



Westfield Baseball



2015 Travel 9U Baseball Tryouts

Where: Inman Sports Club—Edison, NJ

When: Saturday, March 21, 2015 (see times below)

Time: 2:00-6:30PM (*players will be notified of their exact time slot during the week before tryouts*)

**** Please be ready to take the field at least 15 minutes prior to your group's scheduled start time.***

What to Bring:

- Bat
- Glove
- Batting Helmet
- Sneakers (not cleats)
- Water or Sports Drink

**** Do not wear any clothing (jerseys, hats) from prior Westfield Baseball Travel teams from any season***

Eligibility:

In order to tryout, all players MUST be registered for the 2015 In-Town Baseball program prior to the tryouts. Click here or visit our website (www.westfieldbaseball.com) to register. Participation in the Travel Tryouts is mandatory for all players who wish to be placed on a 2015 Westfield Baseball Travel team. No player will be placed on a Westfield **BLUE** team without attending the tryouts unless the Board of Directors is advised in advance of the tryouts and grants permission (injury, etc.). Permission will come from the Westfield Baseball League (WBL) President. Players must register and actively participate in at least 75% of the WBL 2015 In-Town season to be eligible to play Westfield Travel Baseball in 2015. Previous participation in the WBL Travel Program is not a pre-requisite for participation in the 2015 Travel program. Having played on a 2014 WBL Travel team does not entitle a player to be on the same 2015 WBL Travel team.



Westfield Baseball



Travel Tryout Cost:

WBL is covering the cost of the tryouts at Inman Sports Club. Families will not be charged for the tryout.

All scores will be kept by the Board in strict confidence and not distributed to anybody.

Team Formation:

2015 WBL Travel teams will be formed depending on the number of players, the skill level of the players, and availability of managers and coaches.

Not all players may make a travel team, though every effort will be made to accommodate the most players. There will be at least 11 players on each team.

A committee appointed by the WBL will evaluate each player that attends the tryout. The committee will be comprised of 4 evaluators (one coach from the 2014 **BLUE** and **WHITE** teams, and two independent evaluators-who do not have a child in the grade that they are judging). Their ratings are final and there is no appealing the ratings. The committee will submit the ratings to the head of the Summer Travel Program and the WBL President. Ratings will not be released by the Board to anybody for any reason.

Each player rated in the top 8 within his/her age group will automatically be placed on the **BLUE** team. The Board of Directors, in consultation with the team's manager, will determine the next 4 players on the **BLUE** team. The remaining 4 players must have been ranked in the top 17.

The top 12 remaining players will be placed on the **WHITE** team. If the situation arises for which there are enough players to form a second **WHITE** team, the teams will be divided evenly to split the talent and ensure the teams have adequate pitching/catching/etc.

In the rare event of an injury, keeping a player from attending the tryout, the Board of Directors will evaluate whether the injured player should be placed on a **BLUE** or **WHITE** team. To be specific, the Board of Directors will evaluate the candidacy of an injured player when said player is clearly a top player from a 2014 **BLUE** team. In such a situation the Board will likely make the adjustment and add that player to the 2015 **BLUE** team. If said player is not one of the top **BLUE** players from 2014, it is unlikely that player will be added to the 2015 **BLUE** team (possible, but unlikely). The tryouts are extremely important and not attending will seriously jeopardize the opportunity to play on a 2015 **BLUE** team.



Westfield Baseball



Player/Family Commitment:

The 2015 WBL Travel season will run about June 10 – July 31. Some teams elect to play in a Spring league and/or in a Memorial Day Tournament. Most teams can expect to play approximately 25 games between June 10 – July 31. Some teams will play more and others a few less. The **BLUE** team will participate in a league, District 12 Tournament, and possibly a few outside tournaments (up to the Manager). The **WHITE** team(s) will participate in the New Providence Green League, and possibly an outside tournament or two (up to the Manager). Travel fees will be dictated by each team's schedule.

The Travel season is a competitive baseball experience and each team relies upon all of its players to attend all games. This is a requirement of each player and family. There are frequent schedule changes due to weather and league/tournament date changes. Parents and players need to be able to adapt to frequent changes (dates/times/locations/etc.).

Travel Team Manager Selection:

Anyone can apply to become a Westfield Travel Manager. The application will be on the website and must be submitted to the WBL President by February 14th. The Board of Directors will review all applications and select the best candidate for each team. Outside candidates are welcome to apply to manage. All applicants will be given an opportunity to meet with the Board to discuss his/her qualifications and vision.

All WBL Travel Managers and Assistant Coaches must be Rutgers Safety certified, must submit and clear a background verification, and must be approved by the WBL Board of Directors.