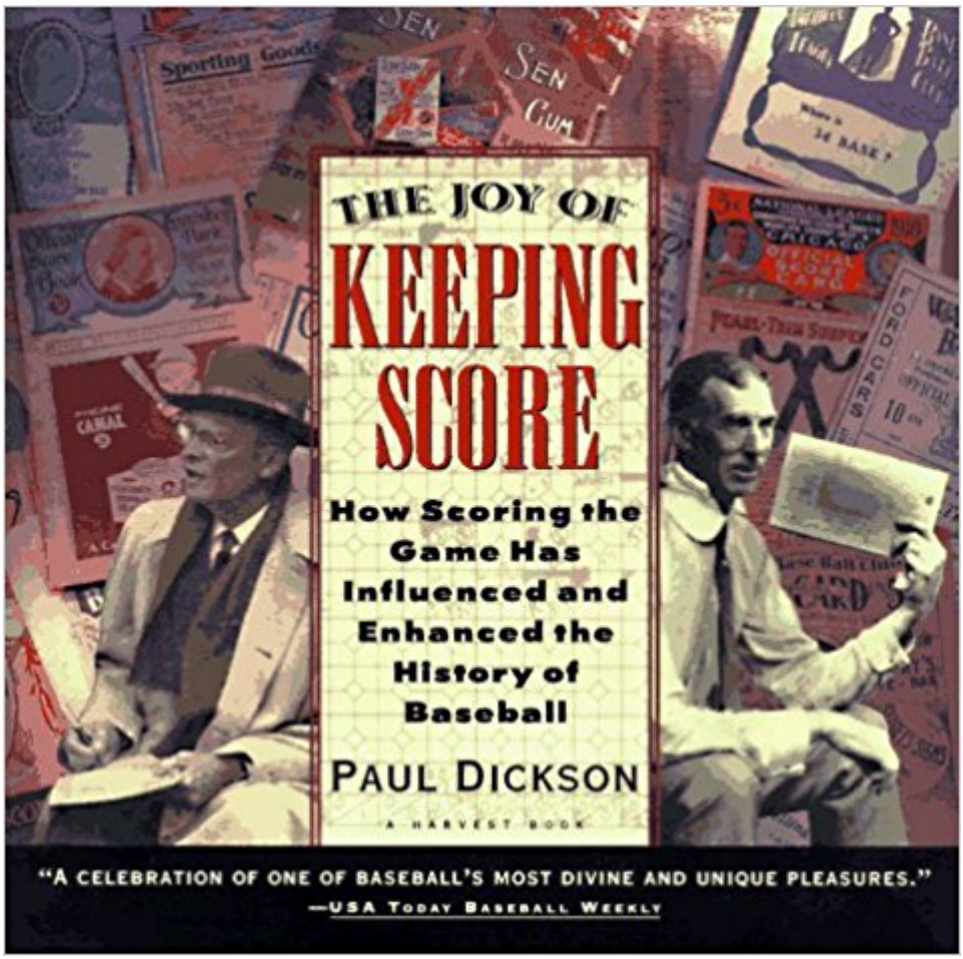
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The Joy Of Keeping Score: How Scoring The Game Has Influenced And Enhanced The History Of Baseball



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Synopsis

The history of scorekeeping, practical scoring techniques, notable scorekeeping blunders and idiosyncrasies, facsimiles of famous scorecards, and more-itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s all here in this Ã¢â ¬Å“celebration of one of baseballÃ¢â ¬â„¢s most divine and unique pleasuresÃ¢â ¬Â• (USA Today Baseball Weekly).

