



**Sunday, November 1, 2009**  
 1 p.m.  
 AMC 600  
 600 N. Michigan Ave. Chicago

**Sunday, November 8, 2009**  
 3 p.m.  
 Wilmette Theatre  
 1122 Central. Wilmette

*You don't have to be Jewish or understand a box score to embrace the crowd-pleasing national-pastime docu "Holy Land Hardball." Saga of an entrepreneur who muscled the improbable Israel Baseball League into existence is at once a celebration of Americana and a cautionary fable on the challenges of cultural hegemony... Distributions will bill it, audiences will come. Variety*

**HOLY LAND HARDBALL is the definitive story of the unlikely group of players and executives who attempted to create Israel's first professional baseball league in the summer of 2007.** The award-winning documentary is an engaging account of Boston bagel maker Larry Baras' dream. He recruited 120 diverse ballplayers for the IBL, with tryouts in Massachusetts, Dominican Republic, and the Holy Land itself. Team managers are former Jewish major leaguers, all with Chicago connections - Ken Holtzman and Art Shamsky, former CHICAGO CUBS, and Ron Blomberg, who played with the CHICAGO WHITE SOX. Baras and his recruits have the challenging task of drawing the Israeli people to a sport they've never had in 5,767 years. The opening game of Israel's baseball league was in Petach Tikvah, Chicago's sister city. An entertaining documentary, showing a side of Israel far from the news headlines - one of peace, normalcy and discovering the joys of the great American pastime. Directed and Written by: Brett Rapkin and Erik Kesten

**TICKETS \$10.00**

**Available thru theater boxes offices and online**

**AMC600 [www.fandango.com](http://www.fandango.com) Wilmette Theatre [www.wilmettetheatre.com](http://www.wilmettetheatre.com)**

**Check CFIC website for complete schedule, updates, film synopses, trailers and special guests**  
[www.chicagofestivalofisraelcinema.org](http://www.chicagofestivalofisraelcinema.org)



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