



Haverford Township Hilltop Baseball, Softball and Challenger League



Dear Hilltop Parents:

I am excited for the opportunity to host tryouts for Hilltop's 12U tournament team and have summarized below some of the criteria on which your child will be evaluated on.

Tryout dates / times

Each player will be evaluated based on the following: Base Running, Arm Strength/Accuracy, Fielding (Ground Balls/Fly Balls), Hitting, Hustle, Attitude, Team Chemistry and overall team need. The goal is to put together the most complete and competitive team for the 12U tournament season. Please note this is a tryout. Every year is a new year and ***roster spots are not guaranteed***. **The selection process is not solely based on talent, but who I feel makes up the best team to represent Hilltop.**

Tryouts will be held in two sessions. One session for fielding, baserunning and catchers and one session for hitting and pitching. Since each tryout day involves differing skill sets, you will need attend both sessions for a complete evaluation. The dates are as follows:

- Saturday, October 25th, 10:00am-12:00pm at Glendale Baseball Field
- Sunday, October 26^h, 11:00am-1:00pm at Glendale Baseball Field

If you have conflicts with either day, please let me know in advance and we can make alternative plans to ensure your child has the opportunity to complete a full tryout.

Selection Process

Players will be evaluated by myself, as well as independent evaluators. These evaluators are there to assist with the tryout and to provide additional insight into putting together the best team to represent Hilltop. Ultimately, the decision on selecting the team is solely my decision. Please be aware there will be cuts and some players will not be chosen for the team.

Prior to attending the tryout, all players must register for the 2026 Hilltop Spring season. Registration can be found on the league's website.

Please note that a "B" team manager has been selected in the event there is enough players and talent to sustain a second team. To clarify some points of emphasis for a second team:

- Selection to a "B" team is the sole responsibility of the B team manager. He will select his own roster from the players who attended the tryouts that did not get selected.
- You must participate in tryouts to be eligible to participate in tournament play. Players who did not participate in tryouts cannot be selected to a team over a player who did participate.
- Players do not get the option to select the team or manager to play for. The player has the right to accept or decline the invitation to their assigned team and cannot choose their team.

Player Availability/Participation

Since team selections this year are in the Fall, if selected, your child will have the opportunity to attend pre-season workouts with the team. I am aware there may be conflicts during the off-season with other activities. **Therefore, attendance at the off-season workouts is not mandatory.** However, it is strongly encouraged to attend as many off-season workouts as possible to help develop team chemistry and better our team's chance for success this upcoming season. Last year, the team had



Haverford Township Hilltop Baseball, Softball and Challenger League



workouts 2x/week starting in January and running through the beginning of March. I am currently looking at indoor space and would anticipate the same this season as well.

Once the official Spring season begins in March, your child will be required to be available for all games and practices (barring in-house activities) with an expectation the season will last until the beginning of August. Whereas we all recognize the importance of family vacations, I would ask that they be postponed until after the tournament season.

Selection to this team will require your child to be committed 100% to Hilltop. While your child may be participating in other activities, please note the expectation is that Hilltop comes first and any other activity cannot prohibit any player to give 100% to this team. If this commitment cannot be met, please do not take the opportunity from another player willing to make the commitment, as it is simply not fair to the other members of the team.

Additionally, you are required to have participated in 75% of your Spring in-house games to be eligible to play for a tournament team. If there are reasons why this is not possible (sick, family vacation, etc...), please make your coach aware why you did not attend.

Expectation

The tournament team is different from our in-house season as there are no guarantees with playing time. Please note that ***your child may be a substitute for any given game and may not get in some games at all. It is essential that you and your child understand this prior to tryouts.*** Baseball games are won and lost as a team, and it takes the entire team to get it done.

Schedule & Cost

While there are no tournaments currently scheduled, the expectation is there will be at least one tournament and possibly a few scrimmages in the off-season with the goal of getting as many opportunities as possible so the team is ready once the season starts. There are possibly 4-7 tournaments identified once the in-house season begins, with the estimated dates below, subject to change. Please note this is not the final schedule as no dates have been advertised for the upcoming year; there may be additional tournaments added that are not yet advertised.

1. May 8-10; Mother's Day Tournament (TBD)
2. May 22-25; Memorial Day Tournament (TBD)
3. June 19-21; Father's Day Tournament (Egg Harbor, NJ)
4. June 23-27; District 1 Tournament (TBD)
5. July 3-July 6; PA State Tournament (need to qualify)
6. July 15-19; Mid-Atlantic Regional Tournament (need to qualify)
7. July 29-Aug 3; Cooperstown All-Star Village (Cooperstown, NY)

The estimated cost for tournament play with the exception of Cooperstown is approximately \$350 per player, which covers tournament entry fees. Uniform costs (Hilltop jersey and hat, pants and socks) will be in addition to these fees and ordered before the season begins. Please note this is only an estimate and is subject to change. **If selected to a tournament team, you will be required to pay \$100 deposit to the league.** The balance of the total cost will be due at a later date.

As many of you are aware, the Cooperstown All-Star Village tournament at the end of the year is a large expense. As a result, the team will need to fundraise throughout the year to help raise funds for



Haverford Township Hilltop Baseball, Softball and Challenger League



the boys to participate. If your child is selected, there will be team meetings to discuss fundraising efforts and participation is expected from each family.

Finally, please read the player and parent commitment letters carefully. If you wish to participate in tryouts, please sign and return both the player and parent commitment letters at the first try-out along with a copy of your child's birth certificate.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to call me anytime (610-931-4041).

Sincerely,

Rich Rezer

rrezer@verizon.net



Haverford Township Hilltop Baseball, Softball and Challenger League



Player Commitment Letter

- If selected as a member of the 2026 Hilltop 12U tournament team, I will commit myself to teamwork and fair play.
- I will treat my teammates with respect.
- Any conduct detrimental towards my coaches, teammates, or parents will not be tolerated and may result in dismissal from the team.
- I understand that if I am selected to the team, I will be required to attend all practices and games during the in-house season (barring in-house activities).
- If any other activities (barring in-house activities) will prohibit me from giving 100% of my time and energy to this team, I will withdraw my name from consideration, giving a player who can make the commitment the opportunity to play.
- Failure to follow the above acknowledgements may result in me being removed from the team.

Player Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Commitment Letter

- Any conduct detrimental towards the coaches, players, or other parents will not be tolerated.
- I will be a positive influence on my child and encourage team chemistry.
- I will refrain from making any negative comments about my child’s teammates, parents, or coaches in the presence of my child as this will negatively affect their performance and ultimately the team’s performance.
- I understand that if my child is selected to the team, he will be required to attend all practices and games once the in-house season begins (barring in-house activities).
- If any other activities (barring in-house activities) will prohibit them from giving 100% of their time and energy to this team, they will withdraw from consideration giving a player who can make the commitment the opportunity to play.
- I will abide by the 24-hour rule; Baseball is an emotional sport that brings out emotional reactions. Therefore, I will not approach a coach to discuss a game or situation that occurred during a game until after 24 hours have passed.
- If there are any conflicts during the months of April thru July, I will note them below.
- Failure to follow the above acknowledgements may result in my child removed from the team.

Please sign and return along with a copy of your child’s birth certificate.

Guardian #1 Signature _____ Date _____

Guardian #1 Cell Phone _____ Guardian #1 Email _____

Guardian #2 Signature _____ Date _____

Guardian #2 Cell Phone _____ Guardian #2 Email _____

Conflicts:
