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#### INDUSTRY DEFINITION

Sports memorabilia refers to collectibles associated with sports. Operators in this industry retail specialized lines of merchandise such as sports trading cards and keychains. Online auctions and e-commerce sites have transformed sports collectibles and memorabilia into big business. Many people collect sports memorabilia for the love of their childhood heroes. The items in this category evoke memories and emotions which are very powerful. The main activities involved in this industry are retailing new and used team jerseys and helmets, signed photographs, and autographed uniforms, balls, and other sporting accessories.

#### **HISTORY**

Collecting sports memorabilia goes back to the first decade of the 20th century, when many people would collect baseballs from baseball games and ask Babe Ruth for autographs. With the passage of time, many

sports stars became heroes in their sports and memorabilia collectors began to broaden their horizons.

#### **INDUSTRY OUTLOOK**

Sports memorabilia and collectibles have grown in popularity in recent years as these rare items are becoming viewed as an investment that will appreciate over time. However, consumers most commonly make purchases of industry products on secondary online marketplaces, such as eBay Inc., siphoning away industry revenue. Online demand typically sets selling prices, placing pressure on industry profitability. Additionally, amid the COVID -19 pandemic, a sharp decline in consumer spending decreased demand for the industry's discretionary products. As a result, over the past five years from 2017 to 2021, industry revenue has declined an annualized 2.5% to \$1.1 billion in the US, including a growth of 2.1% in 2021 alone.

In 2022, the sports memorabilia is expected to continue to see an influx of money from new sources, shifting power dynamics in college sports and more widespread use of emerging technologies. According to Market Deciper, the global sports memorabilia market is expected to reach \$227.2 billion by 2032 from the current size of \$26.1 billion. China and India are among the hottest emerging markets in the sports card industry, offering lucrative opportunities for the industry to expand.

Another major trend accelerating the merging of physical and virtual worlds is the rapid growth of sports-related NFTs. Leagues, individual athletes, and their partners are making digital collectibles, video clips, and enhancements to physical collectibles available for sale and trade. Deloitte Global predicts that there will be more than US \$2 billion in sports-related NFT



## **INDUSTRY OUTLOOK** (continued)

transactions in 2022. Leaders in this field are raising hundreds of millions of dollars in investment, and all the major leagues now have NFT partners.

Sports-related NFTs have attracted\_a lot of attention and investment over the past year, opening the door to additional blockchain-enabled innovations. With the rising use and involvement of cryptocurrency and associated exchange platforms, a nexus will form around sports collectibles, ticketing, betting, and gaming. We are just beginning to see its potential, as well as the new markets it could lead to.

Some statistics for the sports memorabilia industry products are:

- > 1952 Micky Mantle sells for \$5.2 million
- > Babe Ruth uniform more than \$5.6 million
- > 2 Jackie Robinson contracts appraised and insured at \$36 million
- > Upper Deck Michael Jordan Rookie card (once \$18,000) has now sold for \$738,000
- > Rookie LA Angels Mike Trout draft Chrome Project card sold for \$900,000
- Zion Williamson cards are around \$100,000
- Luka Doncic Dallas Mavericks rookie card sold for \$200,000

The key external drivers in this industry are e-commerce sales, increased participation in sports, and consumer spending.

"The card market has outperformed the stock market this year," said Howard Epstein, a Charlotte-based collector and one-time show promoter who calls himself a hobby historian. "Millenials are spending money like crazy. The pandemic kept people home and some of the older guys are pulling out stuff and selling."

#### MAJOR PLAYERS IN THE INDUSTRY

- The Topps Company, Inc. (Topps)
- > Futera Limited
- The Upper Deck Company
- Leaf Trading Cards
- Panini S.P.A.
- Fanatics, Inc.
- Press Pass Collectibles (Ppc)

- Tristar Productions. Inc.
- Gameday Sports & Amp; Memorabilia
- Bench Warmer
- > 757 Sports Collectibles
- Sportscollectibles.com
- Rittenhouse Archives Ltd.
- Olx Global By

#### **M&A OVERVIEW**

Companies	Closing Date	Deal Type	Deal Value
Autograph	Jan 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Early Stage VC	\$205M
Wincast	Apr 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Seed Round	\$0.68M



### **NEW ENTRANTS**

Companies	Year Founded	Ownership Status	Financing Status
Nikco Sports Memorbilia	2022	Privately Held	Corporation
WTAW	2022	Privately Held	Corporation
Autograph	2021	Privately Held	Venture Capital-Backed
Campus Legends	2021	Privately Held	Corporation
Sports Collectors	2021	Privately Held	Corporation
Wincast	2021	Privately Held	Venture Capital-Backed
Carlisle Country Market	2020	Privately Held	Corporation
Sportsgalleryweb	2020	Privately Held	Corporation
Jerry Lee Lewis' Cafe	2019	Privately Held	Corporation

#### TYPES OF MEMORABILIA

Memorabilia can take any form from vintage to modern. Some of them are:

- Autographed items: Anything that can be signed. It ranges from balls to cards and often includes an authentication certificate.
- Sports cards: The most valuable cards are Rookie cards of star athletes. Signed cards are worth substantially more than non-autographed cards
- Game-used equipment: Different equipment used by the sportsperson during rival or historical games can be extremely valuable
- From Jerseys and other apparel: Apparels with the proof of use such sweat stains or authentic wear and tear are very valuable
- Stadium items: Stadium items such as seats, turnstiles, or even benches are rare and valuable, especially if they hold vintage or historical significance.
- Fig. Ticket stubs & programs: Ticket stubs and programs from important tournaments, games and World Series items are also valued.
- ➤ Handwritten letters: These are rare and high-priced if authenticated



### SPORTS MEMORABILIA AUTHENTICATORS

Memorabilia authenticators are the agency that verifies the originality of the collectible. This adds credibility to the collectible and increases its price ^ by many folds. Hence, it is one of the most crucial aspects of the industry. Recognized sports memorabilia authenticators include:

- Professional Sports Authenticator (PSA): It is an independent organization that evaluates sports cards for authenticity and quality using a 10-point grading scale and then secures the card in a tamper-proof holder along with proof of certification
- PSA/DNA Authentication Services (PSA/DNA): A spin-off of Professional Sports Authenticator, PSA/DNA grades and authenticates bats, autographed items, and other sports collectibles.
- Global Authentication Inc. (GAI): Global Authentication grades trading cards and authenticates sports memorabilia, autographs, and a variety of other historical documents and items.
- Beckett Grading Services (BGS): BGS is affiliated with Beckett magazine and uses a 10-point scale. It also offers secondary rating.
- Sportscard Guarantee (SGC): The SGC grading scale starts at 10 (poor) and goes up to 100 (Pristine)

#### **RECENT UPDATES**

eBay plans to enter the live online selling space with a new dedicated shopping platform for collectibles called as eBay Live. This will offer potential customers the chance to interact live with sellers, learn more about a specific item, and the option to buy products directly in the stream. According to the company, the new beta technology will combine entertainment with instant purchasing.

Fanatics/Topps plan to launch large-scale college trading card featuring current college stars. This deal will eventually include nearly 150 of the nation's top colleges and over 200 make and female student-athletes across multiple sports. Beginning this fall, Fanatics and Topps will release the first sets of college football and basketball cards with more than 100 of those schools under the BowmanU brand and including both current and former athletes. The deals with the athletes could form a foundation for Fanatics as it continues to expand its lineup of exclusive autographed memorabilia deals for signed photos, jerseys, balls and other items.



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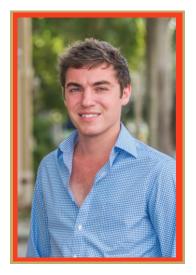
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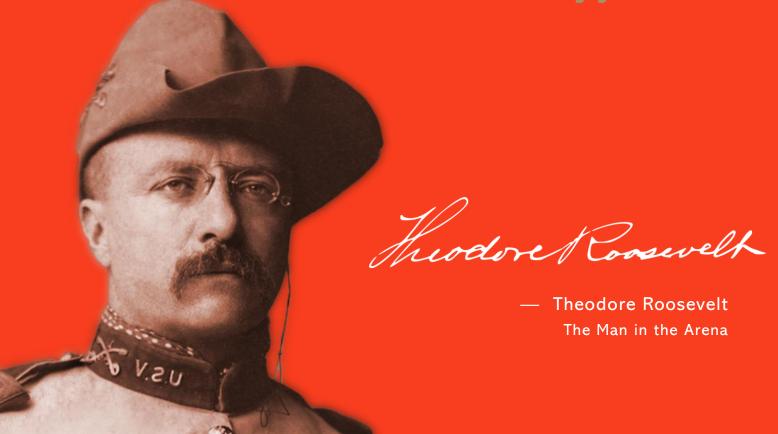
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### **FIRM MANTRA**

It is not the critic who counts; nor the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.





### **PREVIOUS CLIENTS**

Client Industry Type of Engagement **ACSI** Financial Services Advisory Activor, Inc. Healthcare Corporate Finance Advanced Particle Therapy Healthcare Corporate Takeover **Affinity Finance** Mortgage M&A - Buyer Affinity Finance Mortgage Joint Venture Advisory

**Auto Benefits Corporation Financial Services** Advisory Software Automated Data Services, Inc. M&A Advisory Automated Data Systems, Inc. Financial IT Services M&A-Seller **Bibbentuckers** Retail Chain / Consumer Services M&A Advisory **Boardroom Software** Corporate Finance Brides International, Inc. Apparel/Specialty Retail M&A Advisory

California Proton Treatment Center Healthcare Bankruptcy Advisory Cambridge Home Loans M&A - Seller Mortgage Cantoni, Ltd. Specialty Retail M&A Advisory Carequest Home Care, Inc. Healthcare M&A Advisory Distribution Champion Brass, Inc. M&A Advisory Cimaco, Inc. Industrial Machinery M&A Advisory

Cimaco, Inc.

