

## Negro Southern League (1920-1951)

It was common practice for the teams in the league to all play a different number of games during the season.

Standings are presented based on winning percentage for the entire season in “league” games only.

### Negro Southern League (1920)

Newspaper accounts differ in the final standings of the teams that played in the Negro Southern League in 1920. Part of the difference in records reported by Southern newspapers revolved around whether or not certain forfeited games were counted or not counted in a team’s won-loss record.

On September 11, 1920 The Chicago Defender reported the following Negro Southern League standings:

| 1920                      | Games | Record | Pct. |
|---------------------------|-------|--------|------|
| 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 |

For some explained reason, the Pensacola Giants were left out of the standings. Speculation is that it was a dropped line of type when the newspaper was put together.

On September 12, 1920, the Alabama Journal of Montgomery, Alabama reported the following Negro Southern League standings:

| 1920                      | Games | Record | Pct. |
|---------------------------|-------|--------|------|
| Montgomery Grey Sox       | 98    | 48-40  | .545 |
| Knoxville Giants          | 64    | 34-30  | .531 |
| New Orleans Caulfield Ads | 83    | 44-39  | .530 |
| Birmingham Black Barons   | 82    | 43-39  | .524 |
| Atlanta Black Crackers    | 89    | 45-44  | .505 |
| Nashville White Sox       | 80    | 40-40  | .500 |
| Pensacola Giants          | 83    | 40-43  | .482 |
| Jacksonville Stars        | 44    | 18-26  | .409 |

Notes:

1. It is important to note that the Memphis Red Sox 27-20 (.730), Chattanooga 11-19 (.367) and Louisville 5-24 (.172) were all frequent opponents of the Negro Southern League teams.
2. Montgomery claimed the 1920 Negro Southern League title, but that claim was disputed by Nashville.

## Negro Southern League (1921)

| 1921                      | Games | Record | Pct. |
|---------------------------|-------|--------|------|
| Nashville Elite Giants    | 118   | 72-46  | .610 |
| Montgomery Grey Sox       | 119   | 69-50  | .580 |
| New Orleans Caulfield Ads | 116   | 66-50  | .569 |
| Birmingham Black Barons   | 117   | 61-56  | .521 |
| Atlanta Black Crackers    | 118   | 61-57  | .517 |
| Memphis Red Sox           | 121   | 52-69  | .430 |
| Chattanooga Tigers        | 115   | 49-66  | .426 |
| Knoxville Giants          | 122   | 43-79  | .353 |

### Negro Southern League Play-Off Series (1921)

The Nashville Elite Giants defeated the Montgomery Grey Sox four games to one in a Play-Off Series. The White Sox won the games their four games by the scores 2-1, 3-2, 2-1 and 3-1 to claim the 1921 Negro Southern League championship title.

Notes:

1. The Bessemer Stars, Gadsen Giants and Mobile Braves also played briefly in the 1921 Negro Southern League, but all three of these teams failed to complete the season. Their records were therefore not counted in the final "league" standings.
2. The Nashville Elite Giants won the 1921 Negro Southern League championship.

## Negro Southern League (1922)

The following Negro Southern League standings were reported in the Nashville Banner (Nashville, TN) on July 30, 1922.

| 1922                         | Games | Record | Pct. |
|------------------------------|-------|--------|------|
| Nashville Elite Giants       | 71    | 47-24  | .662 |
| Knoxville Giants             | 71    | 44-27  | .620 |
| Memphis Red Sox              | 69    | 42-27  | .609 |
| New Orleans Crescent Stars   | 69    | 39-30  | .565 |
| Louisville Stars (White Sox) | 69    | 37-32  | .536 |
| Chattanooga Tigers           | 69    | 35-34  | .507 |
| Montgomery Grey Sox          | 67    | 29-38  | .433 |

Notes:

1. Fred Caulfield's New Orleans Caulfield Ads started the season, but dropped out in early June. They were replaced by the New Orleans Crescent Stars.
2. There is a wide unexplained discrepancy between the number of games won (302) and the number of games lost (253).
3. The Nashville Elite Giants won the 1922 Negro Southern League title.

