



*2026 School Kids Day
Prep Course*



Welcome



Welcome to the 2026 Buffalo Bisons "Prep Course". We look forward to having you join us for our annual School Kids Day game on Thursday, May 28th!

To help you get ready for the game, we have put together this guide to give you all the info you will need to enjoy the day.

Inside you will find information on the Bisons and the basics of a baseball game, as well as some information tied to our theme for the day, which is "On The World Stage" – 2026 World Cup!

Our friends from WNY United Against Drugs & Alcohol have also provided us with some information to help your kids stay away from drugs and live a healthy lifestyle. This additional link can be found on the Bisons School Kids Day page.

At the end of this guide is a certificate of completion. Snap a picture of your class holding them up, and we'll put it up on the video board during the game! Email pictures to solay@bisons.com. Photos will need to be submitted by Friday, May 22.

Thanks and we'll see you at the game!



Bisons Baseball



Triple-A Baseball affiliate of the Toronto Blue Jays

Baseball season: March-September (75 home games)

Play at Sahlen Field in downtown Buffalo

Stadium capacity: 16,600 seats!

Home to Buster T. Bison, Chip, Chicken Wing, Bleu Cheese, Atomic Wing, Beef on Weck, Carrot, Fish Fry and fan-favorite, Celery!



Website: Bisons.com

X: [@BuffaloBisons](https://twitter.com/BuffaloBisons)

Instagram: [@BuffaloBisons](https://www.instagram.com/BuffaloBisons)

Facebook: Buffalo Bisons

Tik Tok: [@BuffaloBisonsBaseball](https://www.tiktok.com/@BuffaloBisonsBaseball)



Baseball Basics

- Game is 9 innings (includes top + bottom)
 - Extra innings played if tied after 9, until someone wins
- Top of the inning – Bisons are in the field
- Bottom of the inning – Bisons are batting
- 3 outs end half an inning
- Outs can be made by:
 - Batter striking out (3 strikes)
 - A batted ball caught before touching the ground
 - A batted ball thrown to base before player arrives
 - A runner tagged out by a fielder



Baseball Basics

Here is a look at the players in the field:

How many positions are there?

Is that an even or an odd number?

How many bases are on the field?

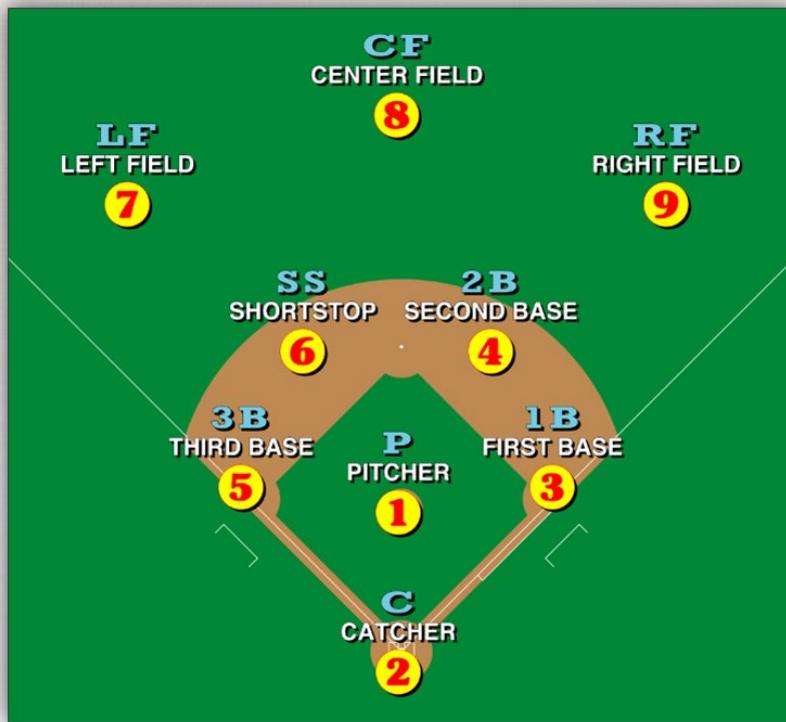
What shape is the infield?

At what degree angle do the baselines intersect?

