

BAC Girls Slowpitch Softball Travel Tournament Team Policies

Tournament Team Age Breakout

10U – January 1st of the Current Year. Optimum Roster size = 12

- 10U – consists of players aged 10 or younger as of 12/31 that do not make the 12U team or players that qualify for this age level that do not wish to compete at the 12U level

12U – January 1st of the Current Year. Optimum Roster size = 12.

- 12U – consists of any player aged 12 years old or younger as of 12/31 who demonstrates the ability to compete at this level based on the tryout evaluation. If a player is cut at the 12U level and they are older than 10 years old (as of 12/31) they will be placed on a sub list for the 12U team. If a player is cut at the 12U level and is 10 years old or younger (as of 12/31) the player will be invited to play on the 10U tournament team

14U – January 1st of the Current Year. Optimum Roster size = 13.

- 14U – consists of any player aged 13 or 14 (as of 12/31).

16U – January 1st of the Current Year. Optimum Roster size = 13.

- 16U – consists of any player aged 15 or 16 (as of 12/31)

19U – January 1st of the Current Year. Optimum Roster size = 14.

- 19U – consists of players aged 19 or younger as of 12/31 that have either aged out of 16U or players that could play 16U but wish to play up – since there a few 19U tournaments this age level may not need to tryout

Travel Tournament Team Eligibility

Eligibility for BAC Girls Slowpitch Softball Travel Tournament Teams are open to all players registered in current season BAC Girls Slowpitch Softball. Players must currently live in/home residence in isd191 school district boundaries to be roster eligible. (isd191 boundary map: www.isd191.org/schoolfinder).

Non isd 191 boundary home resident players are roster eligible once criteria of roster placement of isd191 school district boundary players have been met and a open roster spot is available (see section 11).

Tournament Teams:

Players will continue to refine their skills and concentrate on 1 or 2 positions. Umpires are used to call all games. Tournament Teams will have minimum one regular weekly scheduled practice (outside of their recreational team practice) Tournament Teams will participate in scheduled weekend competitive traveling tournaments from May through July, yearly schedule to be announced by March 1st. each calendar year.

Tournament Team Try Outs

Player Participation

The tryout process for BAC Girls Slowpitch Softball Tournament Teams requires a substantial time commitment from coaches, evaluators and players. It attempts to objectively, as is possible, measure the skills of players and place them where they will be able to most successfully compete. There is no guarantee of team placement; it is based on how many participants sign up for the each tournament team.

During official Travel Tournament Team tryouts, all players aged 12 years and younger (age determined as of 12/31) will all tryout together for the 12U team (see notes above for 10U selection). All players 13 and 14 years old (age as of 12/31) will tryout together for the 14U team. All players 15 and 16 years old (age as of 12/31) will tryout together for the 16U.

Once tryouts and team selections are completed, it is expected that players will participate on the Tournament Team and Recreational Team to which they are assigned. It is important that each player/parent fulfill their commitment to their assigned team (Recreational and Tournament Teams).

Teams that are forced to compete with less than a full roster, are at a disadvantage.

In order to be eligible to try out for the BAC Girls Slowpitch Softball program, a player must be registered and participate in the BAC Girls Slowpitch Softball program during the Tournament Team season.

It is our intent to make every effort to place a player on an available BAC Girls Slowpitch Softball Tournament Team. Registrants who do not get placed on a Tournament Team due to a lack of numbers for a complete team, and efforts to fill the team aren't successful will be refunded the Tournament Team try-out registration fee.

Tournament Team Rosters/Tryouts

Independent evaluators or a volunteer assigned by the Tournament Team Director will check in your child and assign her a number before the tryout process. Coaches will not be involved in this process so as to keep the number and your child's name and number confidential as possible. The participants must not wear any clothing with her name on it. We will pin numbers on her shirt for the process.

Playing up to a higher age

It is not the organizations intent to allow players to play up to an older grade/age bracket. We feel it is to the best interest of the players to play at their own grade/age. This allows for a better level of competition for all the teams as a whole, and allows more time for growth and maturity to the player that will bring more value to the sport in the long run.

There are some exceptions to this for Tournament Teams:

- 1) We would allow a coach's daughter/player to play up if the coach is coaching the older age bracket.
- 2) We would allow a player to play up if there are no cuts on an older team. For example, if a player is 14 and wants to play 16U and there are 13 players on the 14U team and 12 players on the 16U team this would be a reasonable request as long as no players were cut on the 16U team to arrive at 12 players. The Commissioner shall have the final decision to this reassignment as it is not our intent to remove one or more higher-level players from the younger teams to make a more skilled older team.
- 3) Depending on number of players available at either 14U or 16U level it may be necessary to fill out a team roster with a player(s) from the next age level below. This would only occur after consultation with the player, parents and Travel Tournament Team Director.

Tryout Grading Process

Tournament Teams are formed by a selection of participants wishing to compete in weekend tournaments on a try-out basis. Try-outs are to be organized by the Commissioner and Tournament Team Director under the following guidelines:

- 1) There shall be multiple evaluators at each try-out.
- 2) Participation in try-outs is mandatory for consideration with the following exceptions: injury, illness or death of an immediate family member. Medical excuse for injury or illness must be provided.
- 3) Evaluation form is available at the discretion of the Commissioner and Tournament Team Director.
- 4) Try-outs may or may not be open to the public at the discretion of the Commissioner. This rule must be applied consistently to all members of the public.
- 5) An indoor tryout will be conducted viewing players skills on the following areas:
 - a. Batting off a machine and/or pitcher: Viewing form and results for contact swing mechanics and strength.
 - b. Infield: How your daughter handles grounders, which will include the fundamentals and throwing accuracy as well as arm strength (not waiting for the ball to come to them is important).
 - c. Outfield: How well they catch the fly ball with soft hands absorbing the impact, their reaction to the ball off the bat, and their arm strength throwing it back accurately.
 - d. Pitching: Players interested should contact the evaluator for a fundamental test. Coaches will evaluate them on their mechanics and accuracy.
- 6) After tryouts the Board will add up the total scores of each participant ranking the highest to lowest.
- 7) If your daughter has signed up for pitching, the number one pitcher with the highest all around score automatically makes the team.
- 8) The next seven highest scored girls will make the team. These scores will only be known by the Board.
- 9) The next five girls will be picked based on the coach's discretion on how well the player will fit in with the team. The coaches will see all the scores and evaluator comments for the remainder of the players to utilize the remainder of their picks. They will, if at all possible, go by the numbers. However, the Board will allow some flexibility for the coaches to use some discretion, and put together a team with the best chemistry.
- 10) Cuts will be made depending on the availability of players to form complete teams, the availability of facilities, optimum roster size and/or the level of competition available within the league. Optimum size for 12U and 14U would be 12 players. Optimum size for 16U and 19U would be 13 players. In the event there are enough players for two teams at the same age level, the roster size would be able to be adjusted anywhere from 11 to 13 players. When playing tournaments, it is not recommended to carry over 13 players on any of the teams as this restricts playing time and does not help team chemistry. The intent for two teams would be to not have to cut any player(s). If in the event there are enough for two teams at the same age level, the coaches, Commissioner and Tournament Team Director will decide the best way to pick the teams with consideration given to tryout scores, friendships and chemistry. *The picking process would of course be exclusive of the coaches' own daughters if on their teams.* Each team must have at least one qualified pitcher. This will be part of the tryout evaluation process. The coaches must keep in mind the friendships and chemistry of the players and use discretion such as if a group of girls were playing with a certain coach for a number of years the other coach should, if at all possible, give credence to the other coach when picking highest to lowest scores, as we feel that the friendships, to some extent, build good chemistry on the teams over the years. If there is a conflict for selecting players for teams then the Commissioner's decision on the team selection will be final.

- 11) Special consideration will be given to Tournament Teams that do not have enough players to fill a roster. In these instances, the Commissioner and Tournament Team Director may petition the B.A.C. Board of Directors to recruit players from outside the stated eligibility boundaries, as long as such petition is done prior to any recruiting taking place.

Medical and Family Emergency Tryout Policy

In the event that a player is unable to attend one or more day(s) of Tournament Team tryouts, the following provisions shall apply:

- 1) Long-Term Medical Absence: Defined as when the player is injured and cannot return to active competition prior to the first tournament for that specific age level (per doctor estimate). The player will not qualify for a team.
- 2) Short-Term Medical Absence: Defined as when the player is unable to participate in tryouts due to an injury or surgery; is unable to participate in a make-up tryout, but is able to return to active competition prior to the first tournament for that specific age level (per doctor's estimate and recommendation). The player will qualify for a team if:
 - a. Prior to tryouts, applicable paperwork is completed.
 - b. Player has submitted a letter from doctor for illness or injury verification to the Board.
 - c. Player has participated at the requested level, and/or one level above the requested level, the previous two consecutive seasons, or previous season if 12U.
 - d. Last year's head coach and current year's head coach must both recommend the player to be selected to a team based on prior year performance.
 - e. Board reviews and approves documentation.
- 3) Short –Term Absence: Defined as when the player is unable to participate in tryouts due to a short-term illness flu/nausea, injury sprained ankle etc., or a death in the family, but is able to participate in make-up tryouts.
- 4) The player will be eligible for a makeup tryout if:
 - a. Permission is granted by the Commissioner and Tournament Team Director after notification to the Board for comment.
 - b. The Commissioner, or Tournament Team Director, or member of the Board may request a letter from doctor for illness or injury verification.
 - c. A player whom has substantially completed the try-out process and falls ill or is injured and cannot complete the tryouts, will be given an opportunity to complete those skills that have yet to be evaluated. Previous scores marked will be carried through and included in the final evaluation.
- 5) Personal Absence: Defined as when the player is unable to participate in tryouts due to a previously scheduled family obligation or vacation, but is able to participate in makeup tryouts.
- 6) The Player will be eligible for makeup tryouts if:
 - a. The parent or guardian notifies a board member in writing or e-mail within two weeks of age level tryout requesting permission.
 - b. Parent or guardian receives written or email acknowledgement from the Commissioner or Tournament Team Director with approval of request prior to a scheduled make up tryout.
- 7) Make up tryouts are defined as additional try out date(s), for players whom have been approved absent from previous scheduled tryouts.
- 8) Every attempt should be made to use the same evaluators, but alternatively designated evaluators without any interest of daughter playing in the corresponding age level of the player seeking evaluation, shall be used.

Consequences for Non-Participation

There will be no refund of the Tournament Team registration fees made after the tryouts are completed. Consistent with the B.A.C. handbook regarding players who make themselves unavailable for part of, or all of the season, the player will not be allowed to register for BAC Girls Slowpitch Softball for the following calendar year. If a player is unable to compete on the assigned team because of medical or family emergency, the BAC Girls Slowpitch Softball Board shall have the authority to modify or rescind these penalties by a majority vote.

2019 Travel Tournament Schedule

- June 8-9 Richfield Invitational, Richfield, MN
- June 29-30 Golden Valley Invitational, Golden Valley, MN
- June Watertown JO Classic Invitational, Watertown SD (optional per team)
- July 13-14 Midwest Invitational, Burnsville, MN
- July 27-28 USSA State Tournament, Burnsville, MN

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Player Signature _____ Date _____