## Negro Southern League (1923)

Prior to the start of the 1923 Negro Southern League season, team owners met in Birmingham (AL) on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and elected the following “league” officers:

| Officer      | Team        | Position  |
|--------------|-------------|-----------|
| J.T. Settles | Memphis     | President |
| Joe Rush     | Birmingham  | Treasurer |
| W.C. Marine  | New Orleans | Secretary |

The following standings are for the first half of the season only. They were compiled through the research of William J. Plott and presented in his book The Negro Southern League A Baseball History, 1920-1951.

| 1923                       | Games | Record | Pct. |
|----------------------------|-------|--------|------|
| Birmingham Black Barons    | 32    | 24-8   | .750 |
| Memphis Red Sox            | 31    | 15-16  | .488 |
| New Orleans Crescent Stars | 18    | 5-13   | .278 |
| Nashville Elite Giants     | 7     | 0-7    | .000 |

Notes:

1. The Birmingham News reported before the start of the season that Chattanooga and Mobile were also going to field teams in the Negro Southern League for the 1923 season and that two more unidentified teams would also join the “league” before the start of the season. No primary source documentation has yet to be found to support that Chattanooga or Mobile actually played in the Negro Southern League when the season got underway.
2. The won-loss records and standings presented above are for the first half of the season only.
3. In July of 1923 Birmingham and Memphis left the Negro Southern League and joined the Negro National League. This brought an abrupt end to the 1923 Negro Southern League season.
4. The Birmingham Black Barons are considered the 1923 Negro Southern League champions.

## Negro Southern League (1924-1925)

When Birmingham and Memphis left the Negro Southern League to play in the Negro National League, they took with them the backbone of the “league.” The Negro Southern League did not operate in 1924 and 1925.

The top black teams in the South like the Atlanta Black Crackers, Chattanooga Black Lookouts, Nashville Elite Giant and the New Orleans Caulfield Ads all played an independent schedule.

## Negro Southern League (1926)

Prior to the start of the 1926 baseball season, the Birmingham Black Barons dropped out of the Negro National League. This paved the way for a reorganization of the Negro Southern League.

### Standings - First Half of 1926 Season

| 1926                                       | Games | Record | Pct. |
|--|-------|--------|------|
| Birmingham Black Barons                    | 27    | 21-6   | .778 |
| Albany Giants                              | 32    | 19-13  | .594 |
| New Orleans Caulfield Ads (Black Pelicans) | 34    | 19-15  | .559 |
| Memphis Red Sox                            | 33    | 17-16  | .515 |
| Nashville Elite Giants                     | 26    | 11-15  | .423 |
| Montgomery Grey Sox                        | 28    | 11-17  | .393 |
| Atlanta Black Crackers (Cubs)              | 27    | 10-17  | .370 |
| Chattanooga White Sox                      | 29    | 10-19  | .345 |

- First half of Negro Southern League season standings as reported in the Chicago Defender on 07-03-26.

### Standings - Second Half of 1926 Season

| 1926                       | Games | Record | Pct. |
|----------------------------|-------|--------|------|
| Memphis Red Sox            | 34    | 27-7   | .794 |
| New Orleans Caulfield Ads  | 34    | 24-10  | .729 |
| Birmingham Black Barons    | 29    | 18-11  | .621 |
| Albany Giants              | 34    | 17-17  | .500 |
| Chattanooga Black Lookouts | 35    | 16-19  | .457 |
| Nashville Elite Giants     | 36    | 15-21  | .417 |
| Montgomery Grey Sox        | 34    | 11-23  | .324 |
| Atlanta Black Crackers     | 34    | 7-27   | .206 |

## Negro Southern League Play-Off Series (1926)

The Birmingham Black Barons won the first half of the season and the Memphis Red Sox won the second half. Birmingham beat Memphis in a Play-Off Series 5 games to 2 (three games ended in a tie) for the Negro Southern League title.

## Negro Southern League (1927)

Prior to the start of the 1927 baseball season, the Birmingham Black Barons and Memphis Red Sox dropped out of the Negro Southern League to rejoin the Negro National League. Also gone from the Negro Southern League were the Albany Giants, Montgomery Grey Sox and New Orleans Black Pelicans.

| 1927                             | Games | Record | Pct. |
|----------------------------------|-------|--------|------|
| Chattanooga Black Lookouts       | 30    | 22-8   | .733 |
| Nashville Elite Giants           | 27    | 18-9   | .667 |
| Evansville Louis Reichert Giants | 10    | 12-8   | .600 |
| Bessemer Grey Sox                | 9     | 4-5    | .444 |
| Hopkinsville Athletics           | 9     | 4-5    | .444 |
| Jackson Cubs                     | 26    | 8-18   | .308 |
| Atlanta Black Crackers           | 16    | 4-12   | .250 |

Notes:

1. Standings presented above were published in the Chicago Defender on June 25, 1927.
2. There were early reports in the 1927 season that the Decatur (AL) Royal Giants and Mobile Giants would be playing in the 1927 Negro Southern League; however, neither team is mentioned in the “league” standings that were published in the Chicago Defender on June 25<sup>th</sup>.
3. The Negro Southern League seemed to collapse during the second half of the season.
4. The Chattanooga Black Lookouts are considered the 1927 Negro Southern League champions.