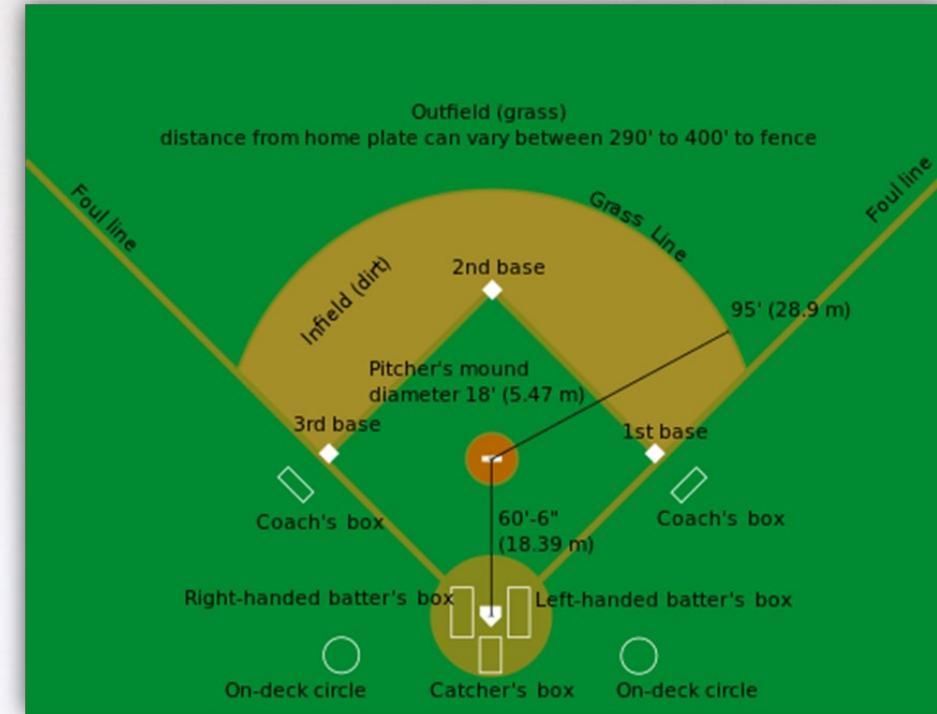




Baseball Basics



Each position in the field is assigned a number. If you hear that the Bisons turned a 5,4,3 double play, that means the third baseman threw to the second baseman, and he threw to first to get 2 runners out.





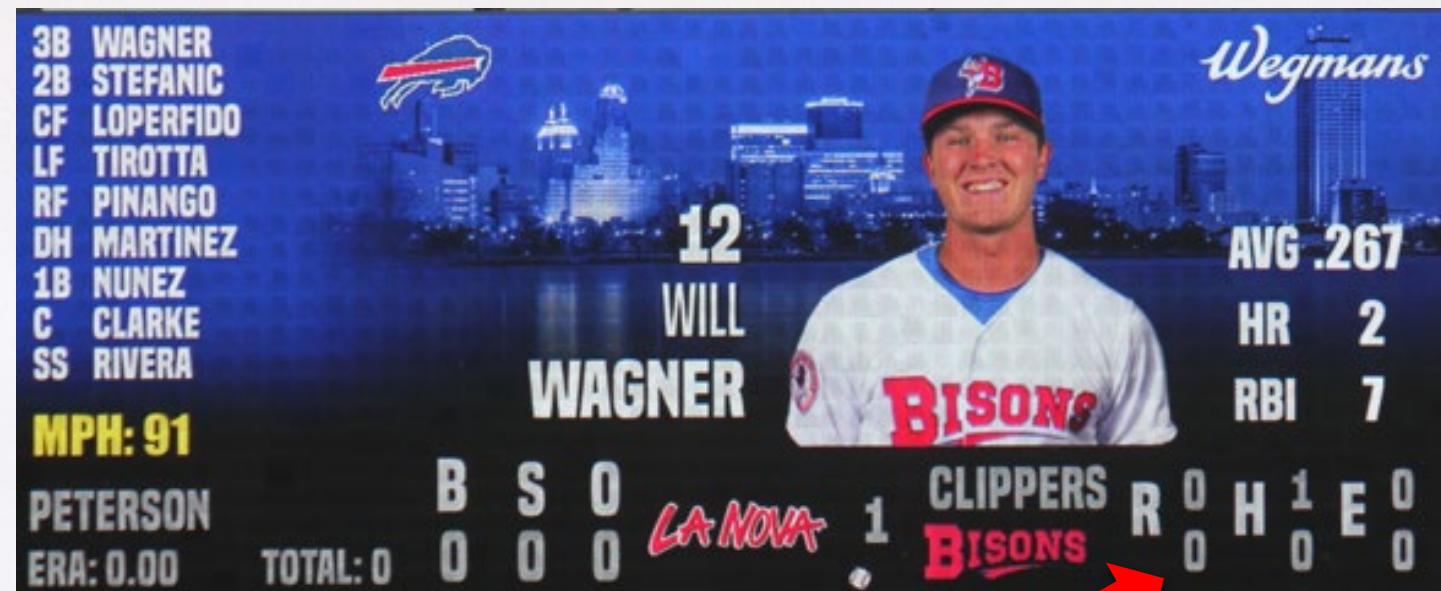
Statistics/Game Info.

