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MLB ALL-STAR GAME

HISTORY OF THE ALL-STAR GAME

The Major League Baseball All-Star Game, also known as the “Midsummer Classic”, is an annual professional baseball game sanctioned by Major League Baseball and contested between the all-stars from the American League and National League.

Here is how the All-Star players are selected:

- Starting fielders are selected by fans
- Pitcher are selected by managers of the clubs
- Reserves are selected by current players and managers

The game is usually played on the second or third Tuesday in July and is meant to mark the symbolic halfway point of the MLB season. Both leagues share an All-Star break, with no regular-season games scheduled from the day before through two days after the All-Star Game.

The All-Star game roster size for each league has increased throughout the years to allow for back-ups and reserve players. The first All-Star game had only 18 All-stars named. The MLB All-Star roster hit 30 MLB players for the first time in 1982 and now, 34 players are named to the All-Star roster every year.



Michael Fulmer

2016 All-Star for the Detroit Tigers

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MLB ALL-STAR GAME

ALL-STAR GAME SELECTION BREAKDOWN



Joe Jiménez pitching in the 2018 All-Star Game

Here's how the 34 players are chosen for the All-Star game:

Fan voting (eight N.L. players; nine A.L. players):

Baseball fans vote on the starting position players for the All-Star Game, with ballots exclusively on the Internet as of 2015. The American League DH is also selected in this manner (and the National League DH is selected by the manager).

Player voting (16 players):

Eight pitchers (five starters and three relievers) and one back-up player for each position are elected by the players, coaches, and managers. If the player at a position has also been selected via fan voting, the second-place finisher in this category will be selected.

Manager selection (nine N.L. players; eight A.L. players):

The manager of each league's All-Star team will fill his team's roster up to 33 players. The National League manager will also select his team's designated hitter. At this point, it is ensured that every team is represented by at least one player.

Final vote (1 player):

After the list of 33 players for each league is announced, fans vote on the Internet for one additional player, chosen from a list of 5 players that is compiled by the Commissioner's Office.

Replacements:

After the roster is selected, the All-Star manager and the Commissioner's Office will replace players who are injured, declined to participate, and pitchers who started on the Sunday before the game.