City agreed to an extension of its contract with the Phils through 2037. The agreement raised the team's lease payments from about \$22,000 a year to \$300,000 to \$350,000 a year through 2027. The city now responsible for payments on the \$10 million changes made to the stadium a couple years ago.

For the 2013 season, new video boards were installed in FirstEnergy Stadium as part of a \$1 million upgrade. The video boards will allow fans to finally watch replays.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: FirstEnergy signed a fifteen-year, \$2.25 million naming rights deal with the Reading Phillies in 2002.

## **Team: Richmond Flying Squirrels**

**Affiliate**: San Francisco Giants (2003) **Principal Owner**: Lou DiBella

Team Website

Stadium: The Diamond

Date Built: 1985

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** The Squirrels want the city to build a new stadium to replace their current facility. However, the city did not come any closer to building the park in late 2012 or 2013. In late 2012, the Squirrels and the Richmond Metropolitan Authority agreed to a lease extension through 2015 with options for 2016 and 2017. Prior to the 2013 season, the park's field was redone and new lights were installed. In July 2013, Richmond's City Council rejected a proposal for a referendum about the location of a potential stadium for the Squirrels.

The Squirrels hosted a "Salute to Scandal Night" in honor of Anthony Weiner. Hotdogs were sold for one dollar. Brett Favre and Tiger Woods were also honored during the evening.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There is currently no naming rights agreement in place.

#### **Team: Trenton Thunder**

**Affiliate**: New York Yankees (2003)

Principal Owner: Garden State Baseball, LP

Team Website

**Stadium**: Arm & Hammer Park

Date Built: 1994

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$18.3 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In September 2012, the New York Yankees extended their affiliation with the Trenton Thunder for twenty more years (2022). After a November 2012 deal, the Thunder now play at Arm & Hammer Park. In 2013, the park was named by PETA as one of the top ten most vegetarian-friendly minor league parks. The park added new concessions options for the 2013 season, including twenty-nine different beer options and new vegetarian food options. New video boards, speakers, and a marque in front of the stadium were added for the 2013 season. In May, a statue of David Eckstein was unveiled at Arm & Hammer Park and his number was retired.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In 2012, Church & Dwight purchased the naming rights under a twenty-year deal. The stadium is now called Arm & Hammer Park. Arm & Hammer is a Church & Dwight product. The details of the deal were not disclosed.

#### **SOUTHERN LEAGUE (AA)**

## **Team: Birmingham Barons**

**Affiliate**: Chicago White Sox (1986)

**Principal Owner:** Don Logan, Jeff Logan, and Stan Logan (Birmingham Barons, LLC)

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Regions Field

Date Built: 2013

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$64

Facility Financing: Public funded by Birmingham through lodging tax

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In April 2013, the Barons played their first game at Regions Field, their new stadium. The stadium is located in the Parkside district and features 8,500 seats, a 360-degree concourse, 23 Luxury Suites, and a 400-seat Club Seating section with access to a VIP Suite Level Lounge. In July, two LED displays were installed at the park. In June, the Barons exceeded its total attendance for all of the 2012 season in just half a season.

The Barons had agreed to use the Hoover Metropolitan Stadium through 2015. However, the Barons agreed to pay the Hoover Park and Recreation Board \$300,000 to get out of the remaining three years of their lease.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In early 2013, Regions Financial Corporation agreed to be the title sponsor of the new ballpark for twenty years. The deal is allegedly a \$500,000 a year deal for namingrights of the park.

#### **Team: Carolina Mudcats**

**Affiliate**: Cleveland Indians (2012)

**Principal Owner:** Steve Bryant (Carolina Mudcats Professional Baseball Club, Inc.)

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Five County Stadium

Date Built: 1991

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Five County Stadium is located in Wake County, N.C., but it is in close proximity to the intersection of the county lines between Wake, Franklin, Nash, and Johnston Counties. Those four counties, along with nearby Wilson County, are the "Five Counties" that the stadium is named after.

#### **Team: Chattanooga Lookouts**

**Affiliate**: Los Angeles Dodgers (2009)

Principal Owner: Frank Burke, Daniel Burke, and Charles Eshbach

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: AT&T Field **Date Built**: 2000

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$10

Facility Financing: Privately Financed

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** The Lookouts switched from the first-base dugout to the third-base dugout after the Los Angeles Dodgers requested the change to protect players from direct sunlight during evening games. In May 2013, AT&T Field hosted the Gulf South Conference baseball tournament. AT&T Field is hosting the 2014 Southern League All-Star game.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: BellSouth entered into a ten-year, \$1 million deal with the Chattanooga Lookouts in 2000 for the naming rights to their new stadium. On March 15, 2007, the Lookouts unveiled a new name and logo for their ballpark. The name of the ballpark was changed from BellSouth Park to AT&T Field to reflect the merger between AT&T and BellSouth Corp. No information on an extension to the deal has been released, but the stadium name remains unchanged.

#### **Team: Huntsville Stars**

**Affiliate**: Milwaukee Brewers (1999) **Principal Owner**: Miles Prentice

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Joe W. Davis Stadium

Date Built: 1985

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2012, the Stars and Brewers agreed to a player-development contract for an additional two more seasons, through the end of the 2014 season. In 2013, the Stars garnered national attention after announcing they were going to host a "2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Night" promotion. The evening included a raffle of three different guns. However, the governing bodies of minor league teams put a halt to the raffle. Aside from the raffle, the night went as planned. Additionally, the Stars extended their lease with the city of Huntsville for Joe W. Davis Stadium through the 2015 stadium. The Stars' owner, Miles Prentice, has requested a significant upgrade or new stadium from the city for his team. There has been speculation that the Stars will be moving to the new stadium in Biloxi, but the lease extension makes the move seem unlikely.

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**NAMING RIGHTS**: Joe W. Davis Stadium is named after Joe Davis, the longtime mayor of Huntsville, Alabama, who was instrumental in gaining support for the stadium's construction and subsequent moving of the Nashville, Tennessee Double-A baseball franchise to Huntsville.

#### **Team: Jackson Generals**

**Affiliate**: Seattle Mariners (2007)

Principal Owner: David Freeman and Reese Smith

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: The Ballpark at Jackson

Date Built: 1998

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$8 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE**: As of 2013, the stadium is now going by the name The Ballpark at Jackson.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Proctor & Gamble signed a fifteen-year, \$1.2 million naming rights deal with the then West Tenn Diamond Jaxx in 1998. Proctor & Gamble named the new Stadium Pringles Park after its Pringles potato chips product. It was the first naming rights deal on the AA level. After the Generals and Proctor & Gamble failed to negotiate a new naming-rights deal, the park was named The Ballpark at Jackson.

#### **Team: Jacksonville Suns**

**Affiliate**: Miami Marlins (2009) **Principal Owner**: Peter Bragan, Sr.

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Bragan Field at The Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville

Date Built: 2003

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$34

**Facility Financing**: The stadium was publicly financed by the City of Jacksonville through taxes

as part of the "Better Jacksonville Plan."