### **Negro Dixie Series League (1927)**

The Nashville Elite Giants who were recognized as winning the first half of the Negro Southern League met the Dallas Black Sox (Giants) who were the champions of the Texas Colored League in a “championship” series. The series was played in late August through early September. Nashville defeated Dallas four games to one for Dallas.

### **Negro Southern League (1928)**

With the Birmingham Black Barons and Memphis Red Sox in the Negro National League during the 1928 season, there was no nucleus around which the southern team owners could field a Negro Southern League schedule for the 1928 baseball season.

The top teams in the south like the Atlanta Grey Sox (formerly the Atlanta Black Crackers), Chattanooga Black Lookouts, Evansville Reichert Giants and Nashville Elite Giants all played an independent schedule during the 1928 season.

### **Negro Southern League (1929)**

The Negro Southern League was resurrected before the start of the 1929 season. R.T. Jackson, who was President of the Birmingham Black Barons and Vice-President of the Negro National League, attended the meeting that was held in Nashville to revive the Negro Southern League.

Media coverage for the Negro Southern League teams was sparse during the 1929 season. Only twenty-seven (2) box scores have been found for Negro Southern League games for the 1929 season. Based on these box scores the teams that played in the Negro Southern League had the following records.

| <b>1929</b>                  | <b>Games</b> | <b>Record</b> | <b>Pct.</b> |
|------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| Nashville Elite Giants       | 12           | 9-3           | .750        |
| Evansville Reichert Giants   | 13           | 7-6           | .538        |
| Atlanta Grey Sox             | 6            | 3-3           | .500        |
| Louisville Black Caps (Cats) | 11           | 4-7           | .364        |
| Chattanooga Black Cats       | 12           | 4-8           | .333        |
| New Orleans Black Pelicans   | 0            | 0-0           | .000        |

Notes:

1. The Nashville Elite Giants are considered the 1929 Negro Southern League champions.

## Negro Southern League (1930)

Before the start of the 1930 season, the Nashville Elite Giants and Louisville White Sox (formerly the Black Caps) defected to the Negro National League. Losing two of its stronger teams from the 1929 season, coupled with dismal success of the Negro Southern League in 1929 led to the cancellation of the 1930 Negro Southern League season.

The stronger black teams in the south like the Atlanta Grey Sox, Chattanooga Black Lookouts, Fort Benning, Montgomery Grey Sox all played an independent schedule during the 1930 season. The New Orleans Black pelicans joined the Texas-Louisiana League for the 1930 season.

## Negro Southern League (1931)

After four years in the Negro national League, the Birmingham Black Barons and Memphis Red Sox returned home to reorganize the Negro Southern League. Birmingham and Memphis were joined by the Nashville Elite Giants who had played the two previous seasons in the Negro National League.

An organizational meeting for the “new” Negro Southern League was held in Montgomery (AL) in early March of 1931. At the meeting the following officers were elected.

| Officer          | Team                       | Position       |
|------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| R.T. Jackson     | Birmingham Black Barons    | President      |
| Dr. R.B. Jackson | Nashville Elite Giants     | Vice-President |
| Joe Vaughn       | Chattanooga Black lookouts | Secretary      |
| Thomas T. Wilson | Nashville Elite Giants     | Treasurer      |

The following Negro Southern League standings were published in the Nashville Banner on July 8<sup>th</sup> and the Pittsburgh Courier on July 18<sup>th</sup>. They are not to be considered the final standings for the season.

| 1931                       | Games | Record | Pct. |
|----------------------------|-------|--------|------|
| Nashville Elite Giants     | 33    | 22-11  | .667 |
| Memphis Red Sox            | 42    | 26-16  | .619 |
| Birmingham Black Barons    | 39    | 20-19  | .513 |
| Chattanooga Black Lookouts | 39    | 17-22  | .436 |
| Montgomery Grey Sox        | 36    | 14-22  | .389 |
| Knoxville Giants           | 30    | 11-19  | .367 |

Notes:

1. The Atlanta Panthers played in the Negro Southern League during the second half of the season.
2. The Little Rock Black Travelers also played briefly in the Negro Southern League during the 1931 season.
3. A few days after the conclusion of the Negro Dixie Series, the Memphis Red Sox and Montgomery Grey Sox played a Negro Southern league Play-Off Series. Each team won three games.

## Negro Dixie Series (1931)

The Nashville Elite Giants who ended the season as the 1931 Negro Southern League champion played the Monroe Monarchs who were the Texas-Louisiana League champion. Monroe won the series.

