



# Bargaining with Baseball

## *Labor Relations in an Age of Prosperous Turmoil*

William B. Gould IV

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• “If Major League Baseball ever awarded a Nobel Peace Prize, it should go to Bill Gould for effectively ending baseball’s nuclear war, the strike of 1994-95, during his tenure as NLRB Chairman. In his new book, the distinguished law professor has

chronicled the game’s history of labor and racial relations from his unique perspective....[*Bargaining with Baseball*] helps the reader understand the game’s continuing evolution.”—Joe Castiglione, broadcaster, Boston Red Sox; • “With his new book, Bill Gould has touched all the bases. An avid student of the game, Professor Gould brings to bear his first-rate scholarly abilities and legal skills as he discusses the law and baseball. I highly recommend this book for those who love the game as he does-and for those who want to learn about its labor disputes as well.”—Dusty Baker, manager, Cincinnati Reds; • “Bill Gould, an accomplished labor lawyer and baseball fan is one of the most unique baseball men in the world today. In this book Bill combines his love for baseball with a comprehensive easy to understand analysis of the history of labor issues existing between the owners and the players.... A must for any fan of the game.”—Marty Lurie, radio host, KNBR 680, Giants Flagship

In 1995, William B. Gould, IV, then chairman of the National Labor Relations Board, cast the deciding vote to obtain the injunction that ended the longest strike in baseball history. Sixteen years of peaceful relations between baseball labor and management have followed, as well as unprecedented prosperity in a relationship that previously endured 30 years of strikes and lockouts. This study, which clearly illustrates the practical impact of law on America’s pastime, considers the full, 140-year sweep of labor-management relationships and conflict, exploring player-owner disputes, the development of free agency, the collective bargaining process, and the racial integration of baseball, among other topics. It concludes with a discussion of the “steroids era,” the problem with maintaining Jackie Robinson’s legacy in the 21st century, and globalization.



William B. Gould, IV, was chairman of the National Labor Relations Board from 1994 to 1998. The Charles A. Beardsley Professor of Law, Emeritus, at Stanford University Law School and a lifelong Red Sox fan, Gould has written widely on both labor law and baseball.

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