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In September 2012, the Jacksonville City Council approved changing the name of The Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville to Bragan Field at the Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville. The change was made to honor the late Peter Bragan, Sr. who died July 7, 2012. Bragan owned the Suns' for twenty-seven years. The stadium is the Baseball Grounds, while the grass and clay playing area are Bragan Field. Also, the Marlins extended their player development contract with the Suns through the 2014 season.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The stadium was renamed Bragan Field at the Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville after the death of the Suns' owner Peter Bragan, Sr. passed away in July 2012.

#### **Team: Mississippi Braves**

**Affiliate**: Atlanta Braves (1984)

Principal Owner: Atlanta Braves (Liberty Media)

Team Website

**Stadium**: Trustmark Park

Date Built: 2005

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$28

Facility Financing: The Park was built with private money as a part of a large mixed-use

development.

<u>Facility Website</u>

**UPDATE:** In 2013, Trustmark Park hosted the Atlanta Braves as they took on the Braves' Future Stars.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Trustmark entered into a naming rights agreement with the Mississippi Braves for their new stadium in 2005, the stadium is called Trustmark Park. The agreement is for fifteen years, but the price paid by Trustmark is unknown.

## **Team: Mobile BayBears**

Affiliate: Arizona Diamondbacks (2007)

Principal Owner: Mike Savit (HWS Group)

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Hank Aaron Stadium

Date Built: 1997

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$8

Facility Financing: The franchise owner, Eric Margenau, paid \$4 million and the City of Mobile

matched the contribution.

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** After the Boston Marathon bombings, the BayBears donated a portion of a Saturday game's ticket sales and the proceeds from auctioning off a Justin Upton game-worn Jersey to The One Fund Boston. Hank Aaron Stadium will host the 2015 Southern League All-Star game.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Hank Aaron Stadium is named after Mobile native Hank Aaron, MLB's former all-time home run leader.

## **Team: Montgomery Biscuits**

**Affiliate**: Tampa Bay Rays (2004)

Principal Owner: Tom Dickson & Sherrie Myers (Montgomery Professional Baseball, LLC)

Team Website

**Stadium**: Montgomery Riverwalk Stadium

Date Built: 2004

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$26 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Prior to the 2013 season, the infield of Montgomery Riverwalk Stadium was rebuilt. In 2013, the Biscuits celebrated their tenth anniversary. Stadium Journey magazine ranked Riverwalk Stadium eighteenth of 101 stadiums across the country in stadium experience.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There is currently no naming rights agreement in place.

#### Team: Pensacola Blue Wahoos

**Affiliate**: Cincinnati Reds (2012)

Principal Owner: Quint Studer & Rishy Studer

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Vince J. Whibbs Sr. Community Maritime Park

Date Built: 2012

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$18.5

**Facility Financing:** A public/private partnership received \$56 million to pay for the entire mixed-use development project. \$45.6 million came from bonds. Most of the bonds issued were a part of the "Build America Bonds" program.

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Vince J. Whibbs Sr. Community Maritime Park is sometimes called Pensacola Bayfront Stadium. In 2012, the new stadium won Ballparks.com's Ballpark of the Year. Josh Sitton, Green Bay Packer offensive guard, kicked off the Wahoos season by throwing the first pitch.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The stadium is named after former Pensacola Mayor and activist for the Community Maritime Park project, Vincent John Whibbs, Sr.

### **Team: Tennessee Smokies**

Affiliate: Chicago Cubs (2007) Principal Owner: SPBC, LLC

Team Website

**Stadium**: Smokies Park

Date Built: 2000

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$20 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2013, the Smokies Park hosted the Tennessee Smokies Wood Bat Showcase open to high school senior and junior baseball players who have not yet signed college scholarships. The showcase gave the players participating an opportunity to showcase their skills to college coaches and professional scouts. The stadium also hosted the 2013 Tennessee Smokies High School Summer Wood Bat Classic tournament.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There is currently no naming rights agreement in place.

## **TEXAS LEAGUE (AA)**

**Team: Arkansas Travelers** 

**Affiliate**: Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim (2001) **Principal Owner**: Arkansas Travelers Baseball, Inc.

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Dickey-Stephens Park

Date Built: 2007

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$40.4

Facility Financing: The ballpark was funded by a North Little Rock voter-approved one-cent

sales tax.

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** The Angels extended their affiliation with the Travelers in September 2012 for an additional two years (2014).

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Little Rock financier Warren Stephens donated an eleven-acre plot of land for the ballpark and named it in honor of two pairs of baseball-loving brothers: Stephens Inc. founders Jack and Witt Stephens, and Hall of Fame Catcher Bill Dickey and his brother Skeeter, also a former Major League ballplayer. Both Dickey brothers worked for Stephens Inc. following their baseball careers.

# **Team: Corpus Christi Hooks**

**Affiliate**: Houston Astros (2000)

Principal Owner: Nolan Ryan, Reid Ryan, Don Sanders, Reese Ryan, Eddie Maloney, Bret

Sanders, Brad Sanders, and Jay Miller

Team Website

**Stadium**: Whataburger Field

Date Built: 2005

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$27.7 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Whataburger, Inc. entered into a fifteen-year naming rights deal with the Corpus Christi Hooks beginning in 2005. Financial details were not disclosed.

## Team: Frisco RoughRiders

**Affiliate**: Texas Rangers (2003)

**Principal Owner**: Ken Stickney (Mandalay Sports Entertainment)

Team Website

**Stadium**: Dr Pepper Ballpark

Date Built: 2003

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): N/A Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In July 2013, Dr. Pepper Ballpark hosted the Heroes Celebrity Baseball Game which benefited the Dirk Nowitzki Foundation and the Heroes Foundation.

Team Value: \$28 million (Revenue: \$9.2 million; Operating Income: \$2.2 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Dr Pepper Snapple Group entered into a ten-year naming rights deal with the Frisco RoughRiders in 2004 to name the Stadium Dr Pepper/Seven Up Ballpark. Financial terms of the deal were not disclosed. On March 31, 2006, the beverage company and the RoughRiders announced that the name Dr Pepper/Seven Up Ballpark was changing to Dr Pepper Ballpark.

#### Team: Midland RockHounds

**Affiliate**: Oakland Athletics (1999)

Principal Owner: Miles Prentice and Bob Richmond

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Citibank Ballpark

Date Built: 2002

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$45

**Facility Financing:** \$39 million in bonds backed by a quarter-cent city sales tax increase funded

most of the project. Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Artist, Danny Jordan, added an oil painting mural to Citibank Ballpark in 2013.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In 2002, First American Bank entered into a naming rights deal for the new ballpark. The terms of the deal were not disclosed. The venue's name was changed to Citibank Ballpark in 2005 when Citibank bought First American Bank.

#### **Team: Northwest Arkansas Naturals**

**Affiliate**: Kansas City Royals (1995) **Principal Owner**: Rich Products Corp.

Team Website

**Stadium**: Arvest Ballpark

Date Built: 2008

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$32

**Facility Financing**: Arvest Ballpark was financed by \$50 million in voter-approved bonds.

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Arvest Ballpark won the 2012 Bob Freitas award for minor league excellence in the Class AA category. In 2013, Arvest Ballpark hosted the Texas League All-Star game.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: On September 15, 2007, the Naturals announced they had a reached a tenyear agreement with a ten-year option for renewal with Arvest Bank to name the stadium Arvest Ballpark.

