

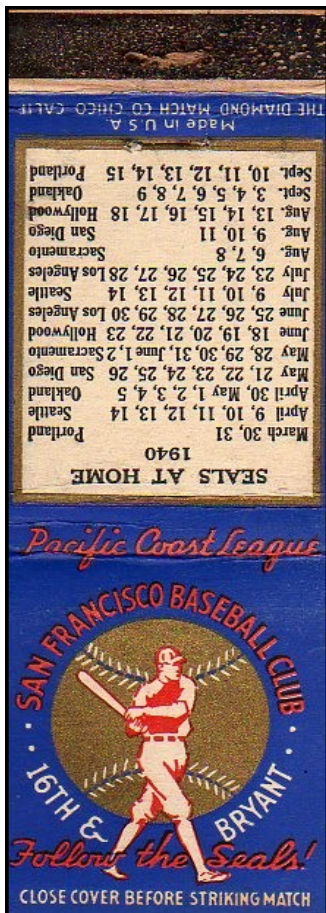
# SPORTS SCHEDULES

by  
Mike Prero

Sports Schedules refers to those covers and boxes which have a team's upcoming game schedule for the season on them, although I don't believe I've ever actually seen a box which falls in this category. You don't often see Sports Schedules listed as a "wanted" category, but many collectors save them, and the really hard-core Sports enthusiasts are relentless in their pursuit of these gems.

Why? Well, aside from the fact that many male collectors ardently follow sports in general [*am I being sexist?*], these covers are historic in a dual sense. First, they chronicle people's favorite teams and sports, and, second, many or most are dated. Personally, all of my Sports interest is housed in the extreme tip of my left pinky, *but* I am very interested in Dated covers, because Dated means "documented," so I collect these, myself, although I don't separate them out from the rest of my Dated covers.

There are a variety of types, of course. They can be separated by the particular sport—the particular team—high school, collegiate, or professional—etc.; I have mine sorted by date. That's why I tend to think of these covers as coming in two basic types: Dated and Undated. They're "Dated" if they bear the year; they're "Undated" if they



don't, and it's always very frustrating to come across a Sports Schedule with no year printed on it. If you wish to do some detective work on these undated ones, it is possible to figure out the date on some of them by checking a reference on past calendar years to see which year matches up with the dates on the schedule, but you'd have to know on what days of the week the games were played, and the general age of the cover would give you a starting point.

Because of the space requirements to print a schedule, most are to be seen on the inside of these covers. Some of the covers give no indication that there's a schedule on the inside; others have the year or some other indication on the outside.

Generally, one's eyes tend to get proportionately bigger in direct relationship to the age of the particular cover, so one of the burning questions in this category always relates to just how far they go back in history....*What IS the earliest Sports Schedule cover?* The earliest one I've seen is a very nice Illinois 1926-1927 Lion Safety First [courtesy of Marc Edelman, PA]. That's 71 years old, but we'll probably never know what the earliest such cover was. Even if a 1918 Sports Schedule cover surfaced, there would always be a chance that an earlier one existed.

And it *is* possible, because all of the popular, major team sports were underway by the turn of the century, just as the matchbook, itself, was making its first appearance. Baseball predates the Civil War; football's first intercollegiate match was Rutgers vs. Princeton in 1869; basketball's first professional game was in 1896; and hockey was going by then, as well. So, who knows? In some long-forgotten coffee can, in some dark corner of an attic or cellar, that *first* Sports Schedule cover may be waiting to be uncovered.

