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The criteria for the venue are subjective; generally, cities with new ballparks and those who have not hosted the game in a long time or ever tend to get selected. Over time, this has resulted in certain cities being selected more often at the expense of others, mainly due to timely circumstances: Cleveland Stadium and the original Yankee Stadium are tied for the most times a venue has hosted the All-Star game, both hosting four games. New York City has hosted more than any other city, having done so nine times in five different stadiums. At the same time, the New York Mets failed to host for 48 seasons , while the Los Angeles Dodgers have not hosted since 38 and will do so in . The Dodgers hosted the second all star game on August 3rd, . In the first two decades of the game there were two pairs of teams that shared ballparks, located in Philadelphia and St. This led to some shorter-than-usual gaps between the use of those venues: The Cardinals hosted the game in , and the Browns in . The Athletics hosted the game in , and the Phillies in . The venues traditionally alternate between the American League and National League every year. This tradition has been broken several times: The second was when the two-game format during the seasons resulted in the AL being one game ahead in turn. The AL will host its next game in in Cleveland. This decision was made following the announcement of Miami as host for the All Star Game, which was the third straight year in which the game is hosted in a National League ballpark. All-Star Team rosters[edit] See also: The coaching staff for each team is selected by its manager. This honor is given to the manager, not the team, so it is possible that the All-Star manager could no longer be with the team with which he won. This has also included situations where the person is no longer actively managing a team. McGraw came out of retirement for that purpose. In , he became manager of the California Angels , whose uniform he wore for the game. Louis Cardinals in , and retired after the season, came back to manage the National League in . There have been some exceptional cases where the usual rule was abandoned. Selection of players[edit] Main article: Major League Baseball All-Star The All Star game roster size for each league was 18 in , 20 in , 25 in , 30 in , 32 in , and 33 in . The designated hitter will be used in all games, even in National League ballparks. Pitchers who start on the Sunday before the game break will be replaced on the roster, but will still be recognized as All-Stars. Each manager may designate a position player who will be eligible for game re-entry if the last position player is injured or ejected. This is in addition to a rule that allows a player to re-enter to replace an injured or ejected catcher. Fan voting 8 NL players; 9 AL players: Baseball fans vote on the starting position players for the All-Star Game, with ballots formerly distributed at Major League Baseball games before mid-season and, as of , exclusively on the Internet. Fan voting has been recently criticized because most of the starting players can come from teams that have large fan bases or passionate fan bases such as the Kansas City Royals and the Chicago Cubs. Eight pitchers five starters and three relievers and one back-up player for each position are elected by the players, coaches, and managers. Manager selection 9 NL players; 8 AL players: Final vote 1 player: All-Star uniforms[edit] Since the first game, American League players have worn their respective team uniforms rather than wearing uniforms made specifically for the game, while National League players waited until the second game to do this. When the late s and early s approached, fewer alternates were worn for the games. Game-specific uniforms are made every year, but are not worn for the game itself. Instead they are worn during batting practice and the Home Run Derby. For the workout, batting practice and Home Run Derby contest, players started using one type of cap with colors corresponding the league. All seven would eventually be elected to the Hall of Fame. In and , the fans selected the 18 starters for game and the managers chose the rest of the two teams players. In , fans were given the opportunity to vote on the eight starting position players, but in , fans of the Cincinnati Reds stuffed the ballot box see below , and elected a Red to every position except first base. Commissioner Ford Frick stepped in and removed two Reds from the lineup. As a response to this unfairness, fan voting was discontinued; players, coaches, and managers were given the