#### **Team: San Antonio Missions**

**Affiliate**: San Diego Padres (2007)

**Principal Owner**: David G. Elmore (Elmore Sports Group)

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Nelson W. Wolff Municipal Stadium

Date Built: 1994

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing**: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE**: In 2013, Wolff Stadium celebrated its twentieth anniversary.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The stadium is named after Nelson W. Wolff, a former Texas legislator and San Antonio council member and mayor. Currently, Wolff is the County Judge for Bexar County.

# **Team: Springfield Cardinals**

**Affiliate**: St. Louis Cardinals (2005) **Principal Owner**: St. Louis Cardinals

Team Website

Stadium: Hammons Field

Date Built: 2004

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$32

**Facility Financing**: The stadium was funded entirely by John Q. Hammons.

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** The Springfield Cardinals were named the 2012 Baseball America's Minor League

Team of the Year.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The stadium is named after John Q. Hammons, who funded the ballpark.

### **Team: Tulsa Drillers**

Affiliate: Colorado Rockies (2003) Principal Owner: Chuck Lamson

**Team Website** 

New Stadium: ONEOK Field

Date Built: 2010

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$60

Facility Financing: The Tulsa Stadium Trust provided \$25 million in bonds, the Driller's lease

provided \$5 million, and private donors contributed \$30 million.

Facility Website

**UPDATE**: In September 2012, the 2012 Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure Tulsa was held at ONEOK Field. In November 2012, ONEOK Field hosted the eighth annual First Draft fundraiser, which featured over seventy-five craft beers.

In January 2013, the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals upheld the creation of the Tulsa Stadium Improvement District. The three lawsuits were filed by downtown property owners claiming that the city did not follow the proper procedures in creating the district. The lawsuits prevented the Tulsa Stadium Trust from refinancing \$25 million in bonds. The Trust estimated that by refinancing the Trust could have saved about \$14 million. Also, in April, the Tulsa City Council announced that property taxes would increase by less than one percent (from 6.59 cents per square foot to 6.65 cents per square foot) in 2014. The tax helps fund construction of ONEOK Field and its maintenance. In July, the Drillers noted the need to meet with the Tulsa Stadium Trust regarding the issue of foul balls reaching I-244. The stadium currently has a net spanning the third-base side. ONEOK Field was named PETA's most vegetarian-friendly minor league ballpark in 2013.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The naming rights to the new ballpark were purchased by the natural gas company ONEOK. The agreement spans for twenty years and is reportedly worth \$5 million.

# **CALIFORNIA LEAGUE (ADVANCED A)**

### **Team: Bakersfield Blaze**

Affiliate: Cincinnati Reds (2011)

**Principal Owner**: Gene Voiland and Chad Hathaway

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Sam Lynn Ballpark

Date Built: 1941

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In spring 2011, Gene Voiland and Chad Hathaway purchased the Blaze. In late 2012, the Blaze announced plans for a new privately-funded, 3,500-seat stadium. The stadium would have a maximum capacity of 5,000 people. The stadium is expected to open in 2014, but it may not be in time for the season opener. The stadium is estimated to cost \$20 million. The stadium will be the highlight of the Bakersfield Commons, which will eventually include restaurants, retail, and entertainment.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The ballpark is named after Sam Lynn, former owner of the Coca-Cola Bottling plant in Bakersfield during the 1930s. Lynn's financial support of the Bakersfield Coca-Cola's, a semi-pro baseball team, along with other youth leagues, increased baseball's popularity in San Joaquin Valley.

## **Team: High Desert Mavericks**

**Affiliate**: Seattle Mariners (2007)

Principal Owner: Main Street Baseball

Team Website

Stadium: Stater Bros. Stadium

Date Built: 1991

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$6.5 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2010, Main Street Baseball purchased the Mavericks. In August 2012, the Mavericks' lease of Stater Bros. Stadium was extended for at least three more years (2015). As part of the deal, the city is no longer responsible for maintenance costs. In return, the Mavericks only pay \$1 per year in rent. In 2012, the cost of rent was \$110,000. In addition, the city must spend abou \$225,000 to upgrade Stater Bros. Stadium, which does not meet the minimum standards set by Minor League Baseball. The Mavericks also have a right to exercise a one-year option at the end of the three year period. In 2013, the Mavericks named Cory John as their new general manager.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Prior to the 2006 season, the Adelanto City Council decided to honor Stater Bros. by changing the stadium's name from Maverick Stadium to Stater Bros. Stadium in recognition of the regional grocery chain, which built the first major retail center in Adelanto. Stater Bros. paid for the new sign above the stadium's main entrance.

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## **Team: Inland Empire 66ers**

**Affiliate**: Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim (2011)

**Principal Owner**: David G. Elmore & Donna Tuttle (Elmore Sports Group)

Team Website

Stadium: San Manuel Stadium

Date Built: 1996

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): N/A Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Before the 2013 season, new signage was added to San Manual Stadium, including signs reading "#SOUNDTHEHORN" and "66ERS.COM." Additionally, Redlands' Hangar 24 introduced its new beer, Baseball Beer, at San Manuel Stadium. The beer will only be available during the 66ers season. In June 2013, Deputy Alex Collins, who was wounded in a shoot-out with ex-LAPD cop Christopher Dorner, threw the first pitch at a "Protect and Serve Night" hosted by the 66ers. The night also included a tribute to Detective Jeremiah MacKay who was killed in the shoot-out.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The San Manuel Tribe bought the naming rights to the stadium in March 2012. Details have not been released.

#### Team: Lake Elsinore Storm

**Affiliate**: San Diego Padres (2001) **Principal Owner**: Gary Jacobs

**Team Website** 

Stadium: The Diamond

Date Built: 1994

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$22 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2013, the Storm celebrated its twentieth year at The Diamond.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There is currently no naming rights agreement in place.

### **Team: Lancaster JetHawks**

**Affiliate**: Houston Astros (2009) **Principal Owner**: Peter Carfagna

Team Website

**Stadium**: The Hangar **Date Built**: 1996

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$14.5 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** The JetHawks now play at "The Hangar." In September 2012, the JetHawks and the Houston Astros announced a two year extension to its player development agreement. The partnership now runs through 2014. In early 2013, the JetHawks announced a partnership with LoanMart for two-years. LoanMart will become the Presenting Sponsor of the club. C.J. Wilson and Josh Hamilton filmed an ad for the match-up between the Angels and the Rangers at The Hanger.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Sometime between April 2, 2012, and April 4, 2012, the JetHawks began referring to their stadium as "The Hangar."

#### **Team: Modesto Nuts**

**Affiliate**: Colorado Rockies (2005)

**Principal Owner**: Michael Savit (HWS Sports IV)

**Team Website** 

Stadium: John Thurman Field

Date Built: 1955

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$3.93

Facility Financing: Publicly financed by the City of Modesto

Facility Website

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Originally named Del Webb Field, the Modesto ballpark was renamed for State Assemblyman John Thurman in 1983. In 2007, the Nuts began pursuing a naming rights sponsor for the stadium. The Nuts would retain 60% of the naming rights fee, and the city, which has final approval over the stadium name, would receive 40%.

