



City of Bristol

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bristol Blues Make Muzzy Field Its Home for Five More Years

(BRISTOL, CT – August 28, 2017) After a successful initial three-year stint in Bristol, the Bristol Blues management team has inked a new agreement to make legendary Muzzy Field the Blues home until 2022. The new five-year agreement was unanimously approved earlier this month by the Board of Park Commissioners.

“We are so happy that the Bristol Blues were so successful and happy they decided to keep Muzzy Field as their home field advantage for the near future,” said Bristol Mayor Ken Cockayne. “The Blues are now continuing the amazing history of Muzzy Field and who knows, our citizens have the opportunity to see players today who may make the major leagues just like some of the other legends of our national pastime.”

The Blues are in the Futures League and signed a three-year lease to play in the main attraction of Rockwell Park back in 2014. Muzzy Field, in its 102nd season, was the center of sports in Bristol for the majority of those hundred years. The stadium’s history is colorful hosting the Bristol Owls (Class B; Colonial League) in 1949-50 and the Bristol Red Sox (Class AA; Eastern League) from 1973-82. Muzzy Field was also the site of many baseball and football games, including MLB teams: Babe Ruth, as did notables like Jimmie Foxx, Minnie Minoso, Jackie Mitchell, Warren Spahn, Lefty Gomez, Casey Stengel, Bill McKechnie, Max Carey, Paul Waner, Kiki Cuyler and Pie Traynor who played for the Boston Red Sox (1919 and 1922), Pittsburgh Pirates (1926), Boston Braves (1943 and 1944), Philadelphia Phillies (1943 and 1944) and New York Yankees (1945). Negro Leagues teams and others, like 1934 All-Star Ranger Girls of Chicago and the House of David, also made appearances. Pro football teams also played there, including the 1943 Green Bay Packers. Muzzy Field is owned by the City of Bristol and operated by Bristol’s Parks and Recreation Department.

“It has been a pleasure working with the Blues organization, and I'm looking forward to continuing the relationship between the City and the ball club,” said new Parks and Recreation Superintendent Brian Wilson. “They have shown so much enthusiasm in bringing a high quality baseball experience that is accessible to the whole community in addition to their other events at Rockwell Park and Muzzy Field.”

The Blues were the 2015 and 2017 Western Division Champions with a record of 28-24 before being ousted in this year's playoffs. Muzzy Field has also been the site of many other events this summer including a professional wrestling event and food truck festival in July.

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