

Moorestown Youth Baseball Federation
Travel Guidelines
District and Tournament Team Information

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Objectives and Goals

The Objective of the Moorestown Baseball Travel Program (“The Program”) is to provide children who participate in the Moorestown Youth Baseball Federation (“MYBF”), in town, baseball program with an opportunity to compete at a higher level of competitive baseball. The goals of the program are two fold; to win District Championships and Tournaments and to develop the players in the areas of sportsmanship, teamwork, pride and participation while representing Moorestown Baseball in the best way possible.

General Policies – Time and Participation Commitment

1. To field one or more competitive, District/Tournament teams for play in Cal Ripken, Babe Ruth and independent tournament and travel play at each of the following age groups: Cal Ripken 7, 8, 9 10, 11, 12 and Babe Ruth 13.
2. Travel teams, including all the coaches, players and parents, are the public face of the Moorestown Baseball Program. As such, it is incumbent upon all to uphold the integrity and basic ideals of sportsmanship which are inherent values of MYBF.
3. With the sole exception of a scheduled conflict with an in-town, MYBF baseball game, it is the responsibility and obligation of each Tournament team’s manager, coaches and players to make their involvement with a Tournament team their #1 baseball priority during the tournament baseball season, (the “Tournament Season”). Failure to follow this rule will result in suspension for current and subsequent tournament seasons. The MYBF Board of Trustees, is the entity that makes final decisions on player eligibility.
4. The Tournament Season begins in the middle of May and ends in July or early August or when the player’s tournament team is eliminated from their district, state, regional or tournament play.

5. Participation in the Program is a significant time commitment by all participating players, coaches and parents. We ask that all those who participate in the Program agree to commit to put forth their best efforts towards attending all team practices, scrimmages and games for the good of their tournament team and the Program. The failure to make and honor the required commitment as described in paragraph 3 above, is a basis to: (1) not select a player for a tournament team; (2) to remove a player from a tournament team; and (3) not select a player for a tournament team in the future.
6. It is not uncommon to have 6 to 7 baseball events per week during the height of the Tournament Season. Some of the tournaments may require traveling up to several hours and perhaps even an overnight stay.

Manager/Coach Eligibility and Selection

1. The selection of Tournament Team managers will be made by the MYBF Board of Trustees ("The Board") and any other person(s) the board selects.
2. Prior to the Travel Baseball Tryouts, an e-mail will be sent from the MYBF Website administrator to solicit candidates to manage the tournament teams. All candidates to manage a tournament team are asked to submit an e-mail or other notice within a week's time of the email sent date. The e-mail should state the candidate's desire to manage a tournament team, the age group which they are requesting to manage, and, if they choose, a summary of the candidate's coaching background and qualifications, and any other information they would like the board to consider.
3. The Board may, in its sole discretion, request any manager candidate to submit to an interview by the Board. The Board may, again in its sole discretion, choose not to interview any manager candidate.

4. The Board may consider, among other things, the following criteria in selecting Tournament Team Managers:
 - a. Prior coaching history both within and outside of MYBF. A District level Manager must also be an in- town MYBF baseball coach per the MYBF Cal Ripken Charter. If no one volunteers to Manage an age group, the Board may choose a Manager from outside of the above mentioned criteria. The amount of games coached at the MYBF in-town level must be at two-thirds of his in town team's games throughout the in-town baseball season.
 - b. A willingness to commit time and planning to the Tournament Program beyond the summer tournament season. It is preferred that a manager have some level of commitment to assembling a team for play in a fall baseball league and make arrangements for winter workouts. The Board will not adversely consider the inability to head coach if the prospective manager also coaches another Moorestown fall or winter sport.
 - c. A willingness to cooperate with other Tournament team managers and coaches. It is expected that each Tournament team manager be willing to work together with other managers in assembling tournament documents and sharing knowledge about past experiences regarding specific tournaments. The manager must be willing to partner with other Tournament team managers in his age group in establishing tryouts, selecting players, practice regimens, overall baseball approach and assembling teams for play in fall baseball.
 - d. For District and Tournament Team Tournament managers and coaches, the successful completion of the Babe Ruth League Coaching education Program and submission of the certificate of completion to the Travel Commissioner or MYBF Board.
 - e. Prior Tournament Team coaching experience and results.
 - f. General demeanor, past behavior as an MYBF coach in both in-town MYBF games and Tournament games.
 - g. General baseball background and experience.
 - h. Any other criteria the Board deems appropriate to further the goals and objectives of MYBF Tournament Baseball.

