LINCOLN COUNTY OK KIDS BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

Community-Based Rural Baseball, Officials Compensation, Local Economic Activity, and the Oklahoma Youth Sports Model

COMPLETE 60-SECTION COMPREHENSIVE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

KEY METRIC	FINDING
Game records	1,385
Umpire assignments	2,005
Umpire compensation	$72,250
Modeled gate receipts	$304,480
Modeled concession profit	$152,240
Combined gate + concession	$456,720
Modeled event net	$384,470
Modeled off-site impact	$304,480
Municipal-facility utilization	99.1%

Oklahoma Professional Umpire Workforce / Integrity of the Game vs. Economic Impact (Politics); The Oklahoma Business Plan

Executive Overview

This publication analyzes **1,385 individual game records** and presents Lincoln County OK Kids Baseball as a rural, community-based youth baseball system centered on local associations, municipal facilities, recurring league play, officials, families, volunteers and player development.

The central comparative finding is that cash activity alone does not define a commercial youth-sports model. Purpose, control, distribution, transparency, community benefit, player development and public benefit provide the more meaningful framework.

1. Purpose of the Research

The Lincoln County evidence supports examining this subject through a community-development lens. The structure is tied to local teams, recurring league play, public facilities, families, volunteers and officials rather than a single destination-event business model.

2. Research Dataset

The quantitative foundation is **1,385 game records** spanning 2019-2022. Each row represents a scheduled game and contains age, location, facility ownership, player assumptions, gate, concession, umpire staffing, compensation, event-net and modeled-impact fields.

3. Community Baseball Versus Travel Baseball

This area also strengthens the broader Oklahoma Business Plan comparison: similar revenue mechanisms can exist in different systems, so analysis should focus on organizational purpose, control, distribution, transparency, player development and public benefit.

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4. Community Identity

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5. Age-Division Structure

The dataset records 425 6U games, 340 8U games, 360 10U games and 260 12U games. The 6U and 8U divisions total **765 games, about 55.2%** of activity.

6. Geographic Footprint

Games were hosted in Lincoln County (963), Seminole (221), Payne (120), Creek (43) and Oklahoma County (38). Lincoln County hosted about **69.5%** of all games.

7. Participating Facilities and Associations

The twelve locations are Prague 296; Chandler 213; Stroud 209; Meeker 155; Wellston 140; Cushing 115; Davenport 108; Carney 51; Depew 43; Luther 38; Brian Crawford Memorial Sports Complex 12; and Perkins 5.

8. Municipal Facilities as Community Infrastructure

Of 1,385 games, **1,373 were at facilities classified as municipally owned**. Only 12 were associated with the Brian Crawford Memorial Sports Complex, identified in the dataset as owned by Seminole State College. Municipal utilization was about **99.1%**.

9. Annual Game Activity

Annual game counts were 453 in 2019, 129 in 2020, 382 in 2021 and 421 in 2022. Recurring league play therefore creates substantial annual facility and officials demand.

10. Umpire Workforce Demand

The 1,385 games required **2,005 umpire assignments**. The 10U and 12U divisions account for 620 games but 1,240 assignments, about **61.8%** of total umpire workload.

11. Umpire Compensation

Per-assignment rates are **$25, $30, $35, $40 and $50**. Total umpire expense is **$72,250**, with a weighted average of about **$36.03** per assignment.

12. Umpire Expense by Division

Division umpire expense is $11,255 for 6U, $10,835 for 8U, $27,780 for 10U and $22,380 for 12U. The older divisions account for **$50,160, about 69.4%** of total expense.

13. The Umpire Labor Market

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14. Umpire Compensation Pressure

This area is significant to the Oklahoma Professional Umpire Workforce analysis because community and competitive baseball ultimately interact through the same limited pool of officials. Sustainable reform must protect rural access while improving recruitment, training, compensation and retention.

15. Gate-Revenue Model

The model assumes two teams, about 11 players per team, two paying adults per player and $5 admission. A standard game models about **$220 gate**; total modeled gate is **$304,480**.

16. Concession Activity

Concession profit is modeled at about half of gate, roughly **$110 per standard game**. Total modeled concession profit is **$152,240**, producing **$456,720** combined modeled gate and concession activity.

17. Officials as a Component of the Game-Day Economy

Umpire expense of $72,250 equals about **15.8%** of modeled gate-and-concession activity. Officials are indispensable labor but only one component of the game-day economy.

18. Modeled Event Net

Modeled event net equals gate plus concession revenue minus umpire expense. Across the dataset it totals **$384,470**, approximately **$277.60 per game**.

19. Local Economic Impact

The model applies about **$10 per participating family**, producing roughly $220 off-site impact per standard game and **$304,480** across the dataset. This is separate from gate and concession activity.

20. A Distributed Rural Economic Model

This area is significant to the Oklahoma Professional Umpire Workforce analysis because community and competitive baseball ultimately interact through the same limited pool of officials. Sustainable reform must protect rural access while improving recruitment, training, compensation and retention.