## Negro Southern League (1932)

When the Negro National League folded prior to the start of the 1932 baseball season, this left by default the Negro Southern League as the “Major League” of Negro League baseball. The officers for the 1932 Negro Southern League season were:

| Officer          | Team                    | Position       |
|------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Dr. R.B. Jackson | Nashville Elite Giants  | President      |
| Robert Cole      | Chicago American Giants | Vice President |
| L.S.N. Cobb      | Birmingham Black Barons | Secretary      |
| Thomas T. Wilson | Nashville Elite Giants  | Treasurer      |

The following standings are for the first half of the 1932 season only.

| 1932                                       | Games            | Record | Pct. |
|--|------------------|--------|------|
| Cole’s Chicago American Giants             | 41               | 34-7   | .829 |
| Monroe Monarchs                            | 40               | 33-7   | .825 |
| Nashville Elite Giants                     | 39               | 24-15  | .615 |
| Montgomery Grey Sox                        | 40               | 22-18  | .550 |
| Memphis Red Sox                            | 46               | 24-22  | .522 |
| Little Rock Black Travelers (Grays)        | 6                | 3-3    | .500 |
| Louisville Black Caps                      | 30               | 13-17  | .433 |
| Indianapolis ABCs                          | 33               | 14-19  | .424 |
| Birmingham Black Barons                    | 19               | 8-11   | .421 |
| Atlanta Black Crackers                     | 8                | 1-7    | .125 |
| Cleveland Cubs                             | 5                | 0-5    | .000 |
| Columbus Turfs (Turf Stars)                | No records found |        |      |
| Kansas City Monarchs<br>(Associate Member) | 14               | 9-5    | .643 |

Notes:

1. This is the only year that the Negro Southern League was considered a “Major Negro League.”
2. The Birmingham Black Barons didn’t even finish the first half of the season before they dropped out of the “league.” They were replaced by the Lexington Hard Hitters.
3. The Louisville Black Caps dropped out the league about midseason and were replaced by the Columbus Turfs.
4. The Alcoa Aluminum Sluggers and the Knoxville Giants also played briefly in the Negro Southern League in 1932 during the second half of the season as associate members.
5. The Monroe Monarchs disputed Chicago’s claim for winning the first half of the 1932 season.

### Negro Southern League Play-Off Series (1932)

Cole’s Chicago American Giants (winners of the first half of the season) defeated the Nashville Elite Giants (winners of the second half of the season) in a Play-Off Series 5 games to 3 for Nashville to win the Negro Southern League title.

### Negro Dixie Series (1932)

The Monroe Monarchs of the Negro Southern League played Austin who were the champions of the Negro Texas League. Monroe defeated Austin four games to two.

## Negro Southern League (1933)

When team owners held their organizational meeting for the 1933 Negro Southern League season, Dr. J.B. Martin (owner of the Memphis Red Sox) was elected as the “league’s” President. Eight franchises started the 1933 season and five of those represented cities in Louisiana (Alexandria, Algiers, Monroe, New Orleans and Shreveport). The other three teams in the “league were from Jackson (TN), Little Rock Arkansas) and Memphis (TN).

The following first half standings for the 1933 Negro Southern League season were reported by the Pittsburgh Courier on June 10, 1933:

| 1933                         | Games | Record | Pct. |
|------------------------------|-------|--------|------|
| Memphis Red Sox              | 34    | 26-8   | .765 |
| New Orleans Crescent Stars   | 33    | 20-13  | .606 |
| Shreveport Cubs              | 30    | 17-13  | .567 |
| Algiers Giants               | 32    | 18-14  | .563 |
| Little Rock Stars .          | 31    | 16-15  | .516 |
| Jackson Senators (Bear Cats) | 29    | 11-18  | .379 |
| Alexandria Lincoln Giants    | 29    | 10-19  | .345 |
| Montgomery Grey Sox          | 5     | 1-4    | .200 |

Notes:

1. The Chicago Defender reported the Memphis Red Sox with a record of 36-8 (.818) for the first half of the 1933 season. It seems unlikely that they played 11 more games than any other team in the “league” during the first half of the season.
2. The Monroe Monarchs are not listed because they were replaced by the Montgomery Grey Sox right before the end of the first half of the season.
3. The Pine Bluff Boosters replaced the Jackson (TN) franchise by July 15<sup>th</sup>.
4. The Memphis Red Sox won the first half of the season and the New Orleans Crescents are credited with winning the second half of the season.

## Negro Dixie Series (1933)

In late August the New Orleans Crescent Stars played the Houston Black Buffaloes who were the champions of the Negro Texas League to determine which team would face the Nashville Elite Giants in the Negro Dixie Series. There was no explanation as to why these two teams were playing for that right because the Negro Dixie Series was traditionally played between the champion of the Negro Southern League and the Negro Texas League champion.

