

Mr. Jack Tyson  
Ticket Manager  
Atlanta Braves  
521 Capitol Ave SW  
Atlanta, GA 30312

4757 Banner Elk Dr.  
Stone Mountain, GA 30083  
October 11, 1991

Dear Mr. Tyson,

We beg to differ with you and your staff that no line jumpers got playoff tickets.

I arrived at the stadium to stand in line about noon on Wednesday, October 11. Approximately 30 minutes later one of the line list organizers took our names and told us that we were "around 600" on the list. This was confirmed around 6:00 pm when one of our group counted 633 people between Gate G and our position. As I had to work on Thursday, my wife relieved me at about 7:30 pm and spent the night at the stadium with "the gang".

My wife told me that when tickets were sold about 9:00 am, there were a number of clean-shaven guys in three-piece suits carrying playoff tickets away from the gate. Obviously, these guys did not spend much time in line waiting for tickets.

All we asked in taking our place in line with the others was a fair chance to get a ticket; our perception is that we did not get that chance.

Shame on you, your staff and the stadium security force. This operation was botched beyond belief. Preparation for the size crowds which would naturally accompany such a ticket sale was woefully inadequate. Your lack of planning surely helped lots of scumbags and scalpers who jumped the line.

The few johns available were portable units brought in for construction crews. Why was it necessary for stadium security to check identification to use the johns?

Most of this unpleasantness could have been easily avoided. A simple lottery has been used for playoff tickets in places such as St. Louis, which participates in these affairs on a regular basis. An alternative would be the use of consecutively numbered carousel tickets. Give people a numbered carousel ticket as they arrive, then sell game tickets

only to people with the appropriate number carousel ticket and identification. Why were these methods not considered?

I urge you to formulate a new policy for the distribution of tickets for events such as this. Poor planning again will likely lead to chaos and to serious injuries.

Michael L. and Maxine Denniston