Industrial Machinery

M&A Advisory

Divestiture Advisory

CMG Mortgage, Inc.

Community Banking

M&A - Buyer

Cobb Partners, LLC

Financial Services

Convertible Preferred Offering

Computrition, inc.

Software

Advisory

Contender Boats

Marine Manufacturing

Advisory

Dallas European Shoreline Imports

Datazone Systems, Inc.

Data Storage Devices

Advisory

Debt Financing

M&A Advisory

DeCrane Aircraft Holdings, Inc.

Destination Films, Inc.

ECP Processing, Inc.

Data Storage Devices

Aviation

Aviation

Film/Entertainment

Mechant Processing

Advisory

Advisory

First Chair Technologies, Inc. IT Outsourcing/Integration Private Placement-Convertible Debt

First National Bank of Los Angeles Community Banking Advisory
Fredericks of Hollywood, Inc. Apparel/ Specialty Retail Bankruptcy Advisory
Fruit-A-Freeze, Inc. Foods/ Specialty Retail M&A Advisory

Foods/ Specialty Retail H&S Yacht Manufacturing M&A Advisory Hi Quality Electronics, Inc. Consumer Electronics M&A Advisory Homebanc, Inc. Financial Services M&A - Seller Homestar Funding Mortgage M&A - Seller Hoss Equipment Company Heavy Equipment Remanufacturing Debt Financing

IMC Building Products M&A Advisory
Imperial Technology, Inc. Data Storage Technology M&A Advisory

Intelegy, Inc.

CRM/ Consulting

Advisory

JDI Solutions, Inc.

Manufacturing

M&A Advisory

Jolly Chef

Food Service

M&A Advisory

KAT & Associates, Inc.

Healthcare

Advisory

M&A Advisory

M&A Advisory

M&A Advisory

LAX World Co, Inc.

Sporting Goods Retail

M&A Advisory

Loan Genie, Inc.

Mortgage

Advisory

Corporate Finance

Long Range Systems, Inc. Manufacturing Corporate Finance
Magicstone Media, LLC Media/Entertainment Corporate Finance



### PREVIOUS CLIENTS

Maryland Proton Treatment Center

Maui Girl & Co., Inc. MI Senior Living

Mid-America Fittings, Inc.

Midland Metals Manufacturing, LLC Distribution

MVI. Inc.

Client

Nature's Formula, Ltd.

Neuronix, LTD Newline

Numera Software Oakley Homes, Inc.

Palm Beach Tan

PayDay One Holdings, LLC

PERGAN Nordamerika GmbH, i.G.

Phoenix Radiology, Inc. Predicate Logic, Inc. Pro Systems, Inc.

Progistics Technology, Inc.

Promiseland Dairy

Resource Bancshares, Inc.

San Dieguito National Bank

SCS/Frigette Sessions, Inc. StaffUSA, Inc.

Sun Country Bank Surgical Notes

SY technologies, Inc. Tishman West Realty, Inc

Transcend Equity Development

**TruckloadUSA** 

Turner Financial, Inc.

U.S.E Community Services, Inc.

Uncle Julio's

Undaunted Holdings, LLC US Merchant Systems, Inc.

US Merchant Systems, Inc.

USDB Bancorp, Inc. VVI Construction, Inc.

WalkAbout Software, Inc. Westex Metal & Iron, Inc.

Worthy Financial, Inc. YouGotCash, LLC

Industry

Healthcare Apparel/Specialty Retail

Senior Housing/Healthcare

Manufacturing

Insurance

Health and Beauty

Healthcare Int'l Manufacturer of Marker Boards M&A Advisory

Software

Construction Retail Chain/Consumer Services

Consumer Finance Organic Peroxides

Healthcare Software

Manufacturing Software

Food & Beverage

Mortgage

Community Banking **HVAC Manufacturing** Staffing/Entertainment

Staffing

Community Banking

Health Care Services & Technology Missile Guidance Technology

Financial Services

**Energy Conservation Services Building Product Distributor** 

Mortgage

Financial Services Restaurant Chain Marine Manufacturing Transaction Processing

Financial Services Mortgage

Software Scrap Metals

Construction

Reg A+ Bond Sales Software- Portal

Type of Engagement

Turnaround & Recapitalization

M&A Advisory

Corporate Finance M&A Advisory/Sale

Leveraged Recapitalization

Advisory

M&A Advisory M&A Advisory

Advisory

Private Placement **Debt Financing** 

M&A - Seller M&A Advisory

M&A Advisory Corporate Finance

Advisory Advisory

M&A Advisory M&A - Buyer

Advisory M&A Advisory

M&A Advisory M&A Advisory

Advisory

Debt Financing

Corporate Finance

M&A- Seller

**Project Financing Debt Financing** 

M&A - Seller M&A - Seller Recapitalization

Acquisition

Corporate Finance

Convertible Preferred Offering

M&A - Buyer M&A Advisory M&A Advisory M&A Advisory

Advisory Advisory



## **CITATIONS**

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