



# **“Life After Little League”**

**July 19, 2018**

# The WBSA

A volunteer organization designed to provide a quality, year round baseball and softball environment in Wilton for our youth.

- Provides post Little League **Baseball** playing opportunities in the Spring, Summer and Fall for Wilton youths for ages 12/13 -19.
- Provides advanced, travel **Softball** programs in the Spring, Summer and Fall for Wilton youths for ages 9-14.
- Provides Conditioning and Skills **Winter Workouts** for Baseball and Softball.
- **Support the Wilton High School baseball & softball programs**

# Baseball Programs – Babe Ruth

- 🏆 “Next” League after Little League
  - 🏆 12-15 year olds
  - 🏆 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Graders
- 🏆 Played on Major League Diamond
- 🏆 Paid Coaches – TBD for 2018
- 🏆 April 30<sup>th</sup> Age Calculator
- 🏆 House and Travel Programs

# Baseball Programs – Babe Ruth

## “House” Teams

- Ⓞ 13U and 15U Divisions
- Ⓞ All Welcome
- Ⓞ Fall and Spring Leagues
- Ⓞ Games in Fairfield County
- Ⓞ Typical Cost
  - Ⓞ Fall (Sept/Oct) \$475
  - Ⓞ Spring (Apr/Jun) \$600

# Baseball Programs – Babe Ruth

## **Xtreme / Travel Team (13U / 14U)**

- Ⓞ Roster Determined by Dec. Tryouts
- Ⓞ High Commitment / Skill Level
- Ⓞ Spring and Summer
- Ⓞ Games in Fairfield and Bordering Counties
- Ⓞ District Tournament Option
- Ⓞ Weekend Tournament Option
- Ⓞ Molded to Needs/Interests of Team
- Ⓞ Typical Cost ~ \$1,100 - \$1,800

# Baseball Programs – American Legion

- 🏆 “Next” League after Babe Ruth
  - 🏆 14-19 year olds
  - 🏆 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Graders, College Freshman
- 🏆 Premiere Wood Bat League in CT
- 🏆 Paid Coaches
  - 🏆 Ian Thoesen, Vin Carlucci, Chris Fabiani
- 🏆 December 31<sup>st</sup> Age Calculator
- 🏆 Roster Determined by Dec. Tryouts
- 🏆 College Showcase Opportunities

# Baseball Programs – American Legion

## Summer

- 🏆 Designed for High School Players
  - 🏆 Advanced 8<sup>th</sup> graders may play
- 🏆 Three Levels
  - 🏆 15U (Freshman / 8<sup>th</sup> Graders)
  - 🏆 17U (Freshman / JV)
  - 🏆 19U (Varsity, College Fresh, JV)
- 🏆 10 Week Intense Summer Season
  - 🏆 6-7 Day per Week Commitment
  - 🏆 Start at Conclusion of HS Season
  - 🏆 State Championship first Sunday of Aug
- 🏆 Member Zone 4 (Fairfield County) in 2018
- 🏆 Typical Cost - \$1,300

# Baseball Programs – American Legion

## Fall

- 🕒 Designed for High School Players
  - 🕒 Advanced 8<sup>th</sup> graders may play
- 🕒 Two Levels
  - 🕒 16U (Freshman / Sophomore)
  - 🕒 18U (Sophomore / Juniors / Seniors)
- 🕒 8 Weeks, Less Intense, No Playoffs
  - 🕒 High Instructional Level
- 🕒 **May** Play 2018 Outside of Legion Schedule
- 🕒 **New** 14U Team offering (7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade) Fall 2018
- 🕒 Typical Cost ~ \$950 - \$1,100



# Baseball Programs – Winter Workouts

- 🏆 The WBSA offers winter workouts led by Legion Coaches and assistants
- 🏆 12 Sessions at Wilton Field House from January – March
  - 🏆 Grades 7- 9 Saturday Nights
  - 🏆 Grades 10 - 12 Sunday Nights
- 🏆 Typical Cost ~ \$300
- 🏆 Xtreme / Travel 14U May Choose Separate or Additional Team Based Workouts

# Little League Age Change

## The Gap Year Challenge

- ⓪ Not All New 12 Year Olds are Ready for “Big Field”
- ⓪ Desire for WBSA and WLL to Partner a Transitional Program on 50/70 Dimensions
  - ⓪ Could be Fall only or Fall and Spring
  - ⓪ Administered by WBSA
  - ⓪ Played on WLL Fields with WLL League Connections
  - ⓪ Paid Coaches
- ⓪ Time of the Essence to Form Program and Announce
- ⓪ Cost TBD

