

Formation of the Negro Southern League

On March 2, 1920 several baseball executives met in Atlanta, Georgia and formed the Negro Southern League. Team owners representing the following cities attended the meeting: Atlanta, Birmingham, Chattanooga, Greenville, Jacksonville, Knoxville, Montgomery, Nashville, New Orleans and Pensacola.

Baseball executives that attended the meeting in Atlanta were:

Executive	Team
W.J. Shaw	Atlanta
Frank M. Perdue	Birmingham
J. Barber	Birmingham
Mal Carter	Chattanooga
Henry Brinson	Chattanooga
Dr. O.M. Thompson	Greenville (SC)
J.R. Kennedy	Greenville (SC)
Godfrey Williams	Jacksonville
W.M. Brooks	Knoxville
Monroe D. Young	Knoxville
Henry Hannon	Montgomery
J.W. White	Nashville
Marshall Garrett	Nashville
Fred Caulfield	New Orleans
Dan Brown	Pensacola

During the meeting, the following baseball executives were elected to Negro Southern League positions:

	Team	Position
Frank W. Perdue	Birmingham	President
R.H. Tabor	Nashville	Vice-President
W.M. Brooks	Knoxville	Secretary
W.J. Shaw	Atlanta	Treasurer

Each team paid a \$ 200 franchise fee to the “league.”

One of the main rules passed by the team owners was to limit each team’s roster to a maximum of 14 players.

The season was scheduled to start on April 29th and conclude play on September 19th.

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The teams that competed in the inaugural season of the Negro Southern League and the final order of standing were as follows:

1920	Games	Record	Pct.
Memphis Red Sox	37	27-10	.730
Knoxville Giants	76	55-21	.724
Montgomery Grey Sox	86	47-39	.547
Atlanta Black Crackers	84	45-39	.536
Birmingham Black Barons	82	43-39	.524
New Orleans Caulfield Ads	82	43-39	.524
Nashville White Sox	80	40-40	.500
Jacksonville Stars	44	18-26	.409
Chattanooga	30	11-19	.367
Louisville	29	5-24	.172

The Nashville White Sox defeated the Montgomery Grey Sox four straight games in a Play-Off Series. The White Sox won the games by scores of 2-1, 3-2, 2-1 and 3-1 to claim the 1920 Negro Southern League championship title.