Line Score

R: Runs scored for the game for each team

H: Each team's total Hits for the game

E: Total Errors made for the game for each team





Statistics/Game Info.

Pitch Count

B: number of balls

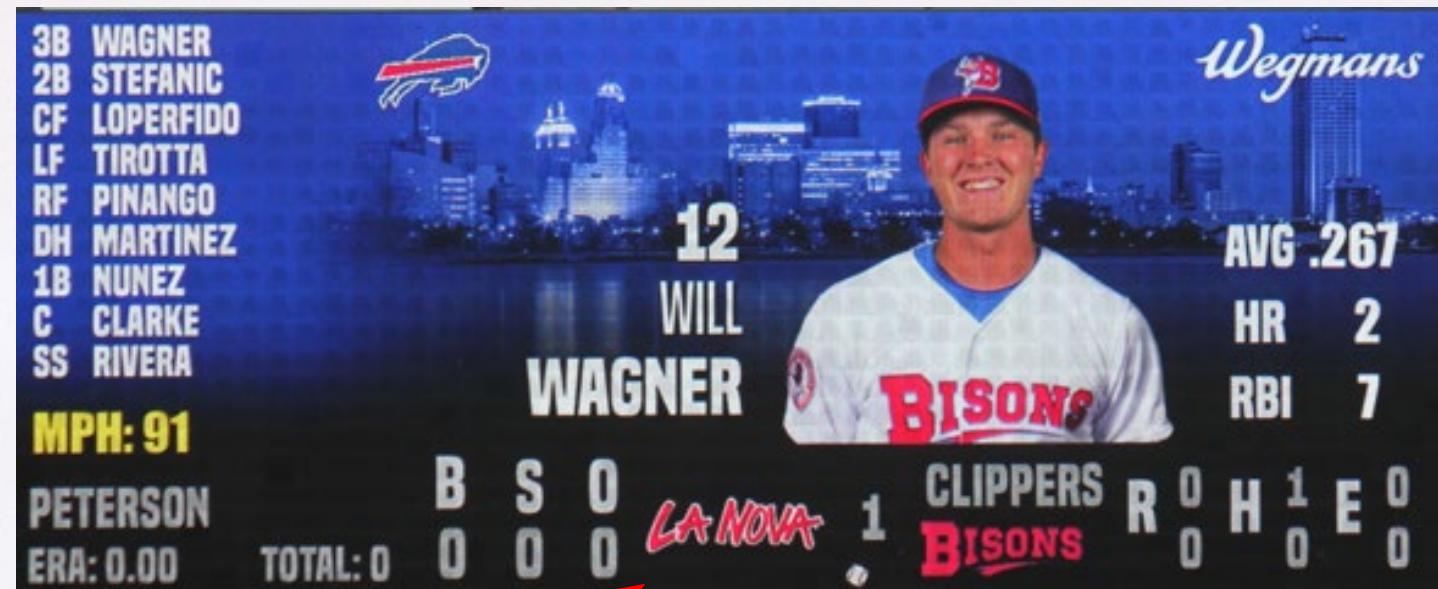
- 4 balls put a man on base!

S: number of strikes

- 3 strikes and you're out!
- Foul balls count as strikes up to 2
- If 2 strikes already, foul ball doesn't count

O: number of outs

- 3 outs and teams switch places





Statistics/Game Info.

Batting Average (AVG)

- Calculated by dividing hits by number of at-bats
- Ex: 3 hits in 10 at bats = .300 avg.

HR – Home Runs

RBI – Runs Batted In

On Base Percentage (OBP)

- Measures how often a batter reaches base by calculating $(\text{hits} + \text{walks} + \text{hit by pitch}) / (\text{at bats} + \text{walks} + \text{hit by pitch} + \text{sacrifice flies})$
 - Ex: If a batter has been at bat 214 times, and in that time has made: 62 hits, 13 walks, been hit by a pitch 4 times, and 5 sacrifice flies, then:
 - $62 \text{ hits} + 13 \text{ walks} + 4 \text{ hit by a pitch} = 79$.
 - $214 \text{ at bats} + 13 \text{ walks} + 4 \text{ hit by a pitch} + 5 \text{ sacrifice flies} = 236$.
 - $79 \text{ divided by } 236 = 0.3347$
 - Therefore, the batter's on base percentage is .335.



Statistics/Game Info.

