

Purpose: Minor League Baseball, relationship to Major League Baseball, and the different professional levels

Introduction

- I. (Display a baseball and mitt)
 - A. Love to do baseball for a living
- II. Minor League Baseball is a viable option
- III. Don't have to make it to the Majors
 - A. Minor Leagues have great professional baseball

Body

- I. Lots of baseball in the US that is not MLB
 - A. 2005 Newsweek article entitled "Not Just Peanuts" by A. Schwarz
 - 1. 176 minor league teams that hosted more than 40 million fans
 - B. Ball clubs owned and run by former baseball players
 - 1. George Brett, Nolan Ryan and Cal Ripken Jr.
 - 2. Bill Murray, Warren Buffet, Dale Earnhardt, and Magic Johnson.

(show pictures)

- C. 2007 article in the PSA Journal titled "Photographing Minor League Baseball"
 - 1. Only five states do not have a team
 - 2. Rest have at least one team
 - 3. On the east and west coasts, some states have as many as seven
- D. Players are current or former Major League ballplayers

(Now that you know a little bit... explain how MLB is involved)
(show slide)

- II. Broken up into different leagues
 - A. Six leagues (use slide)
 - 1. Each has unique purpose in MLB
 - 2. Kinds and levels of players designated between leagues
 - B. First contract season is not very lucrative
 - 1. \$1100 per month maximum with \$25 per day for meals
 - 2. Pay is negotiable after the first year
 - C. 2003 article in Forbes titled "So, You Want to Own a Minor League Baseball Team" written by J. Cramer, a typical member of a 24 member team has a salary cap of \$60,000 per year

Conclusion

- I. **Summary:** As I have shared... many options to pro-ball players
 - A. Teams all across the country
 - B. Growing in popularity year after year
 - C. For both Major League players and prospective top-level players
 - D. Pure professional baseball, just like the big league
- II. **Closing:** I hope that you have enjoyed... not impossible to play baseball