

## ***BBSC SELECT TRAVEL & TOURNAMENT TEAMS PROGRAM***

### ***Names and Identification***

**“BBSC Select”** is the full-time travel program of the Broadneck Baseball and Softball Club (“BBSC”). There shall be one, and only one, full-time BBSC Select travel team at all age groups beginning at U 9, unless permission is given to create a second full-time Select travel team by the BBSC Travel Committee and the BBSC Board. Select travel team players shall not play in the BBSC recreation league.

**“BBSC Tournament”** is the BBSC tournament team program. There shall be one or more tournament teams beginning at U 8, whose players shall also play in the BBSC recreation league.

**BBSC High School Eligible (HSE):** There shall also be HSE summer travel teams at the **JV and Varsity-levels**.

- All BBSC Select, Tournament and JV and Varsity-level HSE summer travel teams shall use the name Bruins. Uniforms are purchased by the team and are at the discretion of the team, utilizing in some variation the official BBSC Bruins colors and logo.

### ***Travel Committee***

There shall be an ad hoc Travel Committee whose responsibilities are set forth below. The Travel Committee will make recommendations on policies for BBSC Select and tournament teams to the BBSC Board. The Travel Committee will consist of five members, including: 1) The BBSC President; 2) The BBSC Vice President for Baseball; 3) A representative of the managers and coaches from the BBSC Select or tournament teams; 4) A representative of parents of BBSC Select or tournament team players; 5) An independent member to be selected from the BBSC membership. All members of the committee shall be appointed by the BBSC President and Vice President, in consultation with the existing Travel Committee, and approved by the BBSC Board.

### ***Costs, Budgets, Registration and Financial Oversight***

- Each team shall develop a budget for its team’s season and establish an estimated cost per player for participation.
- BBSC Select players will register through the BBSC player registration system, with the fee representing an “Administration Fee” per player to cover costs such as insurance, field supplies, league operations costs, etc. This fee will be determined each year in conjunction with the BBSC league budget as approved each December.

- Notice of the estimated cost of playing on a BBSC Select travel team, as well as the final cost per player for the previous season, shall be communicated by BBSC Select managers to parents of potential team members at team tryouts prior to the season. A deposit of at least \$200 for the cost of the season shall be required once a player is chosen and agrees to join a BBSC Select travel team.
- Each team shall submit its budget to the Travel Committee and the Travel Committee may request the opportunity to review a team's financials throughout the season.
- Each team shall maintain an accounting of the proceeds of any fundraising and make clear to parents the purpose and plan for using such funds. Each team shall make clear to the parents of its players whether fundraising is being conducted for the team as a whole or for application to the account of individual players. In the case of fundraising on behalf of the team, coaches should inform parents that such funds are for use by the entire team, and that players should not expect reimbursement of such funds if for some reason they are in future years no longer with the team. Any excess of funds raised on behalf of the team and unspent shall be distributed upon conclusion of the team's U-14 season among former and current players as equitably as possible.
- BBSC Select travel teams shall open a team checking account with a bank selected by BBSC.
- The BBSC tournament teams may utilize BBSC funds via check/payment request or reimbursement of documented expenditures. Each tournament team's finances (income and expenses) will be tracked through the BBSC accounting system with individual/unique general ledger accounts.

### ***Players and Rosters***

- Each BBSC Select travel team and each tournament team shall have a minimum of 11 players and a maximum of 14 players on its roster. Coaches may request exceptions to the maximum number of players rule. Each roster, prior to finalization, shall be presented to the Travel Committee with associated tryout/evaluations results for age verification and approval. Coaches at the completion of this process are required to have written or oral communication to all players trying out.
- Tournament team players must be registered and participate in the BBSC recreation program in accordance with the Babe Ruth, Inc. /Cal Ripken rules. Tournament Team players must take part in at least 75 percent of recreation league games, unless the reason for missing games is due to injury or illness.
- BBSC Select travel team players may not participate in the BBSC recreation or tournament programs.
- A BBSC Select travel team may have a maximum of two (2) "non-Broadneck" players on its roster. It is highly encouraged that BBSC/Broadneck area players fill all roster spots, as a goal of BBSC travel baseball is to serve Broadneck area youth. The Travel Committee may approve by majority vote the selection of more than 2 non-Broadneck area players in the rare case in which there are no qualified Broadneck area candidates available.
- Try out announcement/notifications: An announcement of all tryouts for Select travel teams or tournament teams will be posted on the BBSC web site at least two weeks prior to the event, and the BBSC President or Baseball Vice President will also send a mass email to all age-eligible BBSC players. In

addition, individual coaches or the league may post announcements in area newspapers or on baseball web sites, when appropriate. Select travel and tournament team managers are responsible for getting approval from the BBSC President or Vice President for Baseball before announcing tryouts.