## Team: Rancho Cucamonga Quakes

**Affiliate**: Los Angeles Dodgers (2011)

Principal Owner: Bobby Brett and George Brett

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: LoanMart Field (2013)

Date Built: 1993

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): N/A Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2012, the Dodgers extended their affiliation with the Quakes for two more years, through the end of the 2014 season. The stadium now is name "LoanMart Field." The ten-year partnership between the Quakes and LoanMart began in 2013. In March 2013, the Epicenter, now LoanMart Field, hosted an exhibition game between the Dodgers and the Quakes.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In April 2013, the Rancho Cucamonga Quakes announced a ten-year naming-rights partnership with LoanMart. The Quakes now play at LoanMart Field.

#### **Team: San Jose Giants**

Affiliate: San Francisco Giants (1988)

**Principal Owner:** Progress Sports Management

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Municipal Stadium

Date Built: 1942

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$0.08

Facility Financing: Publicly financed as part of President Franklin Roosevelt's Work Progress

Administration (WPA).

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In June 2013, San Jose's city council voted to sue the MLB for allegedly stalling the proposed move by the Oakland Athletics to a new stadium located in South Bay. The lawsuit challenges the Giants' right to the area where the new stadium would be built and claims violations of state and federal business regulations. The lawsuit also challenges the MLB's antitrust exemption. Municipal Stadium hosted the 2013 California-Carolina All-Star game.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There is currently no naming rights agreement in place.

### **Team: Stockton Ports**

**Affiliate**: Oakland Athletics (2005)

**Principal Owner**: Tom Volpe (7th Inning Stretch, LLC)

Team Website

**Stadium**: Stockton Ballpark ("Banner Island Ballpark")

Date Built: 2005

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$23.9 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2012, the Ports introduced a new logo, 5 O'clock Dock, who is decorated with baseball tattoos and carries an asparagus club. In 2013, both the WCC and CCCA Championships were held at Banner Island Park. In June, Stockton's debt with Marina Towers LLC was part of negotiations in the city's bankruptcy case. Stockton owes \$1.8 million from a settlement the two reached when Marina Towers sued the city for seizing land under Stockton Ballpark.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The City of Stockton owns the naming rights of the ballpark and has been trying to find a naming rights sponsor since the ballpark opened. As of June 2012, the ballpark remains without a corporate name.

The name "Banner Island Ballpark" is actually an unofficial name that is used among fans and the administration of the Stockton Ports. Until the rights are sold, the stadium is officially known as the Stockton Ballpark.

### Team: Visalia Rawhide

**Affiliate**: Arizona Diamondbacks (2007)

**Principal Owner**: Tom Seidler and Kevin O'Malley

Team Website

**Stadium**: Recreation Park

Date Built: 1946 (renovation in 2009)

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): N/A (\$11.6 for renovation)

**Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** The Visalia Rawhide was named the 2012 Cal League organization of the year. In September, Jennifer Pendergraft was named the Rawhide's new general manager. In late 2012, the Visalia City Council approved \$192,000 in spending to purchase new lights for Recreation Park. In 2013, it was announced that a splash pad will be added to Recreation Park. The splash pad is estimated to cost \$400,000. The Visalia Rotary clubs will be covering \$200,000, while the city will pay \$200,000.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There is currently no naming rights agreement in place.

## CAROLINA LEAGUE (ADVANCED A)

## **Team: Frederick Keys**

**Affiliate**: Baltimore Orioles (1989)

Principal Owner: Maryland Baseball Holding, LLC.

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Harry Grove Stadium

Date Built: 1990

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$3 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE**: In 2013, the Keys celebrated their twenty-fifth anniversary. The potential for naming-rights at Harry Grove Stadium was explored in 2013. The stadium itself would remain Harry Grove Stadium, but aspects such as the playing field, electronic signs, playbills and fireworks sponsorships would be potential options. It is estimated that the city would receive \$87,500 from the deal, while the Frederick Keys would get \$164,000.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The family of Harry Groves, one of the founders of the Frederick Hustlers, donated \$250,000 for the construction of the ballpark. The Frederick Hustlers were a professional baseball team that played between 1915 and WWII.

## **Team: Lynchburg Hillcats**

**Affiliate**: Atlanta Braves (2011)

**Principal Owner**: Lynchburg Baseball Corp.

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Calvin Falwell Field

Date Built: 1939

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: \$0.289

Facility Financing: The City of Lynchburg paid \$189,000, while \$100,000 came from the Work

Progress Administration as part of President Roosevelt's New Deal.

Facility Website

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The ballpark was named in honor of Calvin Falwell, former President of the Lynchburg Baseball Corp.

## **Team: Myrtle Beach Pelicans**

**Affiliate**: Texas Rangers (2011)

**Principal Owner**: Myrtle Beach Pelicans LP (Chuck Greenberg)

Team Website

**Stadium**: TicketReturn.com Field at Pelicans Ballpark

Date Built: 1999

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$13 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2013, the Pelicans hosted a "Red Neck Night" to "honor the red neck deep down inside" everyone. Also, after the New Orleans Hornets changed their name to the Pelicans in January 2013, the Myrtle Beach team decided to select a new New Orleans themed name to be used if the New Orleans team did not change their name to something other than the "Pelicans." In the event the Myrtle Beach fans wanted to drop the name "Pelicans," the team planned various Louisiana-themed promotions.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In April 2012, TicketReturn.com signed a one-year naming rights deal with the facility.

### **Team: Potomac Nationals**

**Affiliate**: Washington Nationals (2005)

Principal Owner: Art Silber

**Team Website** 

Stadium: G. Richard Pfitzner Stadium

Date Built: 1984

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE**: The Potomac Nationals are working with Prince William County to build a new stadium. The location was chosen in April 2012. The new stadium will be paid for by Art Silber and is expected to cost \$30 million. The state would be asked to cover the \$15 million cost of building a nearby parking garage. Silber also expects there to be a two-year, \$20 million naming rights agreement for the new stadium. The stadium should be ready for the 2014 season. In 2013, the U.S. Army, the Potomac Nationals and the Carolina League teamed up to launch a program that hires transitioning soldiers, veterans, and their families.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The ballpark was originally named Davis Ford Park, then renamed William County Stadium, and finally, in 1995, named G. Richard Pfitzner Stadium. Pfitzner was influential in moving the team from Alexandria to Prince William County.

### **Team: Salem Red Sox**

**Affiliate**: Boston Red Sox (2009)

Principal Owner: Fenway Sports Group

Team Website

Stadium: Lewis-Gale Field at Salem Memorial Baseball Stadium

Date Built: 1995

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: \$10.1 **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** The Red Sox's 2012 season experienced a significant drop in attendance. In April 2013, the Sox hosted the Monkey Rodeo. Also, the Sox offered free admission to their June 12 game, as well as a hot dog meal, to all active, retired and veteran service members and their families.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The naming rights to the ballpark were sold to Lewis-Gale Hospital in 2006.

