



Tryout Process Objective:

To create a transparent, fair, efficient and effective process for placing the right players on the right teams at all levels.

Purpose

Cedarburg Mercs is a tryout-based program. Each season, players are placed on teams based solely on an objective, organization-wide tryout process.

The purpose of the Mercs tryout process is to rank players and place each of them on a team that helps us achieve an even distribution of talent amongst our select teams. The top 12-13 kids are also awarded an opportunity to play on our Mercs tournament teams.

Coaches also have input in the process by participating in the end of year evaluation process. Mercs coaches will have the authority to select the final 30% of the players to fill out the team's roster.

Mercs is also dedicated to the enjoyment of youth baseball and the improvement of individual player skill each season. Because of this dedication to both players and parents, the following guidelines have been developed to ensure that each player who is evaluated has an equal opportunity to be selected. These guidelines have also been developed to minimize any confusion on the part of parents related to the tryout process.

Tryout Levels

Mercs tryouts will be conducted separately for each level based on grade not age. The tryout committee (TC) will be in charge of recruiting and assigning level evaluators for each session, providing the necessary equipment for their tryouts, briefing and educating the evaluators on the assessment system prior to the actual on-field tryout, and general supervision of the on-field tryout process.



Player Requirements

Required Player Equipment

All players participating in the tryout sessions are required to wear shirt, pants (baseball or other athletic pant), and athletic shoes (no open toe shoes). Players will also need a baseball glove and are encouraged to wear a protective cup.

Basic Requirements

- Players are required to register for the upcoming baseball tryouts prior to participation in tryouts (<http://www.cedarburgbaseball.com>).
- Players must be fully dressed and ready to step on the field before the start of each evaluation session.
- Players will be assigned a penny at registration/check-in. The penny number will have no significance to the player's ability, rating, or placement. The penny number must be fully visible to the evaluators while the player is on the field.
- Players may not display a name placard on their jersey during tryouts, even if the penny appears to cover the name. Jerseys may be worn inside-out to satisfy this requirement. Players are also asked not to wear previous year's uniforms and Mercs attire.

Missed Tryouts

- **The best opportunity for a player to be properly placed is for that player to attend all tryout sessions.**
- Players shall make every effort to participate in all tryout sessions. However, the organization realizes that players can get sick or injured or may have other emergencies or conflicts that prevent them from participating in one or more tryout sessions.
- If a player is not able to attend any sessions of a specific level tryout, it is the responsibility of that player/player's family to notify the TC and provide explanation.
- Players who miss both evaluation sessions for reasons other than injury will not receive a score and will not be considered for Cedarburg Mercs.



- New, incoming players (new to community only) who arrive to the program after tryouts have been completed will be placed on a waiting list.

Number of players per team

- The number of players for each age group level will fluctuate from season to season.
- Merc's Coach's Option: When setting the final roster, a head coach can choose to leave a roster spot open for up to 2 weeks, or a time agreed upon with the TC, after the final date of that level's tryout. This roster spot can be held for injured or absent players that were not able to make the scheduled tryout sessions. After the establish time period, the head coach must decide on a player for that open roster spot.

Play Up Policy

This policy outlines the conditions under which a Merc's player may advance to a higher age bracket (herein after referred to as "playing up") than that associated with his or her school grade. This policy also defines the mechanism by which a player can/will be allowed to "Play Up." The goal of Merc's is to keep players of the same age, physical and emotional maturity together and to protect the integrity of each age division within Merc's. As a general rule, players will not be allowed to play outside the age division he/she is classified within as determined by his/her grade.

Merc's recognizes that there are circumstances that would suggest a player to play in an age division above his/her grade and permission to "play up" could be granted only after the application process has been followed and evaluation has occurred.

Merc's will only allow a player to play up if the player makes the Merc's "A" team at the play up division level. If a player does not make the Merc's "A" team at the play up division their scores will be evaluated with players in their rightful division based on grade.

A player wishing to "play-up" must notify the TC ahead of the tryout date and the player must participate in the tryout evaluation for the higher division.