- Evaluation process/Scoring: Because it is important to ensure impartiality, scoring should be done only by non-interested observers from the pool of the BBSC Board or coaches who do not have children trying out for that team and are coaching an age group that is at least two years removed from the age group being evaluated. In addition, at least one non-BBSC baseball expert such as a high school coach or professional instructor should take part when practicable. BBSC Select travel coaches must get approval from the BBSC President or Vice President for any proposed group of evaluators, and the President or Vice President will, when practicable, arrange for a non-BBSC expert to take part. Tryouts should be structured to fit the team's age group and should consist, at least, of an evaluation of batting skills, infielding skills, outfielding skills, running skills and throwing skills. At ages above Rookies level, tryouts should also consist of an evaluation of skills for catchers and pitching skills. To the extent practicable, managers and coaches should try to work a scrimmage situation into any tryouts above Rookies level, with an analysis of all pitching and catching candidates in a live scrimmage situation. Evaluations at the Rookies level may include a scrimmage if the manager chooses to include it. Scores should be weighted so that all of the areas of evaluation above are given weight, with emphasis on fielding, throwing and batting skills. Evaluators may factor in sportsmanship. There should be at least one make up evaluation for all Select travel and tournament team tryouts. Select coaches may replace injured players or add to the number of players on their roster either from the original list of those trying out or after an additional evaluation open to all, including those from the original list of players trying out.
  
- All BBSC Select and tournament team players must play at league age, which is determined as of April 30 of each calendar year, except for special rules for the U8 team as described below.
  - Six year olds playing in Rookies are not eligible for tournament team participation.
  - Unless there is not enough interest or participation at the U8 level, two U8 tournament teams will be formed as U8A and U8B teams. A single evaluation will be held for formation of both teams. The U8A team will consist only of players who are league age 8, based on the highest scores in the tryout by 8 year olds. The U8B team may include 7 year olds, and will consist of those scoring highest in the evaluation who were not selected for the U8A team, consistent with the age limit for the U8A team.

### ***Best Practices and Joint Training Clinics***

- The Travel Committee and the coaches of each Select travel team will work together to develop best practices for various age groups and joint training clinics to leverage resources, where practicable.

### ***Seasons, Schedules, Leagues and Tournaments***

- Each team shall determine its schedule, length of season, number of games, etc. after presenting and discussing such proposals with all of the parents of players on that team. This should be done by the end of the calendar year. Team managers should inform the Travel Committee of their schedules.
- In general, BBSC Select travel teams will be formed in late summer. It is recommended that this take place in August, but should not be later than the weekend following Labor Day of each year. Teams will participate in some type of winter conditioning/workout program at the determination of each team, with seasons beginning in early March and continuing to June/early July. Coaches should consider the impact of the timing of tryouts and off-season practices on the availability of all players, as well as the impact of the timing of such tryouts on the availability of other travel ball options for those players who are not selected. Coaches should consider it their responsibility to advise Broadneck candidates on all available options.
- HSE teams will play in a summer league that is approved by the Travel Committee.
- Tournament Teams will typically be formed in the spring of each year, following the recreation league draft and first practices of the recreation teams. Tournament team seasons will continue through June/July (in conjunction with Recreation League schedule through early June.) Tournament teams may be formed in the fall if it is possible to give proper notice and a chance to try out to all potential candidates.
- BBSC Select teams may choose to participate in the league of their choice. Area leagues include, but are not necessarily limited to, Metro, MABA (Division I and Division II options at some age groups), CBA, and AA County Rec and Parks.
- Tournament Teams, should they desire, may participate in another league in addition to BBSC if it does not conflict or interfere with the recreation schedule, such as a Sunday only league or a Flex/Limited schedule in league.
- Tournaments: The number and selection of tournaments played by BBSC Select teams or tournament teams shall be at the discretion of the team manager, after presentation to parents in a team meeting.
- Winter Workouts: It is recommended that BBSC Select travel teams engage in some kind of pre-season winter workouts, to be determined by the coaches of each team in consultation with the parents.
- Fall Ball: BBSC Select teams are encouraged to take part in either a fall league, in the fall BBSC recreation program or fall workouts.

