

For Immediate Release  
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**RIVER RATS ANNOUNCE MASCOT, NATIONAL ANTHEM AUDITIONS;  
TRYOUTS AT NBHS'S BOYKIN FIELD ON SAT. APRIL 29**

NEW BERN, NC-The New Bern River Rats will hold mascot and National Anthem auditions on Saturday, April 29 at New Bern High School's Boykin Field. Mascot tryouts will begin at 10 A.M. and National Anthem tryouts will begin at 1 P.M.

Mascot auditions are open to men and women aged 16 and older, Weisbart said. Interested individuals must be able to dance and entertain, and need to be in good physical condition. Applicants should wear t-shirts and shorts or sweats to the audition and prepare a short routine to showcase their ability.

The River Rats are looking for individuals or groups to sing the National Anthem before River Rats games and events, said General Manager Michael Weisbart. Singers may be of any age and will be required to sing the Anthem without music and in a straightforward manner. "Singing at a ballgame is a unique experience and something not every gets a chance to do. We'd really like to involve as many qualified people as possible," Weisbart said.

Groups of 8 or more-such as choirs or other organized groups-will not be required to audition live, but should contact the River Rats and deliver a recorded audition. The team is also open to instrumental anthems if qualified musicians are interested in auditioning, Weisbart said. The Anthem will be performed before more than 30 River Rats home games and events this summer.

For more information on either tryout, contact the River Rats at 675-5689 or [info@newbernriverrats.com](mailto:info@newbernriverrats.com).

**Rats Notes:** The River Rats will be appearing at the New Bern Recreation and Park's Festival of Fun at Union Point Park on Saturday, April 22. Staff will be available to sell team merchandise, hand out schedules and ticket information, and answer questions about the upcoming season.

**About the River Rats:**

The New Bern River Rats baseball club is a member of the Coastal Plain League, a high-profile wood-bat collegiate summer baseball league. This summer the River Rats will play 29 home games at New Bern High School's Boykin Field, opening the season on Wednesday, May 31 at 7:05 PM. The team's official website is [www.newbernriverrats.com](http://www.newbernriverrats.com).

**About the Coastal Plain League:**

The Coastal Plain League is the nation's hottest summer collegiate baseball league. Celebrating its 10th anniversary season, the CPL is the largest summer league in the country, featuring 15 teams playing in North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia. The CPL is certified by Major League Baseball, and gives college players the chance to refine their skills with wooden bats during the summer months. Players are housed with local host families for the summer and past experiences have been very positive for both players and hosts. For more information on the Coastal Plain League, please visit the league website at [www.coastalplain.com](http://www.coastalplain.com).