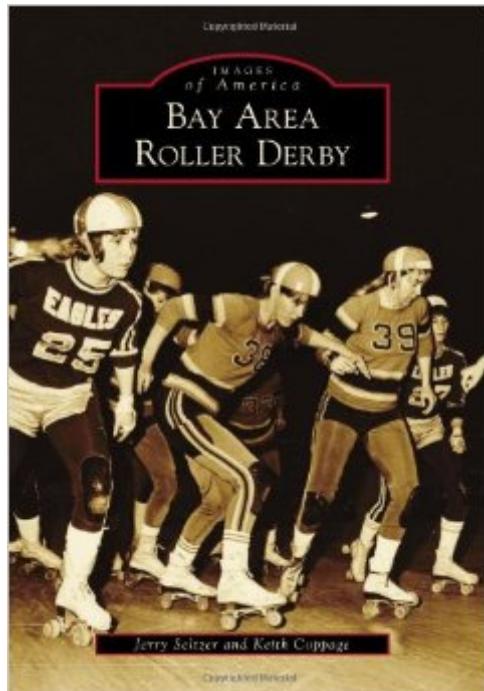


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# Bay Area Roller Derby (Images Of America)



## **Synopsis**

Roller Derby found a home in the San Francisco Bay Area following its Depression-era Chicago origins. An early television sensation, it faded to a modest existence in Los Angeles during the 1950s. Creator Leo Seltzer turned the game over to his son Jerry, who repositioned the traveling Bay Bombers from their home terrain of San Francisco to Fresno and everywhere in-between. He shined television camera lights on skaters who became the zenith in Roller Derby, including Charlie O'Connell, Annis Jensen, Joanie Weston, and more. Syndicated television games seen by millions yielded sellout crowds in every major arena in the country. However, economic and cultural changes closed Roller Derby in 1973. Passionate fans clung tenaciously to its memory. In the 21st century, the game made an astonishing return not only in Northern California but also worldwide.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Aside from presenting a wonderful selection of B&W photos, the text offers quite a few insights into the inner workings of Roller Derby. There are some surprisingly candid comments about skaters who got along well with each other, as well as some who didn't (even some of the superstars on the Bay Bombers weren't necessarily the best of friends off the track). I wish that there were a few more pictures of the outer facades of the auditoriums where these games were held. I'd have been particularly interested in seeing some "then and now" comparison photos of the various Bay Area venues. That minor quibble aside, this is a wonderful book which will appeal to Roller Derby fanatics

everywhere, not just in northern California.

This is a good review of the early days of the Roller Derby founded at the Chicago Coliseum in 1935. Then it switches to the game moving its home base to California. Beautiful pictures of the games there. All black and white.

. I was a big fan of the roller derby. In southern California it was called roller games so as not to be confused with the original Roller Derby. However, the skaters were free to skate with whoever paid the most. This book contains photos from the Roller Derby which was based in San Francisco. If you are a fan from way back, you will recognize the skaters who did tour southern California before settling in San Francisco. It would have been nice if there could of been a page or two for 'Where are they now?'

I enjoed this book.I miss all the great skaters like Gerry Murray,Toughie,Bill & Gloria Gardner, Mike Gammon and a lot more.If you are a derby fan this book reminds you of when skaters were classy not like whats out there now.Thanks...

Following ROLLER DERBY TO ROLLER JAM, his superb history of the banked track sport, Keith Coppage, along with Jerry Seltzer, have put together this new book about Roller Derby in the San Francisco Bay Area. You'll be blown away by all the history and especially the SENSATIONAL PHOTOS in this book!!! The EXTRAORDINARY careers of LEGENDARY SKATERS like ANNIS 'Big Red' JENSEN, ANN CALVELLO, CHARLIE O'CONNELL & JOAN WESTON are all highlighted, plus a SUPER HISTORY of the San Francisco BAY BOMBERS!!!! If you LOVE Roller Derby, this book is a MUST READ!!!

I ENJOYED THE ATTENTION GIVRN TO THE MEN AS WELL AS THE WOMEN .IT WS WELL WORTH THE PRICE AND THERE ARENOT MANY BOOKS OUT THERE AS IT IS

If you loved classic Roller Derby, you will love the pictures and stories.It brought back lots of memories for me.

Gave this to My Girlfriend (Kara Vorkian) for Christmas. Great all around read and photographs from Derby's rich history. I would suggest it to any fan or derby girl/guy.

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