- i. The Board has the authority and discretion to consider other factors and criteria with the overriding objective of selecting the best possible coaching candidates so as to strive to meet the goals and objectives of the Program.
 - j. For the purpose of this section, "COACHES" will be defined as Head Coaches or Assistant Coaches.
 - ALL Coaches must be approved by MYBF. At the beginning of EACH season, the league commissioner will submit all rec coaching candidates to the MYBF Board for approval.
 - Coaches may be added to teams after teams have been formed as long as the team coaches determine there is a need for additional coaches and the coaches have been approved by the MYBF (see #1 above).
 - Parents and other Volunteers are eligible to help out with Field Maintenance, Scoreboard Operation, In-Game PA Announcing, etc. but CANNOT be present on the field with players during games, practices, try-outs, ratings sessions and/or warmups without being approved by the MYBF Board (see #1 above).
5. Following both the selection of each District Team manager and the selection of the players on their respective District teams, each manager shall submit to the MYBF Board the names of those persons he wants to be selected as his assistant coaches. The appointment of those coaches will be subject to the advice and consent of The Board which will also consider the criteria set forth above in Paragraph 3 as part of that consent.
6. Following the selection of the District Tournament Team for each age group, the Board will then name the managers of the remaining non-District level Tournament teams utilizing the same criteria set forth in paragraph 3 above. Those managers will submit the names of their

prospective coaches following the same procedures set forth in paragraph 4 above.

7. Travel Team managers are responsible for maintaining their teams' finances, scheduling their teams' participation in tournaments and making all required filings and submissions as required by Cal Ripken or Babe Ruth Rules. The Tournament Director or MYBF Admin will assist and work with each manager to assure that each of these obligations are met.
8. Managers and coaches are eligible to manage or coach on only one MYBF Tournament baseball team in any one year.
9. The selection of a manager and coach is only for a single tournament baseball season. In other words, being selected to manage or coach a Tournament Team does not in any way assure that person that they will be a manager or coach of a tournament team the following year with the exception of the 11U manager. The 11U manager will manage the 12U team by default. If the 11U Manager chooses NOT to manage, the Board will choose a Manager based on the process outlined above.

Player Eligibility and Selection

1. It is the Board's objective to conduct at least two open tryouts where players will be rated on various baseball skills that may include hitting, throwing, fielding and base-running as well as particular positional skill requirements for pitchers, first basemen and catchers on an as needed basis.
2. **Each Tournament Team's players will be selected on an evaluation process that includes the player's tryout rating which will be comprised of the following evaluators; 3 MYBF Board Members, 1 Independent evaluator and up to 3 additional (prior year) travel coaches. The evaluation scores will be weighted as follows: Board Members 40%, Independent Evaluator(s) 40% and**

the additional coaches 20%. Board members and Independent Raters shall not have a child who is trying out for a team in the particular age group for which they are rating. The Prior Year Manager will not rate his/her own son. It is our goal to make every effort to assign raters who are independent and non-partisan. The rating stations will be staffed by qualified volunteers who will make every effort to show consistency and avoid favoritism in the form of encouragement and or easier opportunities. Evaluators must hand in their rating forms at the end of each tryout to the Travel Commissioner or the MYBF Tournament Director. Evaluations will be compiled and the players will be ranked within 48 hours of the final tryout.

3. Tryout dates, times and locations will be posted on the MYBF website and an email will go out to all MYBF participants from that year. The goal is to achieve maximum participation by prospective Tournament players.
4. Independent tryouts, without the prior approval of the MYBF Board will NOT be allowed. Any player participating in an unapproved Independent tryout, and NOT participating in a scheduled tryout will NOT be included in the player ranking used to determine the Travel teams.
5. It is the Board's objective to select a District Team of 12 players for each age group. The goal is to select and field the most competitive, well rounded baseball team from those eligible players. Some age groups may field a second tournament team, as permitted by Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth rules, and that team will be selected on the same basis. If there are a sufficient number of players at any age group to field additional, competitive tournament teams, those teams will be selected based upon the tryouts and in consultation with the respective Tournament teams' managers and the Tournament Committee. There is NO

guaranty that each child who tries out for tournament baseball will make an MYBF Tournament Baseball team.

- 6. The District Team will consist of 12 players which will be selected from the Top 10 players per the compiled rankings and the 2 additional players will be selected at the Managers discretion. The Manger can select down to #16 on the Ranking list. The Tournament Team will consist of the NEXT 10 players in ranking order with the final 2 selections made at the Managers discretion.**
- 7. The District Manager will contact his 12 players as soon as they are selected to ensure they are committed to playing for the District Team. If a parent chooses to have his/her player on the Tournament Team, the District Manager must alert the Board as soon as possible. In such case, that player will be moved to the Tournament Team, removed from the rating list, and all remaining players will move up one spot and the rules in paragraph 6 will apply.**
8. For a player to be eligible to be selected for and play on a tournament team they must:
 - a. be a registered MYBF Rec Baseball participant;
 - b. meet the age, participation and other applicable Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth requirements. MYBF travel baseball players must play their AGE, not their Grade.
 - c. Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth player eligibility rules state a player must play in 66% of the league's scheduled games.

Financial Commitments and Obligations

1. For your child to participate as part of a Tournament team there is an additional financial obligation above and beyond the Moorestown Rec Baseball fee.
2. For the most part, each Tournament team is self-funding. There are required financial obligations to cover various costs including uniforms, tournament entry fees, umpire fees, equipment and training costs. The additional financial obligation is in excess of \$200 per child and can be considerably more depending upon the number of tournaments your child's team participates in.
3. Failure to pay financial obligations in a PAST Tournament Season makes the player ineligible to participate in the CURRENT Tournament Season.