

A Short History of Baseball in Rock Hill

1890s-1909--First Semi-Professional baseball team in Rock Hill. Sponsored by The Anderson Buggy Company.

1908-- **Rock Hill Catawbas** played in the South Carolina League.

1911-- John Anderson (Anderson Buggy Company) helped organize a non-professional baseball association that pitted teams from local high schools, mills, and neighboring towns.

1911-- First all-black team called the **Rock Hill Gamecocks** came into existence.

1920s-1940s-- Textile companies began fielding teams, such as the **Bleachery Cubs** and the **Highland Park Mill** team. These two teams were not fielded every year due to financial constraints. The Baseball league teams would eventually be replaced by Textile League Softball teams during the 30s and 40s.

1920s--The Negro Textile League was formed and Rock Hill was represented by the **Rock Hill ABCs**.

1940s-1950s--Fast-pitch softball had reached its peak in popularity. The Aragon, Arcade, Gold-tex, Highland Park, the Industrial, and the Bleachery all fielded teams that played each other as well as against those from the American legion and other local businesses.

1947-1955-- The **Rock Hill Chiefs** were the first team to be affiliated with a professional league team in Rock Hill, first with the Chicago Cubs and later with the Washington Senators.

1952-- The **Rock Hill Chiefs** made Carolina history when David Mobley played for the club during the 1952 season. Mobley became the first officially recognized African-American to play on an all-white minor league team in the Carolinas.

1963-- The **Rock Hill Wrens** were supported by players from several different organizations.

1964-1966-- The **Rock Hill Cardinals** were supported by the St. Louis Cardinals.

1967--The **Rock Hill Indians** came into being and were affiliated with the Cleveland Indians.

1968-- The **Rock Hill Indians** were renamed the **Rock Hill Spinners**.