New Orleans made short order of Houston, beating them four games to none in the best of seven series.

The Negro Dixie Series between Nashville and New Orleans settled nothing. The series ended in a tie with both teams each winning four games.

## Negro World Series (1933)

The New Orleans Crescent Stars played the Chicago American Giants who were the champions of the Negro National League in a “self-proclaimed” Negro World Series. The American Giants dominated the Crescent Stars. Chicago won five games to one for New Orleans to claim the “championship.”



## Negro Southern League (1934)

At the February 4<sup>th</sup> organizational meeting for the 1934 Negro Southern League season, Dr. J.B. Martin was elected as President and L.S.N. Cobb was elected as Secretary of the “league.”

The following won-loss records and “league” standings are not complete for the 1934 Negro Southern League season.

| 1934                             | Games              | Record | Pct. |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------|------|
| Monroe Monarchs                  | 24                 | 15-9   | .625 |
| Cincinnati Tigers                | 14                 | 8-6    | .571 |
| New Orleans Crescent Stars       | 15                 | 8-7    | .533 |
| Memphis Red Sox                  | 20                 | 10-9-1 | .526 |
| Birmingham Black Barons (Giants) | 22                 | 6-16   | .273 |
| Louisville Caps (Black Sox)      | 9                  | 1-8    | .111 |
| Atlanta Athletics                | (No records found) |        |      |

Notes:

1. It appears that there was no clear winner of the 1934 Negro Southern League title.

## North-South Game (1934)

The inaugural North-South game was played at Sulphur Dell Stadium in Nashville on October 7, 1934. The line-up for the South squad as reported in the Pittsburgh Courier on October 6<sup>th</sup> was as follows:

| Position | Player              | Team       | Position | Player         | Team       |
|----------|---------------------|------------|----------|----------------|------------|
| 1B       | Eldridge Mayweather | Monroe     | OF       | Jerry Benjamin | Birmingham |
| 2B       | Matthew Carlisle    | Birmingham | OF       | Homer Curry    | Memphis    |
| SS       | Wayman Longley      | Memphis    | OF       | Jim Mason      | Memphis    |
| 3B       | Robert Smith        | Memphis    | P        | Griffin        | Memphis    |
| C        | Harry Else          | Monroe     | P        | Columbus Vance | Birmingham |
|          |                     |            | P        | Floyd Kranson  | Monroe     |
|          |                     |            | P        | Herman Howard  | Memphis    |

## Negro Southern League (1935)

Team owners and their representatives that attended the Negro Southern League organizational meetings in February and April of 1935 at the Martin Building located at 907 Florida Street in Memphis (TN) were as follows:

| Team                    | Representative | Team                      | Representative  |
|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Atlanta Black Crackers  | W.B. Baker     | Louisville                | A.F. Scott      |
| Birmingham Black Barons | Ludie Keys     | Memphis Red Sox           | Dr. W.S. Martin |
| Chattanooga             | Mal Carter     | Monroe Monarchs           | Frank Johnson   |
| Cincinnati              | DeHart Hubbard | Montgomery                | William Brown   |
| Claybrook Tigers        | John Claybrook | Nashville Elite Giants    | Thomas Wilson   |
| Hopkinsville            | R.H. Penner    | New Orleans Caulfield Ads | Fred Caulfield  |
| Knoxville               | J.A. Nance     | Shreveport                | Lefty Welch     |
| Little Rock             |                |                           |                 |

The officers of the 1935 Negro Southern League were:

| <b>Officer</b>  | <b>Position</b>                |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Dr. J.B. Martin | President                      |
| Milton H. Grey  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President |
| W.B. Baker      | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President |
| L.S.N. Cobb     | Secretary                      |

The following teams played in the 1935 Negro Southern League were:

| <b>1935</b>                | <b>Games</b> | <b>Record</b> | <b>Pct.</b> |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| Atlanta Black Crackers     |              |               |             |
| Birmingham Black Barons    | 59           | 43-16         | .729        |
| Chattanooga Black Lookouts |              |               |             |
| Claybrook Tigers           |              |               |             |
| Memphis Red Sox            |              |               |             |
| Montgomery Grey Sox        | 39           | 28-11         | .718        |
| New Orleans Black Pelicans |              |               |             |

Notes:

1. The records presented for Birmingham and Montgomery were taken from a newspaper article that appeared in the Montgomery Advertiser on August 28, 1935. They are not supported by box scores.
2. Research by William J. Plott for his book The Negro Southern League uncovered 22 box scores from the start of the season through June 30. Plott came up with the following won-loss records from the box scores he analyzed: Memphis (12-4), Chattanooga (1-1), Atlanta (4-7), Birmingham (3-6) and Claybrook (2-4).
3. It was reported that the Memphis Red Sox won the first half of the 1935 season.
4. It is undetermined who won the second half of the 1932 season.
5. Currently no final league standings have been uncovered.

