



# The Only Rule Is It Has to Work: Our Wild Experiment Building a New Kind of Baseball Team

*Ben Lindbergh, Sam Miller*

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**What would happen if two statistics-minded outsiders were allowed to run a professional baseball team?**

It's the ultimate in fantasy baseball: You get to pick the roster, set the lineup, and decide on strategies -- with real players, in a real ballpark, in a real playoff race. That's what baseball analysts Ben Lindbergh and Sam Miller got to do when an independent minor-league team in California, the Sonoma Stompers, offered them the chance to run its baseball operations according to the most advanced statistics. Their story in *The Only Rule is it Has to Work* is unlike any other baseball tale you've ever read.

We tag along as Lindbergh and Miller apply their number-crunching insights to all aspects of assembling and running a team, following one cardinal rule for judging each innovation they try: *it has to work*. We meet colorful figures like general manager Theo Fightmaster and boundary-breakers like the first openly gay player in professional baseball. Even José Canseco makes a cameo appearance.

Will their knowledge of numbers help Lindbergh and Miller bring the Stompers a championship, or will they fall on their faces? Will the team have a competitive advantage or is the sport's folk wisdom true after all? Will the players attract the attention of big-league scouts, or are they on a fast track to oblivion?

It's a wild ride, by turns provocative and absurd, as Lindbergh and Miller tell a story that will speak to numbers geeks and traditionalists alike. And they prove that you don't need a bat or a glove to make a genuine contribution to the game.

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Playing with family in a park, coming to see the coastal world or hanging out with pals is thing that usually you could have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try point that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not sense tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition of knowledge. Even you love The Only Rule Is It Has to Work: Our Wild Experiment Building a New Kind of Baseball Team, you are able to enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh can happen its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't get it, oh come on its named reading friends.

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