- All teams should submit their league choice and/or proposed schedule with tournaments to the Travel Committee.
- Note – Information on leagues and tournaments is available on the BBSC website.

### ***Managers and Coaches***

- Coach Selection: Select travel team managers shall be chosen by majority vote of the Travel Committee by July 15. Assistant coaches will be chosen by the managers and subject to approval by the Travel Committee.
- There shall be a limit of two official assistant coaches per team, but parents who have undergone an Anne Arundel County background check may help with practices and when necessary at games.
- Conduct: Travel and tournament team coaches are subject to the same code of conduct as that applying to all BBSC coaches.
- End of season evaluations: The Travel Committee shall send end-of-spring season evaluation forms to the parents of all team members by June 15.
- Discipline: Coaches violating travel and tournament team rules or BBSC rules of conduct are subject to discipline by the BBSC Board on recommendation of the Travel Committee.

### ***Playing Time and Pitching***

- All teams shall bear in mind that the objective of the tournament and BBSC Select travel Programs is to provide their players with an opportunity to play at a level of competition higher than the recreation program, and that all of the players/families are paying to participate. As such, providing fair and equal playing time at multiple positions for ALL players should, to the extent possible, be the goal.
- For a scheduled 6- or 7-inning game, **EACH** player **MUST** play in a minimum of three (3) innings. For games that end in the fourth or fifth innings, it is expected that coaches will follow the spirit of this rule and the ratio of innings played to total innings to the extent practicable. Coaches are not bound by minimum playing time rules in cases in which players are being disciplined for behavioral issues or have had significant unexcused absences from practice.
- Pitching guidelines can be found on the BBSC website/Coaches Corner.

### ***Field Use Schedules, Facilities and Equipment***

The BBSC scheduler shall be responsible for scheduling fields for practices and games for the BBSC Select travel and tournament teams, in cooperation with the coaches, with the understanding that preparation for Select travel teams may require more field time than that required for recreation-level teams.

### ***Participation in BBSC Events and Activities:***

BBSC Select travel teams shall, to the extent practicable and allowed by their schedules, take part in BBSC events such as Opening Day, and BBSC Select coaches should encourage participation in BBSC events such as Home Run Derby or Pitch, Hit and Run Competition. BBSC Select coaches are encouraged to run clinics for recreation-level players and coaches, when practicable.

### ***Insurance***

BBSC carries general liability and medical insurance for all of its players and teams. Certificates of insurance (COI) can be obtained from the Vice President of Baseball. Requests for COI's with named additional insured for leagues, tournaments, etc. shall be requested through the Vice President of Baseball.

### ***Manager Selection and Commitment***

- BBSC will solicit interest from potential BBSC Select Managers for newly opened positions on or about June 1 of each calendar year. Any interested candidate will be interviewed by the Travel Committee, which will make a recommendation to the BBSC Board for final approval. The intention is that the Select travel manager(s) will be selected and confirmed in mid to late June.
- Returning managers are to confirm their intention to continue as manager on or about June 1, but no later than June 15.
- Manager candidates for the 10U BBSC Select travel team are expected to be committed to managing the team up through and including 14U. While it is acknowledged that circumstances can occur that require changes to the commitments of individual coaches, BBSC Select managers at any age level are discouraged from applying for the position if they know they will not be able to commit to the team up through and including 14U.
- Tournament team managers will be identified and confirmed no later than March each year. Returning tournament team managers should express their interest in managing to the Travel Committee prior to January 1 of each year. The manager of the 8U Tournament Team, which is the first level of tournament team play, must be confirmed no later than May 1. Tournament team managers will be selected by the BBSC Travel Committee.

### ***Parental Input and Feedback***

- Communication with, and involvement by, the players' parents is a key component for the BBSC Select and tournament teams. Managers are highly encouraged to keep an open line of communication with parents on all aspects and facets of the team operations, and managers are encouraged to have a team meeting on selection of players and formation of the team each year.

- All parents should be encouraged to provide feedback to the manager and coaches, and parental input, feedback or concerns may not be used against the player in any way. The parents will also be encouraged to give feedback or express concerns to the league through the Travel Committee and the BBSC Board, and the BBSC Board will communicate both the option for providing feedback to the Board and the manner in which to do so to all parents.