



October has rolled around again, and you and your friends are ready for America's pastime. Not baseball, of course. Baseball went the way of the dodo back in 1994 when the American public, disillusioned by the strike, gave up on the sport. Since then, the sport has been replaced with Major League Brainball, the sport of puzzles. Teams that used to turn double plays and attempt sacrifice bunts now compose double crostics and construct letter banks. Knuckleball pitchers have been replaced with Slitherlink experts. Home run hitters have been replaced with cryptic clue crushers.

Each year, the best of the best gather for the playoffs and the exciting World Series of Puzzles, with spectators from around the globe glued into to see who will triumph in the fall classic. Your team has already gotten a taste of this amazing sport with the Regular Season puzzles that have been released over the last week. We hope you held on to those puzzles; you'll need them for the playoffs today. And by the time the playoffs are over, you'll know who triumphed today.

The answer to each of the eight Regular Season puzzles will clue a specific Major League Brainball team. When checking your answer for each of these puzzles, you must enter both the puzzle answer and the team that it clues. (For example, if the answer were TASTES, and there were a team called the Los Angeles Samples, you would enter TASTES,SAMPLES.) The correct answer to a Regular Season puzzle will unlock a Post-Season Puzzle for that team. You will also need to answer the Regular Season metapuzzle in order to unlock the Playoffs metapuzzle.

The Post-Season consists of 14 puzzles and 3 metapuzzles. The answer to each Post-Season puzzle is a one-word answer and can be entered normally. You must also determine the result and scores of each Playoff game by entering the winning team and score (two numbers separated by a dash). Entering the result of a Playoff Game unlocks a puzzle in the next level of playoffs. (As an example, suppose the Los Angeles Samples beat the Green Bay Puzzlers by 7 to 3. You would enter SAMPLES,7-3.)

For each of the four metapuzzles (Regular Season, Playoffs, Divisionals, and World Series), you will be given a question to answer. Enter the answer to that question. Solving each meta will unlock the next meta, and any locked puzzles in the next level of playoffs (although it will not necessarily reveal the identities of the teams in the next level of playoffs).

Ultimately, your goal is to find out who won the World Series of Puzzles. Let's play Brainball!