



Office of the
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY
ADMINISTRATOR

Vero Beach, Florida
April 22, 2009

Minor League Baseball (MiLB) has agreed to terms with Indian River County that will be incorporated into a Memorandum of Understanding to lease Indian River County's baseball facility historically known as Dodgertown. The facility was the spring training home of the Dodgers for sixty years - from 1948 to 2008.

Indian River County purchased the 73 acre facility from the Los Angeles Dodgers in 2001. Included in the complex are the historic Holman Stadium; player housing facilities; conference center with meeting rooms and recreation center; administration offices; major and minor league clubhouses; weight rooms, training facility, and player rehabilitation center; in-door batting/pitching tunnels and out-door batting cages; four full baseball practice fields and two half baseball practice fields; an Olympic sized pool; and lighted tennis courts.

In a public announcement made on Wednesday, April 22nd, Pat O'Conner, Minor League Baseball President and CEO, stated "We're extremely proud to partner with Indian River County to operate and maintain this historic, socially significant facility. In addition to providing an influx of business for the community through the events we will attract, we look forward to becoming a vital member of the community." MiLB plans to host a number of events, both sports and non-sports related, on a year-round basis at the complex. Some of these events include baseball camps; youth, high school, and college tournaments; umpire camps, groundskeeper camps; fantasy camps; conferences; and other baseball-related programs.

"We are pleased to move into the future with Minor League Baseball. The missing piece of Indian River County will be filled, and we're filling it with someone that truly wants to be a part of our community." said Indian River County Commission Chairman Wesley Davis. "The economic benefits of a year-long facility will be the highest and best use for historic Dodgertown." Commissioner Bob Solari added, "The Minor League Baseball Agreement is a major league deal for Indian River County."

Indian River County Commissioner Peter O'Bryan said "We are partnering with an international, professional baseball organization to operate our world class baseball facility. MiLB brings not only their baseball expertise and their 44 million fans, but a sense of history and community involvement. With the door still open for a MLB team to utilize Dodgertown for spring training, a plan to bring baseball activities to Indian River County on a year round basis, and a partner committed to preserving our historical heritage and becoming a member of our community, I believe we have truly found the best possible organization with which to partner." O'Bryan is the county's commissioner liaison to the Economic Development Council of Indian River County.

Joe Baird, Indian River County Administrator, stated “We are extremely pleased to have an organization as fine as MiLB as a partner, and we have great plans that will bring long term economic benefits and the great game of baseball to our community.”

The National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues, now known as Minor League Baseball, was formed on September 5, 1901, and is a \$750-million annual enterprise. Their membership consists of 20 leagues and over 250 clubs in 44 of the 50 United States, Canada, Mexico, the Dominican Republic and Venezuela. In 2008, MiLB drew over 43.2 million fans. Their offices have been located in St. Petersburg, Florida, since 1973. Parties interested in using the complex for an event should contact John Cook, MiLB Senior VP, Business Operations, at johncook@milb.com or (727) 466-1710 for details and availability.