# The WBSA – High School Booster Club

- ① The WBSA serves as the Booster Club to Wilton High School Baseball and Softball
- ① The Booster Club supports both program needs and enhances the player experience to help achieve success on and off the field
- ① Program needs are addressed in funding operating costs associated such as:
  - ① Coaching Stipends, Practice Equipment, Uniforms
- ① Player needs are addressed in running events such as:
  - ① Pre-Season Batter's Up Meeting, Team Photos, Senior Night, Year End Banquet
- ① These needs are met through Parent Volunteers and annual Player Booster Fees
- ① Capital Needs are also addressed through Public and Private Fundraising to meet Long Range Program Needs
  - ① Field Enhancements, Scoreboards, Wind Screens, Spectator Seating, Master Stadium Planning

# WBSA Calendar

Month	Babe Ruth	Legion	Other
August	Register Fall Ball	Fall Ball Tryouts	
September	Fall Ball Season	Fall Ball Season	
October	Fall Ball Season	Fall Ball Season	
November			
December	Xtreme Tryouts	Summer Tryouts	
January	Winter Workouts	Winter Workouts	
February	Winter Workouts House Registration	Winter Workouts	
March	Winter Workouts	Winter Workouts	High School Tryouts Batter's Up
April	House Season Xtreme Season		High School Season Grand Slam Fundraiser
May	House Season Xtreme Season Summer Registration	15U / 17U Practices	High School Season Senior Night FCIAC & State Tournament
June	Xtreme Season Summer Season	Legion Season	HS State Tournament HS Banquet
July	Xtreme Season Summer Season	Legion Season	

# WBSA Board of Directors (August 2018)

## Executive Board

President - Dom Rauccio	VP Baseball – Chris Eidt	VP Softball – <Open>
Treasurer – Kory Schestag	Secretary – Pam Nessel	

## Baseball

Legion Dir. – Vin Forgione	Babe Ruth Dir. – <Open>	Scheduling - <Open>
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## Softball

Dir. 10U – Beth Anne McMahon	Dir. 12U – Rommie Samai	Dir 14U - Rommie Samai
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## General Board

Fundraising – Mary Jones	Policy Dir. – Michele Gabriele	LL Liaison – Vin Forgione
Boosters – <Open>	Capital/Equipment – Claudia Avallone	Uniforms – <Open>

**Volunteers are Needed!**

# Wilton Baseball & Softball Association, Inc.



## Life After Little League – A Parent’s Guide

- 🕒 A frequently asked question of parents with boys completing their last year of Little League is “What’s next for youth baseball?”
- 🕒 Little League is followed by Babe Ruth baseball, which is sponsored by the WBSA.
- 🕒 Babe Ruth is played on the “big field” with the dimensions of a major league diamond and full baseball rules.
- 🕒 The WBSA will email families in June of their final year of Little League to introduce future baseball opportunities to each graduating Little League player.

## What does the WBSA do?

- 🕒 The WBSA supports organized baseball for boys ages 12 through High School with year round baseball programs including winter conditioning programs and playing opportunities in the Spring, Summer and Fall
- 🕒 The WBSA places teams in Babe Ruth baseball for 12-15 year olds and American Legion baseball for 14-19 year olds.
- 🕒 The WBSA also runs organized youth softball for female athletes and serves as the booster organization for the Wilton High School baseball and softball programs.

## What is Babe Ruth baseball?

- 🕒 The player’s “league” age is your child’s age as of April 30<sup>th</sup> of the Spring you are playing.
- 🕒 Players must be 13 to play except for Fall Prep League where 12 year olds turning 13 the next year are eligible.
- 🕒 Players can play Babe Ruth up to age 16 (age as of April 30<sup>th</sup>) in the Fall Season.
- 🕒 High School plyers that play on the Freshman, JV or Varsity teams remain Babe Ruth eligible but cannot participate during the high school session in accordance with high school regulations.



# Wilton Baseball & Softball Association, Inc.

## What teams are available and what level of commitment?

- 🕒 The WBSA hires professional coaches to provide the highest level of instruction possible and to take the important skills learned in Little League and bring them to a higher level.
- 🕒 WBSA fields multiple teams based on the number of registered players in 13U and 15U categories.
- 🕒 The WBSA offer both regular Babe Ruth programs and a Select Travel team.
- 🕒 Fall teams for both age groups run from the start of school through October.
- 🕒 Spring and Fall teams have 1 practice and 2-3 games per week.
- 🕒 Summer schedules may consist of 1 or 2 practices and 3-4 games per week with weekend double headers and regional tournaments.

## How competitive is Babe Ruth baseball?

- 🕒 Any player can play and new players are always encouraged to try the game.
- 🕒 Games are competitive in the sense that players have been playing for a number of years and players who continue with baseball beyond Little League are usually those with an interest in continuing the sport.

## Where can I find more information about the WBSA?

- 🕒 Please visit the WBSA website at [thewbsa.com](http://thewbsa.com) for a list of Board Contacts, current Programs, online registration and an array of other helpful information.
- 🕒 For general inquiries, contact us directly as [thewbsa@gmail.com](mailto:thewbsa@gmail.com).