

# THE 1879 COASTAL BASEBALL CONFERENCE PREVIEW

BOSTON, MASS. (May 14, 1879) – The second season of the Coastal Baseball Conference is ready for its first pitch.

Olympic topped the standings virtually from Game 1 to Game 70, finishing first by eight games over Sportsman's. They are not expected to repeat, as Bridgeport, 5th in the inaugural season, made some excellent roster moves over the winter. Other teams have some developing young players, and in the end it means that the C.B.C. could see its teams separated by just a dozen or so games from top to bottom in Year Two.

## C.B.C. PROJECTED FINISH & ANALYSIS

**FAVORITES:** Bridgeport B.C. at 43-27 (+175 RD)

- Sportsman's 5 GB, Essex Co. 7 GB, Olympic 8 GB, Camden & Amboy 9 GB
- Highlander 10 GB, Capitol City 11 GB, Lynn 12 GB

Bridgeport made outstanding signings over the winter: 5x N.B.B.O. All-Star P Edward Koch (Union), 2x N.B.B.O. All-Star SS Louis Beane (Portland), & 1878 N.B.B.O. All-Star LF Walter Kirby (P.B.C.C.). Those additions, combined with the continuing development of 22 y/o 3B Jacob Overfield (3.0/5.0\*), have given them the league's most talented roster, one that has the potential to run away with the pennant.

Sportsman's has the league's best overall batsman (2B Johnny Holcombe) and pitcher (Walt Harper), but they're unlikely to match Bridgeport's starpower. Essex Co. has a great Infield, but also a very weak Outfield & pitching duo. Olympic lost P.o.t.Y. Carl Bancroft to the N.B.B.O., and that will leave a big hole in their pitching ranks. C. & A. has the league's best C (Jonathan Brumback) and some nice players, but issues at 1B, 3B, SS, & CF will keep them out of serious contention.

## C.B.C. AWARD FAVORITES

**Batsman of the Year: Johnny Holcombe (2B, Sportsman's)**

**Pitcher of the Year: Edward Koch (Bridgeport)**

**Most Valuable Player: Louis Beane (Bridgeport)**

**Greenhorn of the Year: Gustav Hartmann (SS, Essex Co.)**

### **C.B.C. TEAM OF THE YEAR FAVORITES**

**P: Edward Koch (Bridgeport), C: Jonathan Brumback (C. & A.), 1B: Euan Graham (Bridgeport), 2B: Johnny Holcombe (Sportsman's), 3B: John Schoessow (Lynn), SS: Louis Beane (Bridgeport), OF: Sidney Adams (Highlander), OF: Walter Kirby (Bridgeport), OF: Everton Pauline (Olympic)**

### **C.B.C. TOP GREENHORNS & PROSPECTS (by position)**

**P1: Nep Sweatt (age 19, OLY, 2.0/5.0\*), P2: Jonathan Sing (age 26, HIGH, 2.5/3.0\*), C: Paul Ubelhor (age 24, OLY, 3.0/3.0\*), 1B: Irving Knight (age 28, CC, 3.0/3.0\*), 2B: Archie Wilbanks (age 20, CC, 1.5/2.5\*), 3B: Horace Bray (age 25, HIGH, 2.5/2.5\*), SS: Gustav Hartmann (age 29, ESX, 3.0/3.0\*), OF: George Collier (age 21, HIGH, 2.5/5.0\*), OF: Mark Russo (age 25, SPO, 2.5/3.0\*), OF: Fiorenzo Napoleoni (age 21, LYNN, 2.0/3.0\*)**