## **Team: Wilmington Blue Rocks**

**Affiliate**: Kansas City Royals (2007)

**Principal Owner**: Matt Minker and Tom Palmer

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Daniel S. Frawley Stadium

Date Built: 1993

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Daniel S. Frawley Stadium hosted the Cowboy Monkey Rodeo in 2013, a trend it started in 2006. The season also featured an emergency preparedness night and a police night.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Daniel S. Frawley Stadium is named after the mayor who helped bring the Blue Rocks to Wilmington.

### **Team: Winston-Salem Dash**

**Affiliate**: Chicago White Sox (1997)

**Principal Owner**: Sports Menagerie (Billy Prim and Andrew Fillipowski)

Team Website

**Stadium**: BB&T Ballpark

Date Built: 2010

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$47

Facility Financing: The facility was partly paid for with public funds and the naming rights

agreement was crucial to being able to pay back the debt.

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In late 2012, an appellate court reduced the Dash's property tax to zero. Regardless, the Dash planned to pay about \$140,000 to the city to cover some of the debt owed on BB&T Ballpark. The Dash did not make a similar offer to the county. In April 2013, the Winston-Salem City Council approved the 2013 Downtown Plan, projects located in and near the mixed-use area around BB&T Ballpark. In May, the Dash celebrated the arrival of their one millionth fan. On August 5, 2013, ground was broken for the \$26 million Link Apartments Brookstown project.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: BB&T has signed a fifteen-year deal for the naming rights to BB&T Ballpark that is set to expire after 2024. Terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

## FLORIDA STATE LEAGUE (ADVANCED A)

**Team: Bradenton Marauders** 

**Affiliate**: Pittsburgh Pirates (2010) **Principal Owner**: Pittsburgh Pirates

**Team Website** 

Stadium: McKechnie Field

**Date Built**: 1923 (renovated in 1991–93)

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE**: In 2013, McKechnie Field was renovated to include enhanced sightlines to the field, expanded restroom facilities, new concession areas, an enlarged Fan Plaza, and expanded seating (park capacity is now 8,500). McKechnie Field's new additions cost about \$10.5 million. The Pirates contributed \$3 million towards the renovations and will continue to spend up to \$400,000 annually to promote the stadium in Pittsburgh. The city covered the rest of the cost of the upgrades.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The stadium is named after a Pittsburgh native and former Bradenton resident: Hall of Fame manager Bill McKechnie. The stadium was originally built in 1923 and was renovated in 1991–93.

# **Team: Brevard County Manatees**

**Affiliate**: Milwaukee Brewers (2005)

Principal Owner: Tom Winters, Dewight Titus, and Charlie Baumann

Team Website

**Stadium**: Space Coast Stadium

Date Built: 1994

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$6.2 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In October 2012, the Brevard County Commission approved \$325,000 in capital improvements and repairs to Space Cost Stadium. However, in January 2013, the Brevard County Tourist Development Council's Marketing Committee decided to reallocate \$750,000 that was to be used for the general marketing of Space Coast Stadium. In 2013, the team paid \$7 million in construction bonds, which satisfies the obligation anchoring them to Space Coast Stadium. It is unclear whether the Manatees would stay at Space Coast Stadium if the Nationals leave. The Manatee's owners have already received offers to purchase the team.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The stadium received its name in honor of NASA's achievements and because of its proximity to the Kennedy Space Center.

### **Team: Charlotte Stone Crabs**

**Affiliate**: Tampa Bay Rays (2007) **Principal Owner**: Ripken Baseball

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Charlotte Sports Park

Date Built: 1988 (renovation in 2009)

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): N/A (\$27 for the renovation)

**Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** The Tourist Development Tax Revenues for 2012 were 22% higher than in 2011. Two percent of Charlotte County tax revenues are used to fund the debt for the recent renovations at Charlotte Sports Park. The Charlotte Sports Park hosted games that were part of the 2013 Snowbird Baseball Classic.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There is no current naming rights agreement in place, after a deal with The Mosaic Company was deferred in the face of strong public opposition.

### **Team: Clearwater Threshers**

**Affiliate**: Philadelphia Phillies (1985) **Principal Owner**: Philadelphia Phillies

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Bright House Field

Date Built: 2004

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$25 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Bright House Field will host the inaugural American Athletic Conference Baseball Championship in May 2014.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Florida-based cable company Bright House Networks paid \$1.7 million in 2004 for the naming rights to the stadium in a ten-year deal.

## **Team: Daytona Cubs**

Affiliate: Chicago Cubs (1993)

Principal Owner: Big Game Florida, LLC

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Jackie Robinson Ballpark ("The Jack")

Date Built: 1914

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): N/A Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In September 2012, the Chicago Cubs and the Daytona Cubs extended their player development contract through the 2014 season. In late 2012, the Daytona Beach city commissioners voted to enter a new ten-year lease with the Daytona Cubs. The agreement will allow the ball club to charge for parking and the city will pay \$1.25 million for park improvements.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The stadium is named after Jackie Robinson, the first African-American to play in the major leagues. Daytona Beach was the first city to allow Robinson to play during spring training in 1946.

## **Team: Dunedin Blue Jays**

**Affiliate**: Toronto Blue Jays (1987) **Principal Owner**: Toronto Blue Jays

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Florida Auto Exchange Stadium

Date Built: 1990

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$2.4 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** The 2013 All-Star game was played at the Florida Auto Exchange Stadium. The Blue Jays contract with the city to play at Florida Auto Exchange Stadium expires in 2016. The Blue Jays are exploring the option of relocating. Blue Jay's owner, Paul Beeston, has even said that the team would pursue a shared stadium in Palm Beach Gardens with the Houston Astros before negotiating to stay in Dunedin.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In 2011, a local used car dealership entered into a naming rights agreement that will pay the city \$181,000 annually through 2017.

## **Team: Fort Myers Miracle**

**Affiliate**: Minnesota Twins (1993)

**Principal Owner:** Marvin Goldklang (Greater Miami Baseball Club, LP)

Team Website

Stadium: Bill Hammond Stadium

Date Built: 1991

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$14 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** The Minnesota Twins agreed to a new agreement with Lee County extending their residency at Hammond Stadium through 2045, and possibly 2065. The agreement includes \$41.6 million in improvements to the stadium. The Twins will pay \$13.8 million for the improvements. In addition, rent payments would increase to \$500,000 a year plus an additional three percent every five years of the deal. The Twins would also contribute \$40,000 each year to a capital improvement fund, which the county would match. Improvements will include construction of housing, classrooms and other space. Lee County also received up to \$15 million over thirty years for the renovation of the Lee County Sports Complex and Hammond Field in fall 2012.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The stadium is currently named in honor of former Lee County Commissioner, Bill Hammond, who was instrumental in getting the Lee County Sports Complex built to draw the Twins from their previous spring training facility in Orlando, Florida.

# **Team: Jupiter Hammerheads**

**Affiliate**: Miami Marlins (1998) **Principal Owner**: Miami Marlins

Team Website

**Stadium**: Roger Dean Stadium

Date Built: 1998

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$28 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In September 2012, Roger Dean Stadium hosted the qualifying round for the 2013 World Baseball Classic. In the beginning of the 2013 season, Roger Dean Stadium introduced a new system, GeeBo, which allows fans to order food from their seats. The food is then delivered to them or they can pick the food up at a special concession stand. In April 2013, the construction on a \$20 million Courtyard Marriott began beside Roger Dean Stadium.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The family of West Palm Beach automobile dealer Roger Dean purchased the naming rights to the stadium in a ten-year, \$1 million deal through 2017.

## **Team: Lakeland Flying Tigers**

**Affiliate**: Detroit Tigers (1967) **Principal Owner**: Detroit Tigers

Team Website

**Stadium**: Joker Marchant Stadium **Date Built**: 1966 (renovated in 2003)

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): N/A (\$11 for renovations)

**Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In early 2013, Governor Scott proposed to set aside \$5 million in the state budget to help keep MLB teams from leaving for Arizona for spring training. In April, Joey Chestnut set a new world record for ice cream eating at the Magnify Credit Union World Championship Ice Cream Eating Contest held at Joker Merchant Stadium. In summer 2013, the Polk County Tourism Development Council considered a \$17 million contribution to a \$37.5 million renovation of Joker Merchant Stadium. The proposed renovations include a new concourse in right field, an extended grandstand in left field, two new clubhouses, and 500 to 600 new seats. If Governor Scott's bill providing funding to spring training teams in Florida becomes law, a thirty-year contract between the city and the Tigers would mean an extra \$20 million in funding from the state.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Joker Marchant Stadium is named in honor of the late Joker Marchant, Lakeland's former Parks and Recreation Director.

#### **Team: Palm Beach Cardinals**

Affiliate: St. Louis Cardinals (2003) **Principal Owner**: St. Louis Cardinals

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Roger Dean Stadium

Date Built: 1998

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$28 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In September 2012, Roger Dean Stadium hosted the qualifying round for the 2013 World Baseball Classic. In the beginning of the 2013 season, Roger Dean Stadium introduced a new system, GeeBo, that allows fans to order food from their seats. The food is then delivered to them or they can pick the food up at a special concession stand. In April 2013, the construction on a \$20 million Courtyard Marriott began beside Roger Dean Stadium.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The family of West Palm Beach automobile dealer Roger Dean purchased the naming rights to the stadium in a ten-year, \$1 million deal through 2017.

### **Team: St. Lucie Mets**

**Affiliate**: New York Mets (1988)

**Principal Owner:** Team Website

Stadium: Tradition Field

Date Built: 1988

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Prior to the 2013 season, about \$282,000 worth of renovations were completed in Tradition Field. The renovations included a new fan show and changes to the major league clubhouse, minor league executive offices and other areas of the stadium. In March, St. Lucie County announced that a study regarding the possibility of attracting another team to Tradition Field would cost about \$60 million. On July 4, 2013, a concrete block, about <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> to 2 inches wide, fell onto a fan sitting under the room in the upper level of the stadium. Because of concerns regarding the safety of the area, about 1,000 seats were closed off.

NAMING RIGHTS: Core Communities, LLC, purchased the naming rights to the stadium in a ten-year deal. The stadium is named after the company's Town of Tradition, a community planned near the stadium. The agreement was terminated in 2010 after Core Communities failed to make \$95,000 in payments due to the county at the end of 2009. In 2010, Digital Domain Media Group purchased the stadium's naming-rights. However, the agreement terminated when the group filed for bankruptcy in September 2012. Between Digital Domain Media Group and Tradition Land Company, the stadium was referred to as Mets Stadium. In 2013, the Mets reached a five-year deal with Tradition Land Co. for naming rights of the stadium. Tradition would pay \$75,000 for 2013, but the fee is variable. The county and the Mets split the naming-rights revenue.

# **Team: Tampa Yankees**

**Affiliate**: New York Yankees (1994) **Principal Owner**: New York Yankees

Team Website

Stadium: George M. Steinbrenner Field

Date Built: 1996

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The stadium is named after the late New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner.

## MIDWEST LEAGUE (A)

## **Team: Beloit Snappers**

Affiliate: Oakland Athletics (2013)

**Principal Owner**: Beloit Professional Baseball Association, Inc.

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Harry C. Pohlman Field

Date Built: 1982

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2012, the Oakland Athletics signed a two-year player development contract with the Snappers. The Beloit Snappers won the first-half title for the Western Division in 2013.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The stadium is named after Harry C. Pohlman, a long-time coach in the Beloit school system and in American Legion baseball. Pohlman was also an original member of the Beloit Brewers Board of Directors.

# **Team: Burlington Bees**

Affiliate: Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim (2013)

Principal Owner: City of Burlington, Iowa

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Community Field

Data Brills: 1047 (rabvills in 10)

Date Built: 1947 (rebuilt in 1973)

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In September 2012, the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim signed a two-year player development contract with the Bees. Also in September, the Bees and Community Field welcomed their three millionth fan.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There is currently no naming rights agreement in place.

## **Team: Cedar Rapids Kernels**

**Affiliate**: Minnesota Twins (2013)

Principal Owner: Cedar Rapids Baseball Club, Inc.

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Perfect Game Field at Veterans Memorial Stadium

Date Built: 2002

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$16.49 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2012, the Kernels entered a player development contract with the Minnesota Twins. Prior to the start of the 2013 season, a new video board was installed at Veterans Memorial Park. The board is 30 feet by 48 feet and cost about \$500,000. In June, Perfect Game Field at Veterans Memorial Stadium welcomed its two millionth fan since its opening in 2002.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The City of Cedar Rapids owns Veterans Memorial Stadium and chose its name to honor veterans of all U.S. wars. In 2009, Perfect Game USA announced a five-year naming rights deal with the Kernels. Details were not released, but the deal extends through the 2013 season.

## **Team: Clinton LumberKings**

**Affiliate**: Seattle Mariners (2009)

**Principal Owner:** N/A

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Ashford University Field

Date Built: 1937

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** After the offices at Ashford University Field flooded for the fifth time in five years, the city agreed to pay \$10,300 for repairs. However, the city said that there needs to be a means of addressing this issue in the future.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Ashford University bought the naming rights to the stadium in 2011. The deal extends through 2014.

## **Team: Dayton Dragons**

Affiliate: Cincinnati Reds (2000)

Principal Owner: Mandalay Sports Entertainment

Team Website

Stadium: Fifth Third Field

Date Built: 2000

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$22 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2012, a new playing field was installed in the stadium. Fifth Third Field was named by PETA as one of the top ten most vegetarian-friendly minor league ballparks in 2013. In 2013, the Huffington Post awarded Fifth Third Field the title of having the most loyal fans of all the minor league ballparks. Fifth Third Field hosted the 2013 Midwest League All-Star game. In August, Fifth Third Field hosted the Great American Beer Tasting.

Team Value: \$31 million (Revenue: \$9.4 million; Operating Income \$3.9 million)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Ohio-based Fifth Third Bank purchased the naming rights to the Dragons' home stadium in 2000 for twenty years, totaling \$4.5 million.

