

WELCOME FROM ROCHESTER YOUTH BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

Dear Rochester Families-

A new year has begun, and Rochester Youth Baseball Association invites you and your family to participate in one of the most exciting baseball seasons in recent memory. From Kinderball to 9th grade, we are improving the baseball experience this year! The biggest impact is the **Watson Complex Project**, and RYBA is proud to announce the current phase will be ready for the 2019 season! The three fields at the Watson Complex have been renovated and now feature **grass infields, pitching mounds, and covered dugouts!** A scoreboard was added to field #1 in partnership with the Adaptive League, and infrastructure is in place for fields #2 and #3. RYBA will be launching a mini campaign to fundraise for the remaining scoreboards, as well as a wish list of additional items such as batting cages. With these renovations, all 6th and 7th graders will now play on grass infields and mounds throughout the entire season! Long term plans hope to expand this to 4th and 5th grade as well.

RYBA is largely a volunteer driven program, and we would like to thank everyone who has helped make that possible in previous years. RYBA needs additional board members and if you are interested we encourage you to reach out. For those who may want to help on a smaller scale, RYBA will be offering smaller limited volunteer opportunities throughout the season.



We look forward to a great 2019 season and hope to see you out on the field!

- The RYBA Board of Directors

WE NEED COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

UMPIRES NEEDED

Umpires are paid each game they cover, rates up to \$55 per game. Umpires must be at least 16 years old and have a valid driver's license. More information can be found on our website

RYBAMN.COM

SAFETY FIRST

Are you Looking for a safe sport for your children?

Baseball has proven to be among the safest regarding potential head injuries. Everyone in youth sports is now keenly aware that recognition/prevention of head injuries is of great concern, including RYBA. All physical activities for kids come with inherent risks that, if managed properly, can still provide your child a fun and rewarding experience.

SPONSORS

Interested in sponsoring a team in 2019? Sign up now! Sponsor donations have and will allow us to keep our registration fees low by financing approximately 25% of the cost of our program.

Your company/organization name will be exposed to between 150 to 200 families throughout the season.

You can register and pay on-line Just go to our website and click on the SPONSORS Tab at the top of the page. rybamn.com

COACHES

RYBA is a volunteer organization that relies on parent coaches. Please consider registering to coach your child's team when you register them for summer baseball. You can even co-coach a team with another parent or two. The more parents we have volunteer to coach ahead of time, the easier it will be to form teams and start the season on time. Coaching resources with grade specific skills to work on will be available prior to the start of the season.

A recent report published by the Michigan High School Sports Association detailing head injury rates per thousand participants in the 2017-18 school year documents that **Baseball** has one of the lowest injury head injury rates compared to other sports.

Baseball:	3/thousand
Soccer:	12/thousand
Hockey:	32/thousand
Football:	41/thousand

The MN State HS League reports similar numbers in published articles.

TRAVEL PROGRAM

Player Registration for the 2019 travel baseball season IS OPEN. Fees will remain unchanged from last year. Please visit rybamn.com to register and for more information.

Early-bird registration continues until midnight Feb 14. After February 14, there is an additional \$100 fee.

Registration closes Feb 28. 2019

- League Play begins the week of 4/28 thru 6/29 and are 1 or 2 games per week. The travel coach has responsibility to set the league schedule in April.
- Travel tournaments are played on weekends and have already been chosen by the travel committee.

2019 TRAVEL PROGRAM FEES

Age	Team Levels	League Games	Tournaments	RYBA Registration Fee	Travel Fee *
8 & 9U	AAA & AA	10 to 16	4	\$140	\$200
10U	AAA, AA, A	10 to 16	4	\$140	\$200
11U	AAA, AA, A	16	4	\$140	\$225
12U	AAA, AA, A	16	4	\$140	\$225
13U	AAA, AA, A	16	5	\$140	\$250
14U	AAA & AA	16	5	\$140	\$250

* Travel fee covers travel league fee, tournament fees, and 1 state tournament fee

TRAVEL COACHES NEEDED

Coach Registration is open. If you have interest in coaching, you can do so at the following location on our website. *RYBA Travel>Travel Info Zone>Coaches* Head coaches will go through an interview process at in February. Coaches are not chosen until AFTER the player tryout process is completed.



2018 MBT State Champions – 11AA

2019 TRAVEL NEWS & NOTES

1. RYBA will no longer send teams to the Omaha, Nebraska, SlumpBuster Tournament. Fees for entry and costs to the families has risen dramatically over the last several years. The tournament has also evolved from a community association tournament, into a club ball event. The teams at the 12 and 14U levels will have a Minnesota state qualifier tournament replace the SlumpBuster.

2. The 10AAA team will no longer play in the Zumbro Valley League. Instead, it will play in the Metro Baseball League. Parents signing their ballplayer up for 10U this year should keep this in mind. There are eight away games in the southern metro area beginning in late April and continuing through June - some possibly on school nights.

3. Due to Regional Sports Complex scheduling changes, RYBA was only able to secure one day at the dome in March for tryouts. The Travel Committee is looking at other options for the second tryout day. A final decision concerning tryouts (i.e., time(s), location(s), etc.) will be announced before February 15 on the website and by email.