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

There are two reasons to head out to the ballpark. One is to passively watch the game, the other is to actively see it, and you can’t do the latter without a scorecard. In this slim gem of a volume, Paul Dickson clearly explains and translates the quirky documentation system, which looks like cuneiform to the uninitiated, for recording what happens on the ball field, and why true fans are so adamant about doing it. Filled with history, anecdotes, and rules, it also reproduces--to the joy of scorers everywhere--the official scorer’s records for some of baseball’s most significant moments, including Don Larson’s perfecto and Babe Ruth’s called shot. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Scorekeeping in baseball was inaugurated nationally in 1863 by Henry Chadwick, who also invented the box score. Dickson (Baseball’s Greatest Quotations) here teaches the rudiments of scoring, including how the players are numbered, some of the obvious symbols (e.g., SB is a Stolen Base) and some of the less obvious (K is the universal mark for the Strikeout). He explains the nuances of scoring a ball game and how to read a box score, and profiles some of the celebrities

who liked to score games (Dwight D. Eisenhower and Mrs. Calvin Coolidge, among others). We also see how it's done north of the border, from a Montreal Expos scorecard (a home run is un circuit); how the hot dog was invented; and how FDR introduced baseball lingo into politics. Dickson has written a testimonial to the joys of scoring that true ball fans will embrace. Photos. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The problem with scorecards is that there is no standard format and they can change between teams and publishers. There is no standard way to score either but this book gives you a good look at different ways to do it, offers suggestions to consider when scoring and has a history of scoring as well. Did you see during the World Series that Eddie Vedder of Pearl Jam scores games on TV while he is home? That is devotion!

I personally have never scored a baseball game before, but I bought the book anyway since I knew there was a subculture that does and curiosity got the best of me. The book has sections describing why fans score games for fun (rather than just attend and read the Jumbotron), basic principles and methods in scoring a game, as well as small anecdotes of other people's experiences in scoring about such things as zany plays, player/fan reactions, and scoring discrepancies. Others have mentioned in previous reviews that this isn't a book that will definitively teach you about how to score a game, but if you read this book, you will come to find that there is no one correct way to score a game, and between notation language and what the scorer decides to add or leave out, their scoring method will be unique from everyone else's. One thing I noticed, and it is a moot point since it has no influence on the topic is that the book is from 1997 and so there will be no mentions of modern happenings. It is a bit of a niche topic, but if you have an interest in the scoring culture or if you keep score yourself, The Joy of Keeping Score is a well-informed book that will introduce you to other people's methods as well as their experiences, and would be a good read for you.

As others have noted this is a small book - it is a fast read. As others have noted it is not a "How to" book. On the other hand, it is an absolutely delightful look at keeping score at a baseball game - why people do it, how some people do it.It contains reproductions of legendary baseball games; it is worth the price of the book just to see those.Other than a brief history of scorekeepking and some alternate systems, the main take-aways from this book are that baseball is just about the only game where the fans keep score, that by keeping score fans form a live connection to the game unfolding

in front of them (you're not just a spectator), that your scorecard does not have to match the official socrecard (scoreing is subjective - think hits vs. errors), and, finally, keeping score leaves you with a permanent momento of a game you attended. At this point, you can skip buying the book. But, if you are a real baseball fan (even one that doesn't keep score) you will miss an wonderful tale about one of the many facets of the game we call baseball. This is a book you can pick up every few years to re-read and have just as much fun the 2nd or 3rd time.

I had previously read this book in hardcover and bought it on my Kindle so I could take it with me wherever I go. You have to be a bit of a baseball nerd to truly appreciate this book or be a statistical geek or maybe just a sports history buff. Regardless, it is a fun journey through the possible ways that baseball has been scored and is scored today. I still have my own preferences, but much of my own style is reflected in the historical scorekeeping methods.

Fun little anecdotal book, good for a quick read. Like other reviews, this is not great for instruction, but better suited for experienced scorers looking for some fun baseball history. Lots of cool photos from baseball yesteryear.

This was a good quick read with about half giving some general scoring information and the other half history on scoring. It is not the exact step by step on scoring that some beginners may like, more general in nature, but still a really good read.

before the book i was able to get the players marked properly onto base. this author talks about the joy of scoring, the diversity, some ways different scorers make marks, but does not discuss the messy parts like how to mark complex plays involving fielders choice with complexities and make it understandable for later.further, the resolution of some of the images is not very good in the Kindle App including on my iPad and Apple Air. i have to make the fonts really big to see the image, which still are not that good, and then the letters/words are so big they are not on the same page as the diagram.

Another good book about baseball history and scoring as it has evolved with the game.

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