### **Negro Southern League Play-Off Series (1935)**

The Claybrook Tigers defeated the Memphis Red Sox four games to three in Play-off Series to claim the Negro Southern League title for the 1935 season.

### **Negro Southern League (1936)**

Team owners and their representatives that attended the Negro Southern League meetings in January of 1936 at the Martin Building located at 907 Florida Street in Memphis, TN were as follows:

| <b>Team</b>                | <b>Representative</b> |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Atlanta Black Crackers     | W.B. Baker            |
| Birmingham Black Barons    | Ludie Keys            |
| Chattanooga Black Lookouts | Mal "Bow" Carter      |
| Cincinnati Tigers          | DeHart Hubbard        |
| Claybrook Tigers           | John C. Claybrook     |
| Hopkinsville Athletics     | R.H. Penner           |
| Knoxville                  | J.A. Knox             |
| Little Rock                | Crump                 |
| Louisville                 | A.F. Scott            |
| Memphis Red Sox            | Dr. J.B. Martin       |
| Monroe Monarchs            | Frank Johnson         |
| Montgomery Grey Sox        | William Brown         |
| Nashville Elite Giants     | Thomas Wilson         |
| New Orleans                | Allan Page            |
| Oklahoma City              |                       |
| Shreveport                 |                       |

Thomas Wilson of the Nashville Elite Giants served as President of the Negro Southern League in 1936.

When the Negro Southern League started play in May of 1936 the following teams were in the “league.”

#### Negro Southern League “Official” Games

| 1936                                | Games | Record | Pct.  |
|-------------------------------------|-------|--------|-------|
| Cincinnati Tigers                   | 3     | 3-0    | 1.000 |
| Birmingham Black Barons             | 19    | 15-4   | .789  |
| Nashville Elite Giants (Black Vols) | 7     | 5-2    | .714  |
| Atlanta Black Crackers              | 15    | 10-5   | .667  |
| Hopkinsville Athletics              | 5     | 2-3    | .400  |
| Memphis Red Sox                     | 14    | 5-9    | .357  |
| Chattanooga Black Lookouts          | 18    | 6-12   | .333  |
| Montgomery Grey Sox                 | 19    | 4-15   | .211  |

#### Games Against All Levels of Competition

| 1936                                | Games | Record | Pct. |
|-------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|
| Birmingham Black Barons             | 21    | 17-4   | .810 |
| Nashville Elite Giants (Black Vols) | 10    | 8-2    | .800 |
| Cincinnati Tigers                   | 9     | 6-3    | .667 |
| Atlanta Black Crackers              | 19    | 12-7   | .632 |
| Memphis Red Sox                     | 17    | 7-10   | .412 |
| Hopkinsville Athletics              | 5     | 2-3    | .400 |
| Montgomery Grey Sox                 | 24    | 9-15   | .375 |
| Chattanooga Black Lookouts          | 18    | 6-12   | .333 |

Notes:

1. The won-loss records presented above are from the research of William Plott and presented in his book The Negro Southern League. They are supported by actual box scores uncovered during Mr. Plott’s research.
2. The Negro Southern League seemed to have collapsed during the second half of the season.
3. The Birmingham Black Barons won the first half of the 1932 season.
4. It is undetermined who won the second half of the season.
5. No final Negro Southern League standings have been uncovered.

#### Negro Southern League (1937-1944)

The Negro Southern League collapsed during the second half of the 1936 season and would not reorganize to play another season until 1945.

## Negro Southern League (1945)

In February of 1945 the Southern Newspaper Syndicate News Service reported that the following team owners and/or their representatives attended an organizational meeting at the Colored YMCA in Nashville (TN) for the purpose of creating a “new” Negro Southern League.

| <b>Team</b>                | <b>Representative</b>            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Asheville Blues            | C.L. Moore                       |
| Atlanta Black Crackers     | John H. Harden                   |
| Chattanooga Choo-Choos     | James Cotton                     |
| Knoxville Black Smokies    | Henry N. Lewis                   |
| Knoxville Grays            | C.J. Kincaide                    |
| Little Rock Greys          | Sam Parks                        |
| Mobile Black Shippers      | Willie Davis                     |
| Nashville Black Vols       | Dr. R.B. Jackson                 |
| New Orleans Black Pelicans | Allen Page and Clifford Matthews |

At this meeting that was held in Nashville, the following Negro Southern League officers were elected.