4. Mayo High School Baseball Coach Tom Senne recently notified the Travel Committee that he would not coach the proposed Mayo 14U travel team in 2019. As a result, Coach Senne is conducting a coach search for a replacement. If a suitable coach is not identified, RYBA will proceed as it had prior to last year with one 14U AAA team and two AA teams unaffiliated with any high schools

5. In early December, the Travel Committee completed registering anticipated teams in next summer's tournaments. Tournaments are predominantly in the south metro area to help families limit hotel expenditures as much as possible. The committee made every effort to secure tournament confirmations as soon as possible to assist family summer plan preparation. It also placed as many tournaments for each age group on the same week(s) so regardless of the team your player is on, you will still know well in advance what weekends are scheduled with baseball tournaments. The tournament schedule will be announced after all confirmations are received.



2018 MBT State Champions – 10AA Grey

HOUSE PROGRAM

Welcome to RYBA 2019 Summer House Baseball.

For 2019, the house program will focus on the following three goals to provide structure and continuity to the season:

- **Fun** - Baseball is first and foremost a game, and we play games to have fun. If kids are not having fun while learning and playing the game, it is unlikely they will ever develop a genuine passion for the game.
- **Development** - Essential to having fun is the ability to play the game well, competitively and according to the rules, therefore we seek to teach the physical and mental skills and knowledge necessary to play the game at an age appropriate level.
- **Sportsmanship** - Apart from the physical and mental skills necessary, we also want to teach kids to play the game well, with honesty, integrity, and respect for their teammates, opponents, coaches, and umpires.

2019 HOUSE LEAGUE NEWS & NOTES

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Based on feedback from last season, the following changes will be made for 2019:

1. 4th and 5th grades will be NOT be combined, but each grade will have only one level of play. NO TRYOUTS
2. 6th and 7th grades WILL be combined and this group will have a separate Majors and Minors league determined by a tryout process.
3. 4th grade will play 4 outfielders.
4. There will be scheduled practices throughout the season, more at the beginning of the season to aid in player development.
5. Resources will be available to all coaches so that each grade level is learning the same age appropriate skills.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Tryouts for Grades 6, 7, 8, & 9 will be held on Mon 04/22 - Thu 4/25 (weather permitting.)
- Picture dates to be determined.
- All-Star Tournament weekend for grades 4-9 will be Fri 07/26 - Sun 07/28.

REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2019 Summer House Baseball season is OPEN! Please visit www.rybamn.com to register and for more information. Registration fees are listed in the table on page 4. Two opportunities to register or get your questions answered in person will be available on January 30th and April 1st from 5:30-7:30pm in the Training Room at Scheels.

For Grades K-3: REGISTRATION CLOSES MAY 20th

- While we cannot guarantee team rosters, please register by May 6th for consideration of school/neighborhood placement and special requests. If you register after May 6th, placement on a team will be by availability.
- No refunds for grades K-3 after May 6th. Requests for refunds received prior to May 6th may be considered and if approved by the RYBA treasurer, will be reduced by a \$10 processing fee.

For Grades 4-9: REGISTRATION CLOSES MAY 6th

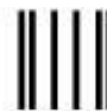
- While we cannot guarantee team rosters, register by April 15th for consideration of school/neighborhood placement, special requests, and to participate in Grades 6/7 and 8/9 Tryouts. If you register after April 15th, placement on a team will be by availability
- No refunds for grades 4-9 after April 15th. Requests for refunds received prior to April 15th may be considered and if approved by the RYBA treasurer, will be reduced by a \$10 processing fee.
- The maximum registration fee per family is \$360, not including travel fees.



HOUSE COMMITTEE

The House Committee is always looking for more volunteers to help make the RYBA House Program better. If you are interested in joining the House Committee, please visit www.rybamn.com/housecommittee for more information.

Lisa Atkielski, 2019 House Director



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2019 HOUSE PROGRAM DATES AND FEES

Current Grade	Game Days	Season Start Date	Season End Date	Year End Tournament	Entry Fees
Kinderball	M/W	6/3/2019	7/24/2019	None	\$75
1st Grade	Tu/Th	6/4/2019	7/25/2019	None	\$75
2nd Grade	M/W	6/3/2019	7/24/2019	*Optional 07/26-07/28	\$90
3rd Grade	Tu/Th	6/4/2019	7/25/2019	*Optional 07/26-07/28	\$90
4th Grade	M/W	5/20/2019	7/17/2019	07/19 - 07/21	\$140
5th Grade	Tu/Th	5/21/2019	7/18/2019	07/19 - 07/21	\$140
6/7 Minors	M/W	5/20/2019	7/17/2019	07/19 - 07/21	\$140
6/7 Majors	Tu/Th	5/21/2019	7/18/2019	07/19 - 07/21	\$140
8/9 Minors	M/W	5/20/2019	7/17/2019	07/19 - 07/21	\$140
8/9 Majors	Tu/Th	5/21/2019	7/18/2019	07/19 - 07/21	\$140

ROCHESTER YOUTH BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

SUMMER BASEBALL



2019

"Youth Growing Through Baseball"