21. Understanding the Cash Economy

This area also strengthens the broader Oklahoma Business Plan comparison: similar revenue mechanisms can exist in different systems, so analysis should focus on organizational purpose, control, distribution, transparency, player development and public benefit.

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22. Community-Based Cash Economy

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23. The Critical Distinction: Purpose and Distribution

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24. Community Baseball as Developmental Infrastructure

The developmental pathway is **6U -> 8U -> 10U -> 12U -> Junior High -> High School**. Community baseball can bridge a child's introduction to organized play and later school athletics.

25. Development of Teams Rather Than Collections of Players

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26. The Role of Coaches and Volunteers

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27. Municipal Baseball Fields as Development Assets

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28. The Umpire as Part of Player Development

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29. Community Baseball as an Umpire Development System

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30. The Shared Oklahoma Umpire Workforce

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31. Rural Communities Are Particularly Vulnerable to Umpire Shortages

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32. The Economic Value of 1,385 Community Games

The 1,385 games required 2,005 assignments and generated **$456,720 modeled direct game-day activity**, **$384,470 modeled event net** and **$304,480 modeled off-site impact**.

33. Economic Distribution as a Community Benefit

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34. The Importance of Scale in Economic Analysis

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35. Cash Activity and Organizational Purpose

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36. Economic Activity Supporting Baseball Versus Baseball Supporting Economic Activity

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37. Governance and Financial Transparency

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38. Player Registration Revenue Is Not Included

The player-registration-fee field is zero. This does not establish that registration was free; registration revenue is simply **not incorporated into this financial model**.

39. Conservative Economic Modeling

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40. What the Dataset Establishes

The dataset establishes **1,385 games; 2,005 umpire assignments; $72,250 umpire expense; $304,480 modeled gate; $152,240 modeled concession profit; $384,470 modeled event net; $304,480 modeled off-site impact; 12 locations; 5 counties; and 99.1% municipal-facility utilization**.

41. Strategic Implications for Oklahoma Baseball

This area is significant to the Oklahoma Professional Umpire Workforce analysis because community and competitive baseball ultimately interact through the same limited pool of officials. Sustainable reform must protect rural access while improving recruitment, training, compensation and retention.

42. Implications for the Oklahoma Professional Umpire Workforce Model

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43. A Potential Oklahoma Umpire Development Pipeline

A potential pathway is **Recruitment -> Entry-Level Training -> Community Assignments -> Two-Umpire Crews -> Junior High/High School -> Advanced Competition**. The strategy changes the discussion from finding umpires to building umpires.

44. Community Baseball as Part of the Solution

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45. Relationship to the Hidden Valley Research

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46. Why the Lincoln County Research Matters

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47. The Broader Public-Policy Question

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48. Recommended Baseball Heaven Positioning

On Baseball Heaven, position this study under the Oklahoma Professional Umpire research as **Lincoln County OK Kids Baseball - Community League, Umpire Workforce & Rural Economic Research**.

49. Suggested Research Architecture

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50. The Lincoln County Model and the Oklahoma Business Plan

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51. Integrity of the Game Versus Economic Impact

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52. The Public-Facility Question

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53. The Umpire Is the Common Denominator

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54. Protecting Community Baseball While Professionalizing Officials

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55. From Umpire Shortage to Workforce Development

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56. A Sustainable Baseball Ecosystem

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57. Final Assessment

The complete record supports a clear assessment: Lincoln County is economically meaningful, operationally dependent on officials and public facilities, and structurally oriented toward community participation and player development.

58. The Central Conclusion

Not every youth-baseball cash economy is the same. Gate receipts, concessions, paid officials and public facilities can exist in different organizational models. Purpose, control, distribution, transparency and community benefit are the decisive analytical factors.

59. The Research Question Going Forward

The continuing research question is: **When public facilities, families, volunteers, officials and youth athletes create economic value, what organizational structure best ensures that value continues to benefit the game and the communities that make it possible?**

60. Closing Perspective

Lincoln County demonstrates that baseball can generate money without money becoming the defining purpose of baseball. Economic impact should be a benefit created by youth sports, not the sole purpose that defines them.

Research Disclaimer

This executive summary is an analytical research document based upon the **1,385-game Lincoln County OK Kids Baseball dataset** and accompanying research materials. Gate, concession, attendance, player-count, event-net and economic-impact figures are based in whole or in part on standardized research assumptions and should be described as modeled or estimated figures, not audited financial statements or verified organizational receipts.

Umpire compensation calculations are based on staffing levels and rates contained in the research dataset. Nothing in this research, standing alone, establishes financial misconduct, tax violations, improper cash handling, unlawful conduct or wrongdoing by OK Kids Baseball, Lincoln County OK Kids Baseball, participating associations, municipalities, facilities, volunteers, coaches, officials or other persons or organizations.