## **Team: Fort Wayne TinCaps**

Affiliate: San Diego Padres (1999) Principal Owner: Hardball Capital

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Parkview Field

Date Built: 2009

Facility Cost (\$/Mil) \$30 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2012, the TinCaps and Padres extended their affiliation for two-more years. Parkview Field was named one of the top ten most vegetarian-friendly ballparks in minor league baseball by PETA in 2013. Parkview Field celebrated its fifth anniversary in 2013. In March 2013, Fort Wayne began the process of purchasing land near Parkview Field for development, mainly residential.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Hardball Capital bought the naming rights to the stadium in 2008 for \$3 million over ten years.

### **Team: Great Lakes Loons**

**Affiliate**: Los Angeles Dodgers (2006)

Principal Owner: Michigan Baseball Foundation

Team Website

Stadium: Dow Diamond

Date Built: 2007

Facility Cost (\$/Mil) \$33 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2013, Tri-City Brewing Co. was dropped as a vendor at the Dow Diamond. The brewery had created a special beer to sell at the park, Loons Summer Ale. Also, the Midland County Sports Hall of Fame was relocated to Dow Diamond.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Dow Chemical donated the land for the stadium and purchased naming rights. The name Dow Diamond refers both to the slang for the playing surface and the red diamond in Dow's logo.

## **Team: Kane County Cougars**

**Affiliate**: Chicago Cubs (2013)

Principal Owner: Cougar Baseball Partnership/American Sports Enterprises, Inc.

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Fifth Third Ballpark

Date Built: 1991

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2012, the Chicago Cubs and the Cougars announced a player development agreement for the 2013 and 2014 seasons. As of June 2013, Kane County Forest Preserve, Kane County Cougars and a caterer were still litigating a suit brought by concessions volunteers alleging they were injured when officials failed to monitor hazardous weather conditions and get volunteers to a place of safety. In June, Fifth Third Field hosted two USA Baseball Collegiate National Team games. In July, Fifth Third Ballpark welcomed its ten millionth fan. In August, the ballpark held a Sara Evans concert in its Music Garden.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Fifth Third Bank bought naming rights to the stadium in December 2011. The deal is for five years.

## **Team: Lansing Lugnuts**

**Affiliate**: Toronto Blue Jays (2005)

**Principal Owner**: Tom Dickson (Take Me Out to the Ballgame, LLC)

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Cooley Law School Stadium

Date Built: 1996

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: \$12.8 **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** About \$410,000 is expected to be spent from Lansing's general fund in the 2014 fiscal year for upkeep, upgrades and operations of the stadium.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In February 2010, Cooley Law School agreed to \$1.485 million for an eleven-year contract of the naming rights to the stadium with the City of Lansing and the Lansing Lugnuts.

### **Team: Peoria Chiefs**

**Affiliate**: St. Louis Cardinals (2013)

Principal Owner: Peoria Chiefs Community Baseball Club, LLC

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Dozer Park **Date Built**: 2002

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$16 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2012, the Cardinals and Chiefs agreed to a four-year Player Development Contract.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In 2013, Caterpillar, Inc. and the Chiefs agreed to a ten-year, \$2 million naming rights deal. The stadium was renamed "Dozer Park," in reference to Caterpillar bulldozers.

## **Team: Quad Cities River Bandits**

**Affiliate**: Houston Astros (2013) **Principal Owner**: Main Street Iowa

Team Website

**Stadium**: Modern Woodmen Park **Date Built**: 1931 (renovated in 2004)

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In March 2013, the River Bandits unveiled the Bandits Business Center powered by Bradfield's. The center is available for hosting presentations, training seminars and meetings. In June, a man died at the ballpark after a fight with his brother-in-law. A zip-line was added to the stadium in June. A carousel and Ferris wheel were also added. The city paid for the \$1 million amusements. Also, in July, the Frog Hopper was added to the stadium. USA Today named Modern Woodmen Park one of the top twenty ballparks in the minor league system.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In December 2007, Modern Woodmen of America purchased the naming rights to the facility for ten years for \$2 million.

#### **Team: South Bend Silver Hawks**

**Affiliate**: Arizona Diamondback (1997) **Principal Owner**: Andrew Berlin

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Stanley Coveleski Regional Stadium

Date Built: 1987

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$11 Facility Financing: N/A

**Facility Website** 

**UPDATE**: Prior to the 2013 season, Berlin made \$4 million in improvements to the stadium, including a new video board and tiki bar. In summer 2013, the Silver Hawks owner, Andrew Berlin, announced that the team would start taking bids for naming rights of the stadium.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The stadium is named for Stan Coveleski, the Hall of Fame pitcher who once lived in South Bend.

## **Team: West Michigan Whitecaps**

**Affiliate**: Detroit Tigers (1997)

**Principal Owner:** Lew Chamberlin and Denny Baxter (Whitecaps Professional Baseball, LLP)

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Fifth Third Ballpark

Date Built: 1994

Facility Cost (\$/Mil) \$6 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** The 2013 season marked the twentieth anniversary of the West Michigan Whitecaps. In May, Fifth Third Ballpark welcomed its eight millionth fan.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Fifth Third Bank agreed to a ten-year naming rights extension that runs through 2021. The terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

#### **Team: Wisconsin Timber Rattlers**

**Affiliate**: Milwaukee Brewers (2009) **Principal Owner**: Craig Dickman

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Time Warner Cable Field at Fox Cities Stadium

Date Built: 1995

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2013, WIAA announced an extension of state baseball tournament at Fox Cities Stadium through 2020. In 2013, the stadium underwent renovations which included a second level behind home plate with six new suites and 250-seats in a new club level. In addition, the renovation included an expanded team store, expanded concession stands and customer service center, an improved home clubhouse, and replacement of the cement block façade of the stadium.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In March 2007, Time Warner Cable entered into a ten-year agreement for the naming rights to the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers' home playing field. Financial terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

## **SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE (A)**

### **Team: Asheville Tourists**

Affiliate: Colorado Rockies (1994)

Principal Owner: Palace Sports and Entertainment

**Team Website** 

Stadium: McCormick Field

Date Built: 1924

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2012, the Rockies and Tourists agreed to a four-year extension of their Player Development Contract (2016). If a new bill becomes law, fans at McCormick Field would be able to purchase beer from in-stand vendors.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The stadium is named after Dr. Lewis McCormick, Asheville's former city bacteriologist who was the first man in the United States to make a scientific fight against the housefly.

### **Team: Augusta GreenJackets**

**Affiliate**: San Francisco Giants (2005)

Principal Owner: Agon Sports & Entertainment

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Lake Olmstead Stadium

Date Built: 1995

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In late 2012, Agon Sports & Entertainment purchased the GreenJackets from Ripken Baseball with the intent to move the team to North Augusta. However, the new stadium there has run into problems.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There is currently no naming rights agreement in place.

## **Team: Bowling Green Hot Rods**

**Affiliate**: Tampa Bay Rays (2007) **Principal Owner**: Arthur Solomon

Team Website

Stadium: Bowling Green Ballpark

Date Built: 2009

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): N/A Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** "America's Got Talent" contestant, Marty Brown, appeared at a Hot Rods game in 2013 for a meet-and-greet with fans.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There is currently no naming rights agreement in place.

