



### **Appleton North Youth Baseball Club (ANYBC) FAQs**

ANYBC is a youth baseball club that serves boys in the 12-17 year old age range who have the intention to attend Appleton North High School. Below are some frequently asked questions with answers that address key topics. Further questions can be sent to the ANYBC Board via email ([anybc@yahoo.com](mailto:anybc@yahoo.com)) or at the ANYBC website ([www.leaguelineup.com/anybc](http://www.leaguelineup.com/anybc)).

1. What age groups/levels of play are included in ANYBC?
  - a. Players with a Baseball Age of 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17 year olds are eligible to participate. Baseball Age will be the "as of April 30 of the year of play," or 4-30-2016 for the 2016 season. 16 and 17 year olds cannot be affiliated with a Legion team.
  - b. The Club participates in the Fox Valley Youth Baseball League (FVBYL) and sponsors teams that adhere to the age and level of competition defined by the FVBYL provided there are enough players to form teams. Advanced competition level (AA) teams may be formed at the age groups of 13U, 14U, 16U (15 and 16yr olds or mainly freshman) and 17U (16 and 17yr old junior varsity players). There is also a less advanced competition level at the 14U age group that includes both 13 and 14 yr olds. See below for more details on the FVBYL, and view their website at [www.fvybl.com/index.htm](http://www.fvybl.com/index.htm).
  - c. In 2015, the Club sponsored teams in the age groups and competition levels of 13U AA, 14U AA, 16U AA and 14U A. In 2016, we hope to add a 17U AA for junior varsity players.
2. Do you play in a league or tournaments?
  - a. Ideally, the teams formed will play in both league play as part of the FVBYL and in several tournaments throughout the summer.
  - b. It is anticipated that each age group will have one tournament team.
3. Who is eligible to tryout and play in the Club?
  - a. This Club is formed to serve all boys that attend or will likely attend Appleton North High School. Boys are eligible based on age and evidence of likely future attendance to Appleton North High School.
4. How are teams selected and how many boys per team do you expect?
  - a. League:
    - i. Ideal league team size is 11-13 players. How many will actually be on each league team will depend on the total number of boys signed up by age group and other factors.
    - ii. A draft process will be used if there are enough players to form two or more League teams at a given age group following potential tryouts in the January time frame. The draft process will be fashioned to assure parity. (See more below on Draft procedures).
    - iii. Tryouts may be held for all age groups, and Coaches/Board members will assess the number and ability of the player pool to determine how many league teams can be formed at the various age levels.
  - b. Tournament:
    - i. Tournament teams may also include tryouts at a later date if more than one team is sponsored at a given age group. It is unlikely that the Club would endorse two equally split tournament teams. The Board and age group coaches will determine the formation of tournament teams which may include tryouts or a rotation of players.
    - ii. Ideal tournament teams would have 11-12 players on roster.
5. Do all kids who try out make a team?

- a. Not necessarily. While it is a goal of the program to accommodate all eligible players, the Club will seek to keep team sizes manageable in the 11-13 range. If there are enough qualified boys registered, the Club will sponsor two or more league teams. If the number of registered players is such that a reasonable team size cannot be reached, there is the potential for some kids to not make a team. For example, a situation could occur where 17 boys are registered at a certain age group, then the Manager/Board may determine through the tryouts which 12-13 players make the team and which 4-5 players do not. If the Manager/Board determines there is little difference between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> player, 13 players may be kept. The Club reserves the right to remain flexible for the benefit of the teams and the program while trying to accommodate as many players as possible.
  - b. For Tournament Teams, the same philosophy will apply and the Manager will likely be the person who decides the final team roster size.
6. Can kids play up?

The Club is recommending that boys tryout based on their grade. The final word on playing level will depend on several factors, and ultimately will reside with the Board.
7. How are Managers and Coaches selected?
  - a. A Coaching committee within the Club will evaluate those who have an interest in coaching, and ultimately make a recommendation to the Board for approval. Typically, a Manager would be selected for an age group (two or more if it appears there are enough boys to field more than one team) and then that person would seek assistants from the pool of their players' parents.
  - b. The coaching committee or board will set objectives, characteristics, and qualifications so that the boys receive the best possible instruction and development possible while at the same time the program is represented in a positive way by the coaches. It won't be a first-come first-serve mentality, and entitlement is not part of the program, nor is the job committed to for more than the current season.
8. How will drafting League teams be done when more than one team can be formed
  - a. Once the Managers are selected – and other evaluators are assigned – the tryouts will occur. It is our intention to offer at least 2 sessions, allowing ample time for all kids to get a decent look in key areas of play. Tryouts won't be rushed.
  - b. First pick will be determined by a coin toss and then pick a team in a normal draft process. A parent-manager will keep their son. After the drafting of players and formation of the teams, another coin toss will determine which team is assigned to each Manager enforcing objectivity and parity during the drafting process.
  - c. From that point, the Manager will choose assistants from their pool of player families, and request approval of their coaching staff from the coaching committee.
  - d. All Managers and Coaches will fill out an ANYBC Volunteer Application.
  - e. If there are three or more teams, the same process will occur by draw instead of coin flip.
9. Where do we play league games?
  - a. 13U AA and 14U A will play on a "Pony" field with smaller dimensions (75-80 foot bases, 54 foot pitcher's mound). The home field will be at Fox Valley Lutheran High School.
  - b. 14U AA, 16U, and 17U will play at the Appleton North High School baseball fields.
  - c. The 16U and 17U league does not start play until late May after the high school season is concluded. Boys can play both high school baseball and then ANYBC in the same year.
  - d. All levels of play will host approximately 7 games and play 7 games away at fields around the Fox Valley.
10. When will we play?
  - a. The season will run from May through July for league – and games are typically held in the evening during the week. There may be some weekend games, especially early in the season when field times are scarce.
  - b. Tournament teams will play weekends from May through July.
11. What is the cost to play?

- a. There will be a 2016 player fee of \$200 and possible tournament team player fees. The fees help offset costs associated with fields, umpires, jerseys, chalk, other supplies, and tournaments. Since final budgets are not yet complete and always involve estimated costs and uncertain donation amounts, it is possible that nominal fees may be collected from tournament players. In the past, no tournament fees have been collected.
- b. The fees must be paid in full prior to the first game played.
- c. There is no fundraiser planned yet, but if one is arranged for, it would be to offset the player fee noted above. Typically each team sets up and runs an informal concession stand at their home games using volunteers from the players' families to help offset the costs of the season.
- d. The Club solicits donations from local businesses and other sponsors of Appleton North High School Baseball to offset the costs. The donors are recognized on our banners, T-shirts, and websites.