Now let's see if you can calculate:

Batting Average

A player has 131 hits in 427 at-bats.

What is his batting average for this season?

On Base Percentage

A batter has been at bat 377 times, and in that time has made: 103 hits, 45 walks, been hit by a pitch 3 times, and 14 sacrifice flies.

What is his On Base Percentage?



On the World Stage – 2026 World Cup

The FIFA World Cup is the largest, most viewed single sporting event globally. National soccer (aka football in most countries) teams come together every 4 years to compete for the chance to be recognized as the best soccer team in the world! This year, North American countries – the United States, Canada, and Mexico, will co-host the event. It is set to be the largest World Cup on record with more teams (48) and matches (104) than ever before!

Not only will a champion be crowned on the field, but the event plays an important role bringing people and cultures together as well!



On the World Stage – 2026 World Cup

To compete for the World Cup, the 48 national teams must play in qualifying matches over the span of two years within their own “confederations”. These confederations are made up of countries located in specific regions of the world, mostly organized by continent. The United States is part of the CONCACAF (Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football).

The hosting countries automatically make the draw, guaranteeing that the United States, Canada, and Mexico all participate in the event.

The “Draw” is how the teams are grouped together for tournament play. There are 12 groups with 4 teams per group, with each group playing a round-robin format (they only play each other). The top two teams in each group advance, along with 8 of the 12 groups 3rd place finishers, leaving 32 teams. These 32 teams then go to a single elimination bracket, leaving 16 teams after round 1, 8 teams in the quarterfinals, 4 teams in the semi-finals, and 2 teams for the final.



On the World Stage – 2026 World Cup



The Draw for the 2026 World Cup



On the World Stage – 2026 World Cup

Matches will begin on June 11 and the final will be held at Metlife Stadium in East Rutherford, NJ on July 19.

The United States first match will be June 12 at 9:00pm against Paraguay.

The World Cup brings people together from across the globe to celebrate a common interest and cheer on their nation. Fans of all different countries, ages, backgrounds, and beliefs will travel to witness this great event, which provides an economic boost to the host cities. These cities will have the opportunity to showcase their unique foods, music, art, landmarks, and architecture to the world.





On the World Stage – 2026 World Cup

Here are the cities that will host games throughout the World Cup:

United States

Atlanta, Boston,
Dallas, Houston,
Kansas City,
Los Angeles, Miami,
New York, New Jersey,
Philadelphia, Seattle,
San Francisco

Canada

Toronto
Vancouver

Mexico

Guadalajara
Mexico City
Monterrey





On the World Stage – 2026 World Cup

The first World Cup took place in 1930 in Uruguay. There has been a World Cup every 4 years except during 1942 and 1946 due to World War II.

Of the 22 tournaments that have taken place, 6 host countries have won the World Cup – Uruguay (1930), Italy (1934), England (1966), West Germany (1974), Argentina (1978), and most recently France (1998).

Brazil has won the most titles by winning 5 times and is the only country to play in all 22 World Cups! Germany and Italy are close behind with 4 titles each.



Brazil's Flag



On the World Stage – 2026 World Cup

This is the second time that the United States will host World Cup matches. We also hosted in 1994, which still holds the record for highest attendance of over 3.57 million people, an average of almost 69,000 per match. The next closest was the 1950 World Cup which was held in Brazil, averaging 60,800 fans.

The United States men's team hasn't faired so well on the world stage, as they have made it to 12 World Cups but have only managed to make it to the semi-finals once.

On the other hand, the United States women's team is the most dominant team in Women's World Cup history, winning 4 times. The Women's World Cup is always the year after the men's, so the next will be 2027 in Brazil.



Moment of Darkness – Total Solar Eclipse

For more information and to continue the discussion,
check out these sites!

<https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026>

<https://www.funkidslive.com/learn/top-10-facts/top-10-facts-about-the-world-cup/>



Game Day Check List

- Game time is 11:05am, gates open at 9:30am
 - We strongly recommend arriving as early as possible!
 - Games typically last 2.5-3 hours
- Dress accordingly for the weather
 - Sunblock/hats if it's warm + sunny
 - Raincoats/ponchos if there could be inclement weather
 - Plan on attending rain or shine, we will do our best to play the game either way!
- What you can bring
 - Gloves for foul balls
 - Backpacks
 - Bagged lunches
- Be Smart
 - Listen to your teachers' instructions
 - Be careful when crossing the street
 - Don't litter
 - Don't run, be courteous to other fans at the game
- HAVE FUN!!!

CONGRATULATIONS



has successfully completed the
2026 Buffalo Bisons School Kids Day
Prep Course!