# **Team: Charleston RiverDogs**

**Affiliate**: New York Yankees (2005)

**Principal Owner:** Marvin Goldklang (South Carolina Baseball Group, LP)

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Joseph P. Riley, Jr. Park ("The Joe")

Date Built: 1997

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$19.5 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The stadium is named for Joseph. P. Riley, who has served as mayor of Charleston since 1975.

### **Team: Delmarva Shorebirds**

**Affiliate**: Baltimore Orioles (1997)

Principal Owner: 7th Inning Stretch, LP

Team Website

Stadium: Arthur W. Perdue Stadium

Date Built: 1996

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): N/A Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

UPDATE: In April 2013, Perdue Stadium hosted the second annual Bi-State Rivalry baseball

event.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There is currently no naming rights agreement in place.

# **Team: Greensboro Grasshoppers**

**Affiliate**: Miami Marlins (2003)

Principal Owner: Cooper Brantley, Len White, and Wes Elingburg (Greensboro Baseball, LLC)

**Team Website** 

Stadium: NewBridge Bank Park

Date Built: 2005

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): 22.5 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2012, the Grasshopper's owners purchased NewBridge Bank Park. Also, the Marlins extended their player development contract with the Hoppers through 2014. In June 2013, work began on a \$6 million apartment project adjacent to the ballpark. In 2014, NewBridge Park will host the ACC baseball tournament.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In November 2007, NewBridge Bank signed a ten-year naming rights deal for the Greensboro Grasshoppers' home stadium. The deal is estimated to total nearly \$3 million. In 2013, NewBridge Bank extended its naming rights agreement for four additional years through 2021.

### **Team: Greenville Drive**

Affiliate: Boston Red Sox (2005) Principal Owner: RB3, LLC

Team Website

Stadium: Fluor Field at the West End

Date Built: 2006

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): N/A Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Fluor Field is helping to spur retail and restaurant growth in the downtown area.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The club entered into a ten-year naming rights deal with the Fluor Corporation in 2009. The naming rights agreement changed the name of the ballpark to Fluor Field at the West End.

## **Team: Hagerstown Suns**

**Affiliate**: Washington Nationals (2007)

Principal Owner: Hank Stickney, Ken Stickney, Peter Guber, and Paul Schaeffer

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Municipal Stadium

Date Built: 1931

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE**: The future of the Suns in Hagerstown is unclear. The Fredricksburg City Council is discussing a \$30 million stadium to house the Suns should they decide to relocate. If the Suns relocate, it would likely happen for the 2015 season. However, in 2012 the Suns agreed to a two-year lease extension at Municipal Stadium. The agreement entails a \$1 per year lease payment on the stadium.

## **Team: Hickory Crawdads**

**Affiliate**: Texas Rangers (2009)

**Principal Owner:** Don Beaver, Luther Beaver, Charles Young (Hickory Baseball, Inc.)

**Team Website** 

Stadium: L.P. Frans Stadium

Date Built: 1993

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): N/A Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**NAMING RIGHTS**: There is currently no naming rights agreement in place.

## **Team: Kannapolis Intimidators**

**Affiliate**: Chicago White Sox (2001)

Principal Owner: Smith Family Baseball, Inc.

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: CMC-Northeast Stadium

Date Built: 1995

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$6.8 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Carolina Medical Center Northeast bought the naming rights to the stadium in April 2012. The terms of the five-year deal have not been released.

## **Team: Lake County Captains**

Affiliate: Cleveland Indians (1991)
Principal Owner: Cascia, LLC

Team Website

Stadium: Classic Park Date Built: 2003

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$20 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In late 2012, Eastlake refinanced its bonds remaining on Classic Park and saved about \$300,000. In 2013, the Captains began the Captains Baseball Academy, a top-tier travel baseball organization.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The owners of the Captains paid the City of Eastlake \$4.2 million in 2005 for naming rights to the facility. The team then signed a fifteen-year naming rights agreement with Classic Auto Group.

### **Team: Lakewood BlueClaws**

**Affiliate**: Philadelphia Phillies (2001)

**Principal Owner:** American Baseball Company, LLC

**Team Website** 

Stadium: FirstEnergy Park

Date Built: 2001

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2012, the BlueClaws and the Phillies extended their Player Development Contract through the 2014 season. In 2013, the BlueClaws and FirstEnergy Park hosted the South Atlantic League All-Star game. During the All-Star game festivities, the BlueClaws hosted a Celebrity Hitting Challenge featuring Artie Lange, Justin Pugh, Randy Foye, Pepper Johnson, Matt Stairs, Mitch Williams, Doc Gooden, and Jim Dowd. FirstEnergy Park also hosted the Jersey Shore Music Festival. FirstEnergy Park was named to PETA's 2013 top ten most vegetarian-friendly minor league parks.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: FirstEnergy Corp. acquired the naming rights to the stadium in a twenty-year, \$4.8 million deal that expires in 2020.

## **Team: Lexington Legends**

**Affiliate**: Kansas City Royals (2013)

Principal Owner: Lexington Professional Baseball Company, LLC

**Team Website** 

Stadium: Whitaker Bank Ballpark

Date Built: 2001

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): N/A Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2012, the Legends unveiled a new team logo, colors, and uniform; they also announced a change in their MLB affiliate from the Houston Astros to the Kansas City Royals.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: In 2011, The Legends agreed to sell the naming rights to their stadium to Whitaker Bank through 2020. The deal also has an option for an additional five years, but the financial details were not disclosed.

#### **Team: Rome Braves**

Affiliate: Atlanta Braves (2003)
Principal Owner: Atlanta Braves

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: State Mutual Stadium

Date Built: 2003

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**NAMING RIGHTS**: When the stadium was built, Rome-based State Mutual Insurance Company purchased the naming rights to the stadium for \$1.8 million over eighteen years.

### **Team: Savannah Sand Gnats**

**Affiliate**: New York Mets (2007) **Principal Owner**: Hardball Capital

Team Website

Stadium: Grayson Stadium

Date Built: 1927

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil)**: N/A **Facility Financing:** N/A

Facility Website

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The stadium is named for Spanish-American War veteran General William L. Grayson, who helped get the money allocated to rebuild the stadium after a hurricane severely damaged it in 1940.

## **Team: West Virginia Power**

**Affiliate**: Pittsburg Pirates (2009) **Principal Owner**: Alan Levin

**Team Website** 

**Stadium**: Appalachian Power Park

Date Built: 2005

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$23 Facility Financing: N/A

Facility Website

**UPDATE:** In 2013, the Power partnered with Dollar Energy Fund of West Virginia by allowing individuals purchasing tickets to choose to donate to the Dollar Energy Fund. The park also offered a new concession item, a two pound pepperoni roll. In May, the ballpark hosted "Redneck Night," which included an appearance by "Mountain Man" of the A&E show *Duck Dynasty*.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Appalachian Power bought the naming rights to the stadium in 2005. Financial details were not disclosed and the deal is set to expire in 2015.