**NATIONAL LEAGUE—1943**  
**PIRATES—AT HOME**  
 April 27, 28, 29—Cincinnati  
 May 1, 2-2—Chicago  
 May 7, 8, 9-9—St. Louis  
 May 26, 27, 28—Brooklyn  
 May 29, 30-30—Philadelphia  
 May 31-31, June 1, 2—Boston  
 June 3, 4, 5, 6-6—New York  
 June 7—Brooklyn  
 June 15, 16, 17—Chicago  
 June 18, 19, 20-20—Cincinnati  
 June 28—Cincinnati  
 June 15, 16, 17, 18—St. Louis  
 July 20, 21, 22-22, 23—Phila.  
 July 24, 25-25, 26—Brooklyn  
 July 27, 28, 30—New York  
 July 31, Aug. 1, 2, 3—Boston  
 Aug. 4—Philadelphia  
 Aug. 26, 27, 28, 29-29—Chicago  
 Aug. 30, 31—St. Louis  
 Sept. 1—St. Louis  
 Sept. 17, 19-19—Cincinnati  
 Sept. 22, 23, 24—Boston  
 Sept. 25, 26-26—New York  
 Sept. 28-28, 29—Brooklyn  
 Oct. 2, 3—Philadelphia  
 NIGHT GAMES—May 27;  
 June 2, 4, 7, 16; July 15, 20,  
 28; Aug. 2, 4, 27, 31; Sept. 17.

SUPERIOR MATCH CO., CHICAGO, U.S.A.

Dec. 3 ... Vanderbilt  
 Nov. 28 ... Kentucky  
 (At Gainesville)  
 Nov. 20 ... Florida  
 Nov. 12 ... Chattanooga  
 Nov. 5 ... Cincinnati  
 Nov. 5 ... Maryland  
 Oct. 29 ... Georgia  
 Oct. 22 (At Detroit)  
 Oct. 15 ... Detroit  
 Oct. 8 ... Villanova  
 Oct. 1 ... Rollins

Football Schedule  
 1948  
 Hurricanes  
 UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

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 JERSEY FARM  
 DAIRY  
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CLOSE COVER FOR SAFETY

**NATIONAL LEAGUE—1948**  
**PIRATES—AT HOME**  
 April 20, 21, 22—Chicago  
 April 27\*—St. Louis  
 May 1, 2-2—Cincinnati  
 May 4\*, 5—Boston  
 May 6, 7\*, 8—New York  
 May 9-9, 10\*—Brooklyn  
 May 12, 13\*—Philadelphia  
 May 28\*, 29, 30-30—St. Louis  
 June 2\*, 3, 4\*, 5—Boston  
 June 6-6, 8\*—New York  
 June 9, 10\*, 11—Brooklyn  
 June 12, 13-13—Philadelphia  
 July 2\*, 4-4—Chicago  
 July 5-5, 6\*—Cincinnati  
 July 15, 16\*, 17—New York  
 July 18-18, 19\*—Boston  
 July 20\*, 21, 22—Philadelphia  
 July 23\*, 25-25—Brooklyn  
 Aug. 10\*, 11—Chicago  
 Aug. 13\*, 14, 15-15—St. Louis  
 Aug. 17\*—Cincinnati  
 Aug. 24\*, 25—Brooklyn  
 Aug. 26, 27\*, 28—Philadelphia  
 Aug. 29-29—Boston  
 Aug. 31, Sept. 1—New York  
 Sept. 3\*, 5-5—Chicago  
 Sept. 6-6—St. Louis  
 Sept. 24\*, 25, 26-26—Cin'ti  
 \*Night Games

**SEATTLE RAINIERS**  
**1954 Home Games**  
 Apr. 20 thru 25—San Diego  
 Apr. 27 thru 30—Sacto  
 May 1, 2-2—Sacto.  
 May 11 thru 16—Portland  
 May 25 thru 30—S. Fran.  
 June 2 thru 6—Los Ang.  
 June 21 thru 27—Hlywd.  
 July 1 thru 4—Oakland  
 July 16 thru 19—Sacto.  
 July 20 thru 24—S. Diego  
 Aug. 10 thru 14—Oakland  
 Aug. 15 thru 18—Los Ang.  
 Aug. 19 thru 22—Portland  
 Sept. 9 thru 12—S. Fran.