

# Babe Ruth Age 13-18 Baseball Registration Information for 2020



Sauk Prairie Summer Baseball provides opportunities for players ages 6-18 to play summer baseball in three different programs defined by player age: Coach Pitch (ages 6-8), Cal Ripken (ages 9-12) and Babe Ruth (ages 13-18). The level a player should register for is determined by their age as of May 1st, 2020. Sauk Prairie Summer Baseball has made a commitment for players to play age appropriate (as opposed to grade). There may be situations where a player or players may be asked to "play up" to ensure teams are filled out or because of safety concerns and those will be handled on an individual basis.

**Babe Ruth Program Overview:** 14-game traveling baseball league following the Babe Ruth rules with games tentatively scheduled for Monday and Wednesday nights for U13; Monday and Thursday nights for U14 and U15 and U16-18 double headers on Wednesday nights. U13 and U14 teams will practice 1-2 times per week starting in May before the games begin and typically once per week after games begin. Practices can be any evening or on weekends depending on coach and field availability. Home games will be played at Chuck Hall Memorial Field, Grand Avenue Field or the JV Baseball Field.

As you probably have heard, the school district has put together a facility plan that will go to referendum in April 2020. This plan includes many items including building additions/upgrades, new indoor pool to replace the current one that has reached the end of its useful life and outdoor sport facility changes required to accommodate the expansion of the high school.

As an organization we are super excited about these facility improvements as our youth will benefit greatly for years to come. With the excitement will come also challenges as while the facilities are being built some of the fields we routinely use will be unavailable for a season or two. While this will be inconvenient in the short term, the long term value will be immeasurable. However, game schedules may be impacted some due to field space challenges and some games may need to be played on nights other than the regularly scheduled nights or more road games. We realize this is not ideal for planning purposes, but the short term inconvenience will be well worth it when they are playing on the new fields.

Players who are age 13 or older on May 1, 2020 are eligible to play Babe Ruth. Decisions regarding the number of teams to be offered at each age and if any players will need to play up to fill out teams will be made in late March/early April. These decisions will be made with the goal of providing the best playing experience possible for players.

**Volunteering:** Each family will be required to volunteer a minimum number of hours for each child in the program (baseball and softball) in the areas of concessions, evaluation day, field clean up day, clinics and tournaments. Required number of hours will be set by May 15th. Sign up will be done on the Sauk Prairie Baseball & Softball web page [www.saukprairiesummerball.com](http://www.saukprairiesummerball.com) under the Dibs tab once times become available. Those not completing their volunteer time will lose their \$100 deposit. For those families receiving scholarships there will be additional volunteer requirements. **\*\*If any of the Babe Ruth teams host a tournament, families on those teams are required to work additional volunteer hours.**

**Volunteer Deposit Requirement:** New this year every family in the program will need to submit a check in the amount of \$100 which will be held until the end of season. Families that meet their hour requirement will get their checks back, those that don't will have the check cashed. Other sports in the community have implemented this process and found the compliance with volunteer requirements is improved. Instructions on how to submit your deposit check will be emailed once registration closes. **Players will not be issued a uniform shirt or be able to play in games until this deposit is received.**

**Field Maintenance:** Each field must be groomed after each practice and game. If there is a double header or teams practicing back to back the teams from the first game/practice will rake/drag the field to ensure it is in good condition for the 2nd game. It is a requirement that each player will assist in this task multiple times throughout the season and parents are encouraged to help as well. Players who do not assist with field grooming may have their playing time impacted.

## Equipment Needs:

Participants will need a pair of cleats (metal cleats are allowed), a glove, grey baseball pants, and a cup. All players will receive a uniform shirt. **Players for Babe Ruth are required to have their own helmets. No helmets are provided. You may purchase a helmet with your registration for \$30 or purchase your own from any retailer. Please only purchase black helmets as that is what is preferred for the high school season.**

**Registration Fee:** The 2020 Registration fees will be \$170 for affiliated and \$190 for non affiliated. No increase from 2019.

**Registration Deadline:** All baseball players for the summer season must be registered by **Friday, March 6, 2020.**

**Questions regarding Babe Ruth should be directed to [spsrbaseball@gmail.com](mailto:spsrbaseball@gmail.com)**