



MOTTO:—"Out-door Games Because They're Best"  
 BADGE:—The R U A Fan Button

Edited by Brother Max

WELL boys, here we are gathered together in an informal mass meeting. I get great pleasure in being able to talk to you boys about our good old games of baseball, football and the other healthy out-door sports. It's a comforting thought to know that you boys who are playing on the corner lots today, will be America's heroes of tomorrow, whether it be on the diamond, in the office, factory or elsewhere.

But boys, have you heard of the R U A Fan Club, the greatest organization of boys in the world? So many boys are writing in, asking how they can become members of the R U A Fan Club that I will explain the whole thing to you right here.

The R U A Fan Club is America's organization of boys which is fighting for the boys first, last and all the time, and it is fighting for more baseball and healthy sports for boys. As you boys know, if you stop to think a moment, there are not near enough playgrounds in which you can get out into the open air and meet other boys in manly competition. In Boston there are large, well-kept playgrounds with baseball diamonds, etc., set apart especially for the boys. But think of the hundreds of cities where there is nothing of the kind. I don't have to say that the playgrounds in Boston are the most popular spots with the boys of that city; but what we

want and what we must have are such playgrounds in every city in the United States. The law and health societies are just beginning to recognize the great importance of letting us boys play. Some of the older people will not give up to this, but we boys are all getting together in the R U A Fan Club, and we will make them see it our way. Think what twenty-five thousand boys can do, banded together and asking for decent play-grounds! And we'll get them, too.

I act as a direct supervisor of this club, and pass upon each application for membership myself.

It does not cost a single cent to join, nor does it cost anything afterward. When you are taken in, you are given a number, credentials, the handsome R U A Fan button, and all the secret work absolutely free. If you want to apply for membership to this RUA Fan Club just fill out the application blank at the end of this department, or send me your name, age and address on a postal card.

"But what good does it do a fellow to join the Fan Club?" I hear Bob over there in the corner ask. That is a very practical question, Bob, and here are the reasons.

In the first place, it does not cost you one cent. You get this handsome R U A Fan Club official button free. You can talk to the other boys in all parts of the United States by sending in stories, drawings, poems, or asking





THE EVOLUTION OF A FOOTBALL PLAYER

questions which will be printed in this, our own department.

You are eligible to organize a local R U A Fan Club in your own town or neighborhood, and to be an officer in it.

I have just made arrangements to have on hand photos of all the big league players, so that members of the club may secure these photos exclusive of outsiders.

You get all the secret work, signs, hand grasps, and so will be able to recognize another member of the Club on the street, even though he is a stranger.

I have made arrangements with Cy Young, Frank Bowerman, Jake Stahl and many other of the big league players, so that they are going to give us boys their advice on just how to learn to pitch, catch and play any position. This advice will be sent out in circular letters every month, free, and only members of the R U A Fan Club can secure them. These letters have an unlimited amount of inside information in them and will be worth a great deal to the members of the club.

Just think of getting a personal letter from Cy Young! That is just exactly what it amounts to. And what is more, if you wish to ask any great player a question, as a member of the Club you will have a right to do so through this department. And last but not least, this

Club gives you a chance to fight for more baseball and healthy sports and playgrounds for boys.

"The R U A Fan Club" is fast becoming the greatest boys' organization in America. The explanation is very simple: there are more boys interested in baseball and in sports than in anything else in the world. The buttons are going like wildfire. Sometimes as I see the buttons going out, I wonder if there are so many boys in all the country. But every day more and more are ordered. The button is really a beautiful piece of art, being gold stamped on the finest enamel. To the old query, "Button, button, button; who's got the button?" there is now an answer, "Why, all the boys!"

Now to make application for membership to our great club, all you have to do is to send your name, age and address to Brother Max, care BASEBALL MAGAZINE, Boston, Mass., on a postal card, or make out and send in the application blank at the end of this department.

Here is a letter I received from a boy out in Muscatine, Iowa, that I must copy in full:

*Dear Max:—*

I would rather play baseball than eat. I believe I would rather play

baseball than eat ice-cream. I think the R U A Fan Club is the greatest club in the world, and I know fifteen other boys who want to join. The R U A Fan button is a beauty. I hope you have got those pictures of the big league players. I want one of Cy Young, for I think he's the greatest pitcher in the world.

Your admirer,

HARVEY CLARK.

Yes, Harvey, I believe I would rather play baseball than eat ice-cream myself. I am glad you like the R U A Fan button, and am also glad you know fifteen other boys in your town who want to join the club. Please have them send in their name, age and address on a postal card at once. Yes, Cy Young is a great pitcher. Today I am mailing you a picture of him which I hope you will like.

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Here is something that I am going to do for you boys. To the boys who write me the best letters, send in the best articles, and do the most for the advancement of the Club, I shall publish their photographs in the magazine, with a little write-up of each. Oh, no, you needn't send in your photo with the article, for only the most deserving will get their pictures in the magazine. I shall write the successful ones for their photographs. And this will also include the boys who have made the best records in baseball, such as batting, pitching, base running and the like.

Now you know how an older brother likes to give advice; well, I shall now give you some. I have been through it all, and wish to lend you the helping hand. Here it is:

I sincerely hope that you boys are

playing football. Boys of your age can play baseball better than football, but still you can play it. Do you know why one school beats another in football? I will tell you. It is because the successful school gets students who have played the game almost from the time they could walk. That is why the East beats the West. If you have dreams about stadiums and waving pennants, you must begin right today. But don't give up after a few days, as it takes long years of experience to get it down right.

Above all try to hold your tongue when on the football field. Though you may be right, making faces and wanting to fight won't convince the other boy.

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Most boys can draw a little, sing a little, and the like, but the boys are a long ways apart who can write jokes. But here is a real good one done by John Guy Gilpatric of New York City, and he is only twelve years old.

*Chicago:* "What's the Matty, New York; why didn't you get that pennant?"

*New York:* "Aw! we didn't have a Chance."

*Chicago:* "Oh, quit your Devlin; you had Evers so good a Chance. In fact, you had a darn Seymour than we had."

*New York:* "We will Kling to it that if we had we would have done you Brown."

*Chicago:* "Well, Overall you're licked, which was beyond our highest Ames."

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Here's the application blank for membership in the R U A Fan Club.

Cut this out and mail it to Brother Max, care BASEBALL MAGAZINE, Boston, today, or send me your name, age and address on a postal card. BROTHER MAX.

BROTHER MAX, care BASEBALL MAGAZINE, BOSTON, MASS.

Please consider my application for membership in the R U A Fan Club, which is not to cost me one cent to join nor after I am a member.

My name is .....

Town (or city) ..... Street, No .....

I am ..... years old.

State .....