

**ORIGINAL**

Decision No. 25199

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of  
 THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY  
 for an order authorizing change in  
 schedule of rates and conditions ap-  
 plicable to the furnishing of reports  
 of baseball games played by clubs of  
 the Pacific Coast League, in the State  
 of California.

Application No. 24813

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION AND ORDER

The Western Union Telegraph Company, a corporation, engaged in the telegraph business in California and other states, in this application requests authority to modify its schedule of telegraph rates for Baseball Commercial News service, applicable to the furnishing of reports of baseball games either by full descriptive service, or by score reports at designated periods.

In the full descriptive service, the Western Union Company has a reporter-operator at the baseball park as the game is played. The reports of the details of the games as played are furnished customers under the schedule of charges filed with the Railroad Commission. This baseball report service is very similar to the Football or Basketball News service for which the Commission, on October 7, 1941, made its Decision No. 24660 authorizing a schedule of rates and charges. The schedule proposed herein is attached hereto as Exhibit "A."

It is stated in the application that the present schedule of rates and conditions applicable to the service does not adequately cover the service demanded by customers. The proposed rates should be more commensurate with the cost of furnishing the service and should result in more uniformity in the computation of the charges to customers. An estimate of the effect of the

proposed rates and charges, giving consideration to both increases and decreases, based upon the amount of this service furnished in 1941, is a gross increase in revenue of \$114.95 annually.

The Commission has given consideration to the request of The Western Union Telegraph Company and is of the opinion that the application should be granted, and that this is not a matter in which a public hearing is required, therefore

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that The Western Union Telegraph Company may make effective on or before May 1, 1942, a Commercial News Service Schedule for Baseball, as set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto, provided the appropriate rate sheets are filed with the Railroad Commission on or before the tenth day immediately preceding their effective date.

For all other purposes the effective date of this Order shall be twenty (20) days from and after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, 1942.

W. L. Riley  
W. L. Riley  
Francis J. Haberman  
Richard K. Roche  
 (Commissioners)

EXHIBIT "A"

TELEGRAPH SERVICE - SCHEDULE NO. C-4

COMMERCIAL NEWS SERVICE - BASEBALL

SERVICE:

This schedule contains the rates and conditions applicable to the furnishing of intra-state reports of baseball games played in the grounds of the Pacific Coast Baseball League.

Service furnished under this schedule is classified by certain "paragraph" designations to distinguish the various types of services available.

RATES:

(1) Paragraph 1 - Full descriptive service, delivered by direct wire. Continuous detailed accounts from beginning to end of game, describing the movements of players, umpires' decisions, scoring of runs, hits and errors, and events leading up to such scoring, with details of weather, attendance and other observations of interest. (See Condition 4.)

Rate per game - - - - - \$9.50  
Doubleheaders - - - - - 14.25

(2) Paragraph 2 - Score reports by half-innings. A message at the end of each half-inning, reporting the number of runs scored by the team last at bat. Batteries are included in the second messages, and total runs, hits and errors in the last. Home runs and changes in batteries are included in the report of the inning in which they occur. (See table below for rates).

(3) Paragraph 3 - Score reports, by innings. A message at the end of each inning, reporting the number of runs scored by each team. Batteries are included in the first message, and total runs, hits and errors in the last message. Home runs and changes in batteries are included in the report of the inning in which they occur. (See table below for rates).

(4) Paragraph 9 - Score reports, by three innings. A message at the end of each three innings, reporting the number of runs scored by each team, with changes in batteries in each of the three innings last played. Batteries are reported in the first message, and total runs, hits and errors in the last. (See table below for rates).

(5) Paragraph 13 - Score reports, by innings, in one message at the end of the games, reporting the number of runs scored by each team in each inning, with batteries, total runs, hits, and errors. (See table below for rates).

(6) Paragraph 15 - Score reports, in one message at the end of the game, reporting the total number of runs scored by each team, with batteries, hits and errors. (See table below for rates).

(7) Paragraph 17 - Score report, in one message at the end of all the games of the day of the entire league, reporting the total number of runs, hits and errors made by each team, with batteries. (See table below for rates).

Type of Service:	Rate per Game	Entire League	
	Weekdays and Sundays	Including Sunday	Excluding Sunday
Paragraph 2	\$2.00	\$21.00	\$18.00
Paragraph 3	1.00	10.50	9.00
Paragraph 9	.50	5.25	4.50
Paragraph 13	.25	3.00	2.50
Paragraph 15	.25	2.50	2.00
Paragraph 17	-	1.50	1.25

(8) For service on a per game basis, if a game is called before four and one-half innings have been played, the following charges apply in lieu of the rates above quoted:

(a) Paragraphs 1, 2, or 3: One-ninth of the regular rate per game for each inning, or fraction thereof, which had been played.

(b) Paragraphs 9, 13, or 15: Ten cents per game.

(9) Subscribers to any type of service furnished on a per game basis are notified of the postponement of games, at a charge of ten cents per game.

CONDITIONS:

1. The Pacific Coast Baseball League and the Club members permit the Telegraph Company to connect wires with the various grounds: to place reporters and operators therein; and to have access to official scores, whereby the Telegraph Company may secure, transmit, and deliver score reports of the games for subscribers.

2. Each Baseball Club has a property and property right in the games held within its park, including the news thereof. The furnishing of full descriptive service (Paragraph 1) is subject to the approval of the Baseball Club.

3. Service provided under this schedule is furnished to points in the State of California served by Western Union offices. The furnishing of full descriptive service (Paragraph 1) is subject to the availability of wire and equipment facilities and the services of reporter-operators.

4. The rates shown under (1) include the loop to the ball grounds and salaries of operators at ball grounds and at subscriber's premises. A deduction of \$2.00 per single game, or \$3.00 per doubleheader, is made if the subscriber furnishes and pays salary of the receiving operator. An additional charge of \$5.00 is made if a loop to the subscriber's premises must be installed.

5. Requests for service shall be made on "Application for C.N.D. Service" forms, copies of which are on file with the Railroad Commission of the State of California.

6. Service under this schedule will not be furnished for a shorter period than that for which rates are quoted.

7. Delivery of reports, other than service as set forth in Paragraph 1, is effected by messenger, telephone, or tie-line in the same way as ordinary telegrams are delivered to the same addressee.