| <b>Officer</b>   | <b>Position</b>              |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| Dr. R.B. Jackson | President                    |
| Allen Page       | Vice-President               |
| John H. Harden   | Treasurer                    |
| C.J. Kincaide    | Secretary                    |
| J.C. Chunn       | Director of Public Relations |

### Negro Southern League Standings (1945)

| <b>1945</b>                         | <b>Manager</b> | <b>Games</b> | <b>Record</b> | <b>Pct.</b> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| Atlanta Black Crackers              | Felix Manning  | 38           | 29-9          | .763        |
| Knoxville Grays                     | Lewis          | 39           | 26-13         | .667        |
| Asheville Blues                     | C.L. Moore     | 32           | 18-14         | .563        |
| Nashville Black Vols                | Bill Perkins   | 34           | 18-16         | .529        |
| New Orleans Black Pelicans          | Wesley Barrow  | 36           | 18-18         | .500        |
| Chattanooga Choo Choos              | Cotton         | 33           | 10-23         | .303        |
| Mobile Black Bears                  | Willie Davis   | 30           | 9-21          | .300        |
| Little Rock Black Travelers (Greys) | Charlie Burgs  | 31           | 9-22          | .290        |

Indianapolis Cardinals (replaced the Little Rock Black Travelers in late July.)

Richmond Cardinals (replaced the New Orleans Black Pelicans in the second half of the season.)

The Atlanta Black Crackers were the Negro Southern League champions for the 1945 season.

## Negro Southern League (1946)

The officers of the Negro Southern League in 1946 were:

| Officer          | Team      | Position       |
|------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Dr. R.B. Jackson | Nashville | President      |
| C.L. Hyatte      | Knoxville | Vice President |
| C.L. Moore       | Asheville | Treasurer      |
| C.J. Kincaide    | Knoxville | Secretary      |

### Negro Southern League Standings (1946)

| 1946   | Games | Record | Pct. |
|--|-------|--------|------|
| Asheville Blues                              | 60    | 48-12  | .800 |
| Charlotte Black Hornets                      |       |        |      |
| Chattanooga Choo-Choos                       |       |        |      |
| Jacksonville Eagles                          |       |        |      |
| Knoxville Giants                             |       |        |      |
| Mobile Black Bears                           |       |        |      |
| Montgomery Dodgers (Red Sox)                 |       |        |      |
| Nashville Cubs (Black Vols)                  |       |        |      |
|  |       |        |      |
| Atlanta Black Crackers (Associate Member)    |       |        |      |
| Louisville Black Colonels (Associate Member) |       |        |      |
| Pine Bluff Black Cats (Associate Member)     |       |        |      |
| Winston-Salem Grays (Associate Member)       |       |        |      |

Asheville won both halves of the season. Asheville won the first half with a record of 23-5 and the second half with a record of 25-7. Asheville won their final 16 games of the 1946 season.

## Negro Southern League (1947)

| 1947   | Games | Record | Pct. |
|--|-------|--------|------|
| Asheville Blues  |       |        |      |
| Atlanta Black Crackers   |       |        |      |
| Chattanooga Black Choo Choos   |       |        |      |
| Jacksonville Eagles  |       |        |      |
| Memphis Blues  |       |        |      |
| Nashville Cubs   |       |        |      |
| New Orleans Creoles  |       |        |      |
| Raleigh Tigers   |       |        |      |
| Shreveport (failed to enter the league and their franchise was awarded to Raleigh) |       |        |      |

Ashville won the first half of the season and the New Orleans Creoles won the second half. Asheville defeated New Orleans in a play-off series 3 games to 2 to claim the Negro Southern Association title.

## Negro Southern League (1948)

| 1948                                  | Owner                    | Games | Record | Pct. |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|--------|------|
| Atlanta Black Crackers                | John Harden              |       |        |      |
| Birmingham Clowns (All Stars)         | Tommy Sampson            |       |        |      |
| Chattanooga Choo Chos                 | Beck Sheperd             |       |        |      |
| Memphis Blues                         |                          |       |        |      |
| Memphis Cardinals                     | Jim Ford and Amos Mosley |       |        |      |
| Nashville Cubs                        | Dr. R.B. Jackson         |       |        |      |
| New Orleans Creoles                   | Allen Page               |       |        |      |
| Raleigh Grays (Associate Member)      | W.A. "Pete" Wilder       |       |        |      |
| Mobile Black Bears (Associate Member) | Willie Davis             |       |        |      |

Notes:

1. Dr. R.B. Jackson was the President of the Negro Southern League in 1948.
2. No league standings have been uncovered for the 1948 Negro Southern League season.
3. New Orleans is reported to have won both halves of the season the Negro Southern League.