sole authority to elect starting position players, for the next dozen years. Between the lack of fan input and over-exposure due to the double All-Star games during the " seasons, interest in the game was thought to be waning. Sometime in the s, the distinction between left-fielder, center-fielder, and right-fielder was dropped, and it was provided that the top 3 vote-getters in the outfield category would start regardless of position. Rico Carty was the first player ever selected to an All-Star team as a write-in candidate by fans, in , the first year that voting was given back to the fans. Steve Garvey was the second player ever selected to an All-Star team as a write-in candidate by fans, in . Player voting was re-introduced in after the managers were criticized for picking players from their own team over more deserving players from other teams. Before the game, Major League Baseball announced that an additional pitcher would be added to each roster, bringing the total for each league to 33 players. The following year , MLB announced that an extra position player would be added to each roster for the game and beyond, bringing the total to 34 for each league. Supporters of the rule point out that this prevents the large-market teams from totally dominating the squad, and keeps fan and media interest in the game, as fans would not be interested in the game if their team did not have any players involved. Both these arguments were strengthened by the greater urgency of winning the game, due to the former rule that the winning league attains home field advantage in the World Series. Louis Cardinals first baseman Stan Musial. While the Reds were a great offensive team, most baseball observers agreed that they did not deserve seven starters in the All-Star Game. An investigation ordered by Commissioner Ford Frick showed that over half of the ballots cast came from Cincinnati, as the Cincinnati Enquirer had printed up pre-marked ballots and distributed them with the Sunday newspaper to make it easy for Reds fans to vote often for their favorite stars. Managers, players, and coaches picked the entire team until , when the vote for starters again returned to the fans; to prevent a repeat of this incident , since until the start of internet voting, each team has been given the same number of ballots to hand out. In , that number was roughly , ballots. In , Chris Nandor, a Red Sox fan, utilized a simple computer program to vote for Nomar Garciaparra over 39, times. Upon discovery, MLB disallowed the votes. This also would have been a record for the most players from one team starting in the All-Star game. Designated hitter[edit] In , a designated hitter was allowed in the All-Star Game for the first time. This allows a deserving nonstarter to make a plate appearance. In , Major League Baseball announced the designated hitter rule would apply for every All-Star Game; while the game was already to have the DH, the game was the first played in a National League park with a DH. Presented each year beginning in two games were held in and an award was presented for each game , the MVP award was originally called the Arch Ward Memorial Award, after the man who came up with the concept of the All-Star Game in . In , the trophy itself retained its eponym, while the award itself was dedicated as The Ted Williams Most Valuable Player Award, in honor of former Boston Red Sox player Ted Williams , who had died earlier that year. Home advantage The first tie in an All-Star Game occurred on July 31, at Fenway Park in Boston when the game was called at 1" after nine innings due to rain; the only other rain-shortened game was in , but the National League defeated the American League, 3"2 in five innings. The All-Star Game, held in Milwaukee, ended in controversy in the 11th inning when both teams ran out of substitute players available to pitch in relief. At that point, Commissioner Bud Selig a Milwaukee native and former owner of the Brewers declared that the game would end after 11 innings, and it ended in a "all tie. The crowd booed and threw beer bottles onto the field, and the media were highly critical of this unsatisfactory conclusion. To provide additional incentive for victory, Major League Baseball reached an agreement with the players union to award home-field advantage for the World Series to the champion of the league that won the All-Star Game, for and . Previously, home-field advantage in the World Series alternated between the two leagues each year. The American League took advantage of the new rule in each of its first seven years: The National League champion benefited from this rule for the first time in . Even with this rule in effect, there was no guarantee that a repeat of the situation would not occur; to avoid future ties due to lack of available players, managers have been instructed to and have voluntarily hold back a few select position players and pitchers. This has resulted in some fan dissatisfaction and controversy when these players are never actually used in the game, for example Tim Wakefield in the All-Star Game. Such a move has resulted in calls to allow limited re-entry of players who have been replaced during the game in addition to catchers, which is already allowed ,

thereby giving the freedom to use all the players on the roster without leaving teams with the situation where no players are available, as was the case in . Furthermore, various writers have stated that home-field advantage in the World Series should be decided based on the regular season records of the participants, not on an exhibition game such as the All-Star Game played several months earlier. The All-Star Game has seen several "eras" in which one league tended to dominate. From to , the American League won 12 out of the first . The National League dominated from to , winning 33 of 42 with 1 tie. This included a stretch from to when it won 19 of 20, including 11 in a row from to . Since , the American League has dominated, winning 24 of 31 with 1 tie, including a game unbeaten streak 12â€™0â€™1 from to . The AL has a run advantage. The longest All-Star Game, in terms of innings, lasted 15 innings, which has occurred twice: In , the game was rained out and moved to Wednesday afternoon, July 23 making it the last afternoon game. The game was played at night for the first time in , at the Polo Grounds , located in New York City. Since every ASG has been played under the lights, though when held at venues near enough to the west coast, the game starts in daylight in the late afternoon. There were two All-Star Games played each season from through . The experiment was later abandoned on the grounds that having two games watered down the appeal of the event. To promote the resumption of the season, the game in Cleveland was moved from its original July date to August 9. Second-half regular-season play began the next afternoon with a game in Wrigley Field in Chicago. The two teams, one consisting of young players from the United States and the other consisting of young players from all other nations, are usually chosen based on prospect status in the minor leagues. This game is held during the day prior to the Home Run Derby. However, it is tape-delayed and broadcast after the Derby. Since , the ESPY Awards are shown live the first time was ; this helps the network fill airtime that would go unfilled because of the lack of any major league or high-level college sporting events.

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