

ASUS T100TA Transformer Book

Reviewed by Connie Stoyakovich (CABS 4IT)

As many Scorers know, the computer scoring program used by Baseball Australia, IBAF, and many other scoring bodies - Stat Crew's The Automated Scorebook for Baseball/Softball (TASBS) - is old legacy software that won't work in modern 64-bit operating systems. To run the program on a 64-bit machine requires running a virtual operating system (eg, XP Mode). See [this link](#) or [this link](#) for further info. Stat Crew is in the process of a massive upgrade of all of their statistics software so it is compatible with 64-bit and MAC computers, but the "Next Generation" versions may only be available to NCAA colleges when they are first released. Once the software becomes available to non-college users, it may only be on a subscription basis, thus making it more costly than the old, reliable "Legacy" version we use in Australia now. Aside from the hardware issue, TASBS is an excellent statistics and scoring program, and the Council of Australian Baseball Scorers (CABS) has recommended that BA continue to use it for all national championships.

Scorers wanting to upgrade or purchase a Scoring computer should take a good look at the following little notebook from ASUS. Because it runs on a 32-bit operating system you should have no trouble running Stat Crew's TASBS software. But there is a lot more to recommend it: the slim, lightweight design, the detachable tablet, the pre-installed Office 2013 Home & Student version (full, not a subscription), and a battery that will nearly get you through a double-header without plugging into mains power! Because it is a Windows 8.1 notebook, you can run work-type software (I have successfully used MYOB AccountRight Live while travelling), but you can also relax in bed with just the lid (tablet) and surf the net! It has a decent amount of hard drive storage for the price, and the keyboard & touchpad take some getting used to (think netbook), so it wouldn't do for full-time office work, but it's brilliant as a portable office.

Baseball Australia now owns 10 of these babies, and in the Qld Scorers committee there are at least 4 owners. Prices vary by retailer, but JB Hi-Fi and Harvey Norman seem to be the best at this time.

Note: Be sure to fully charge the battery before attempting to start it up for the first time. If you do have an issue take it straight back to the retailer for a replacement. One of BA's was dead out of the box (wouldn't start up after 8 hours charging) and JB Hi-Fi promptly exchanged it for a new one.



Key Features

- 10.1" (1366 x 768) IPS with multi-touch Screen
- Intel ATOM processor Z3740 up to 1.86GHz
- Storage: 64GB eMMC
- Memory: 2GB RAM
- Intel HD graphics
- 1 x USB 3.0 Port (you may want to get a double adaptor)
- 1 x Micro HDMI Port
- Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, Webcam (no rear facing camera)
- Windows 8.1 - 32bit (runs legacy software, eg. Stat Crew!)
- Pre-installed with Microsoft Office 2013 Home & Student (NOT Office 365)
- Battery 2 cells 31WH (lasts up to 10 hours, depending on usage)
- Weighs 1.1 kg (slips easily into a large handbag!)
- [Currently on sale at JB Hi-Fi for \\$447](#) (as of 11 Dec 2014)

Postscript: Take care not to touch the screen when running TASBS game scoring in DOS mode. If you do, it will close down the program.