## Negro Southern League (1949)

Before the start of the 1949 season an organizational meeting was held in Nashville (TN). At the meeting the following "league" officers were elected:

| Officer           | Team                           | Position   |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Dr. R.B. Jackson  | Nashville Cubs                 | President  |
| George E. McCrary | Evansville Dodgers             | 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice-President                   |
| Jessie Richardson | Lakeland                       | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President                   |
| H.L. Johnson      | Little Rock                    | Secretary  |
| Allen Page        | New Orleans                    | Treasurer  |
| Willie Davis      | Mobile Black Shippers          | Chaplin  |
| B.T. Harvey       | Atlanta-Detroit Brown Crackers | Commissioner and<br>Director of Public Relations |

| 1949 | Games | Record | Pct. |
|------|-------|--------|------|
|------|-------|--------|------|

|                                |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Atlanta-Detroit Brown Crackers |  |  |  |
| Gadsen-Florida Tigers          |  |  |  |
| Mobile Black Shippers          |  |  |  |
| Montgomery Tigers              |  |  |  |
| Nashville Cubs                 |  |  |  |
| Pensacola Seagulls             |  |  |  |

|                                       |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Evansville Dodgers (Associate Member) |  |  |  |
| Indianapolis ABC's (Associate Member) |  |  |  |

No league standings available

The Gadsen-Florida Tigers won the first half of the season and the Nashville Cubs won the second half.

## Negro Southern League (1950)

| 1950                        | Games | Record | Pct. |
|-----------------------------|-------|--------|------|
| Atlanta Brown Crackers      |       |        |      |
| Chattanooga Black Choo Choo |       |        |      |
| Greenville Delta Giants     |       |        |      |
| Gadsen Tigers               |       |        |      |
| Louisville-Nashville Cubs   |       |        |      |
| Memphis Red Caps            |       |        |      |
| New Orleans Creoles         |       |        |      |
| Owensboro Braves            |       |        |      |

Notes:

1. The Negro Southern League annual winter meeting was held at the Elks Club in Nashville (TN).
2. In 1950 Dr. W.S. Martin served as the President of the Negro Southern League and B.T. Harvey was a Commissioner.
3. On 2-11-50 The Chicago Defender reported that the Homestead Grays were being considered as a possible Associate Member of the Negro Southern League.
4. On 06-01-59 the Atlanta Daily World reported that Birmingham, Chattanooga and Owensboro were being dropped from the Negro Southern League for “failure to live up to contractual obligations.”
5. The Birmingham Red Sox managed by James Canada continued to play Negro Southern League teams even after they lost their Negro Southern league franchise.
6. The Huntsville Times on 06-08-50 reported that the Birmingham Red Sox had signed several players from Chattanooga after their lost their “league” franchise.
7. The Negro Southern League All Star game was played on July 11<sup>th</sup> at Martin Stadium in Memphis (TN). The game pitted a Negro Southern League All Star team against the Memphis Red Sox of the Negro American League. With 5,396 fans in attendance, the Memphis Red Sox defeated the Negro Southern League All Stars by a score of 6-5.
8. It is undetermined as to who won the 1951 Negro Southern League title.

## Negro Southern League (1951)

At an organizational meeting for the 1951 Negro Southern League the following individuals were voted in as officers for the “league.”

| Officer          | Position                     |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| Allen Page       | President                    |
| Arthur Dove      | Vice President               |
| B.T. Harvey      | Commissioner                 |
| Dr. R.B. Jackson | Director of Public Relations |
| Hill Harris      | Treasurer                    |

| 1951                            | Games | Record | Pct. |
|---------------------------------|-------|--------|------|
| Atlanta Braves                  |       |        |      |
| Birmingham Black Eagles (Bears) |       |        |      |
| Birmingham All -Stars           |       |        |      |
| Chattanooga Stars               |       |        |      |
| Jackson Cubs                    |       |        |      |
| Knoxville Packers               |       |        |      |
| Nashville Cubs                  |       |        |      |
| Nashville Stars                 |       |        |      |
| New Orleans Creoles             |       |        |      |

Notes:

1. During the 1951 season, the following three teams: Birmingham Black Eagles (owned by Hill Harris), Birmingham All-Stars and Birmingham Bears (also owned by Hill Harris) are were all reported to having represented Birmingham in the Negro Southern League.
2. No league standings have been found for the 1951 Negro Southern League season.
3. It is undetermined who won the 1951 Negro Southern League championship.

### **Demise of the Negro Southern League**

Declining fan support and the instability of Negro baseball led to the demise of the Negro Southern League. No season of Negro Southern League baseball was played after 1951.