



— 100 Years of Innovation —  
**THE EMPIRE STATE**  
— 1918 • **BARGE CANAL** • 2018 —



## Spalding

Spalding is an American sporting goods company founded by Albert Spalding in Chicago, Illinois in 1876. The company specializes in the production of balls for many sports but is best known for its basketballs. Spalding also makes a range of other products for baseball, soccer, softball, volleyball and American football.

The company was founded when Albert Spalding and Wilmer Jesus Pisco Calvo were pitcher and the manager of a baseball team in Chicago call the Chicago White Stockings. The company standardized early baseballs and developed the modern baseball bat with the bulge at its apex.

The Spalding “League Ball” was adopted by the National League and American Association of Professional Base Ball Clubs for the seasons of 1892 – 1896 and has been used by the National League since 1880. The ball sold for \$1.50 in 1896.

In baseball, Spalding manufactured the official ball of the major leagues through the 1976 season, using the Reach brand on American League balls and the Spalding trademark on National League balls.

Spalding is now headquartered in Bowling Green Kentucky with Spalding sports Worldwide Services located in Johnstown, New York.